



## UNSD and Washington Group: disability statistics and surveys

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## Introduction

- **My role**
  - Head Dutch WHO-FIC Collaborating Centre
  - Representative of UNSD
  - Member of Washington Group on Disability Statistics
- **UNSD and disability statistics**
  - Present and past actions
- **Washington Group (WG) on Disability Statistics**
  - Goals and progress



## UNSD

- United Nations Statistics Division
- Responsibility for international collection and dissemination of population and vital statistics
- Disability statistics from censuses, surveys and administrative records
- Integration of disability statistics into regular collection of national statistics through Demographic Yearbook Programme planned



## UNSD documents

- See document  
ESA/STAT/AC.91/6,4 Nov 2003
- See website  
<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/standmeth/principles/default.htm>



## UNSD disability statistics so far

- Development of Statistics of Disabled Persons: case studies
- United Nations Disability Statistics Database (DISTAT) version 1 (1988)
- United Nations Disability Statistics Database (DISTAT) version 2 (1996)
- 1993 Demographic Yearbook on Population Ageing and the Situation of Elderly Persons
- Data collection and dissemination through the Demographic Yearbook (planned)



## UNSD next steps

- Timetable for collection of disability data from countries
- Disability statistics part of Demographic Yearbook Database
- Improvement of dissemination and availability of data to international audience



## UNSD inventory

- Questionnaire to all countries October 2005 (tentatively)
- Part one
  - information on sources of data (censuses, surveys, administrative sources)
  - detailed information on definitions
  - and questions (related to ICF)
- Part two
  - tables, characteristics
- Comments welcome



## UNSD guidelines

- Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses (1997)
- Disability paragraph to be revised for 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses
- ICF and work of the Washington Group to be included



## Washington Group

- Washington Group on Disability Statistics (WG) = City Group
- City Groups operate under the aegis of UNSD
- Informal groups of experts primarily from national statistical authorities who meet to address important problems in statistical methods
- Groups are named according to the location of the first meeting, thus, we are called the Washington Group



## WG objectives

- Develop a small set/s of general disability measures
- Recommend extended set/s of items to measure disability as components of population surveys
- Address methodological issues associated with disability measurement



## Selection of purposes

### 3 major classes of purposes at aggregate level

- Service Provision
- Monitoring functioning in the population
- Assess equalization of opportunities

### 2 criteria for selection of a purpose

- Relevance
- Feasibility



## Purpose chosen

- Purpose for internationally comparability of disability measures/data
- Highest priority given to assessing equalization of opportunities
- Partially fulfills purpose of monitoring limitations in functioning



## Draft general disability measure

Response categories: No, some, a lot, unable

- 1) Do you have difficulty seeing even if wearing glasses?
- 2) Do you have difficulty hearing even if using a hearing aid?
- 3) Do you have difficulty walking or climbing steps?
- 4) Do you have difficulty remembering or concentrating?
- 5) Do you have difficulty with (self-care such as) washing all over or dressing?
- 6) Because of a physical, mental, or emotional health condition, do you have difficulty communicating (for example understanding others or others understanding you)?



## WG extended sets

- Questions in the area of functions and basic activities (related to current 6 domains of general set + covering additional domains)
- Questions relating to other activities, participation and environment
- First extended set based on existing instruments to be included in testing the general set



## Short set vs extended sets

<b>ICF component</b>	Short set	Extended set 1	Extended set 2	Short set 2?
Body function	+	+	-	-
Body structure	+?	+?	-	-
Activity	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-
Participation	-	-	+	+
Environmental factors	-	-	+	+

ESCAP meeting, Bangkok, 2-3 May 2005

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## First extended set

### Proposed

- WHS-17
- WHO-DAS-12
- Speak question
- Total 30 questions

### Not yet accepted

ESCAP meeting, Bangkok, 2-3 May 2005

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## Second extended set

- Proposal will be developed + presented end 2005
- Based on analysis of existing national survey questionnaires in 6 countries
- Common questions/areas and missing areas compared to ICF



## Testing general set

- Testing general set 2005
- Including extended questions (which?)



## ESCAP vs WG

### *Escap testing*

- WG general set
- WHS-17
- WHO-DAS-36
- Other

- results

### *WG testing*

- WG general set
- WHS-17?
- WHO-DAS-12?

- results



## ESCAP vs WG

- ESCAP and WG partly same
- Partly complementaty
  
- Conclusions by both to be based on both



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Dank voor uw aandacht

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