

# INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL INSTITUTE

## INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SURVEY STATISTICIANS

### THE SURVEY STATISTICIAN

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## 1 Editorial

Since the last issue of the Survey Statistician, the most important event is certainly the 45th ISI Session held in Amsterdam in last August.

For obvious reasons- many IASS members are at the same time in a same place - IASS takes the opportunity of the ISI Sessions to hold its General Assembly and to organize Council' and Committees' meetings.

The main part of this issue of the Survey Statistician is devoted to those Amsterdam meetings. We found it better to keep each report in its original form rather than to publish a synthetic one, which could have omitted some points. No doubt that some redundancies arise from that ; we hope that they will not make this issue too heavy to read.

Besides those informations, which many readers will be interested in, the Forum of Local Representatives is going on : an exhaustive listing of them is given, Question/Answer seems to take off as we could expect, a Terminology Column is arising, interesting volumes are reviewed in Bibliography, even if that item is to come more complete in the future.

Finally, I think the main information is the announcement of a Service of Survey Consultation by Correspondence.

I am sure that, after reading this issue of the Survey Statistician, many of you will fall in with the different authors' calls.

Gildas ROY

Editor of the Survey Statistician

## 2 Message from the President

I feel truly honoured to be able to serve you as the President of IASS. A number of initiatives are underway to make the Association even more relevant and useful to the profession than it is already. Elsewhere in this issue of the Survey Statistician additional details are provided on many of them, so I will touch on only some of the highlights.

1. One of the most important initiatives is the revitalization of our network of local (also known as country or regional) representatives. We are working to appoint representatives in every part of the world and to provide support for them : the main function of one of the two Vice Presidents of the Association (Mr. O.O. Ajayi) is to help them ; we are sending a "kit" to all representatives to facilitate their work ; a regular column in Survey Statistician will be established for country reports on significant methodological or survey developments.

2. We will start, on an experimental basis, a new service to members : sampling consultation by correspondence. Clearly, only a limited range of problems faced by practicing survey statisticians lends itself to this mode of consultation. But it might nevertheless be a useful service.

3. Another new service we are trying to establish will involve publishing in each issue of Survey Statistician some number of expended abstracts of relevant papers published in professional journals. We shall need a network of volunteers to review journals and prepare, or obtain from authors, appropriate condensations. Those interested should contact our Scientific Secretary, Professor D. Holt, Department of Social Statistics, University of Southampton, Southampton 509 SNH, United Kingdom.

4. We shall try to improve members' communication with Council by publishing summary minutes of Council meetings.

5. We arranged for reduced subscription rates for the International Statistical Review (£9.), a bilingual (French-English) journal published by Statistics Canada called Survey Methodology (£10. - per annum in developing countries, £5. - per annum in developed countries), and the Journal of Official Statistics published by Statistics Sweden (£20. - per annum). In addition, our Paris office will continue to make available, free of charge, to all members substantive abstracts of all papers presented in Amsterdam which deal with survey methodology and related problems.

6. We are trying to arrange a workshop for statisticians from developing countries either immediately prior to, or immediately following our next biennial meeting in Tokyo. As always, money is the big problem. We shall contact a number of possible donor agencies. But I would very much welcome advice and offers of help, as would Mr. G. Theodore, Chairman of our Workshop Committee (his address is : 48 rue de Dunkerque, 75009 Paris, France).

7. We need to increase our membership and in this respect expect a lot from our new network of local representatives. We also need to increase our institutional membership. Strong institutional membership would provide us with the income out of which we could fund such activities as workshops, or provide subsidized prices on selected publications to statisticians in developing countries. I shall personally write to the heads of all national statistical offices who are not already institutional members. Please help me by trying to get your organization to become an institutional member - whether it is private, academic, or governmental. Let me know if I can help by writing a letter or in some other way !

Please help your Council. We need to hear from you !

I want to acknowledge very gratefully the continuing help of the Institut National de la Statistique et des Etudes Economiques of France. Without their continued help and support IASS would face enormous difficulties. And, last but not least, I want to pay my respects to our Past President, Professor Leslie Kish. Those of you who were not members of the Council can hardly imagine the effort, imagination and effectiveness that he brought to his tenure as President. An overwhelming proportion of the initiatives reported in this issue of Survey Statistician are his ideas. All I can do is promise to work very hard on your behalf to fill the role of President even half as well as he did.

Ivan P. FELLEGI  
President of IASS.

### 3 ISI 45 th Session in Amsterdam

In addition to the IASS General Assembly, Council meetings and meetings of some Committees were held during the 45th ISI Session in Amsterdam, August 11-12. Reports of these meetings are given hereafter. Reports of the Committees' Presidents, turned in before the General Assembly, are not published ; they are available on request from the IASS Secretariate.

### 3.1. REPORT OF PRESIDENT L. KISH ('83-'85)

As the other reports, this one has been printed (in English and French) for distribution to the Assembly and will be printed in the Survey Statistician for the many members who could not attend. It must be brief and concentrate on the most important matters, because the meeting has less than 150 minutes, the SS has few pages, and your patience is limited also. We want your suggestions both at the meeting, also later in writing to President Fellegi, best addressed to IASS Executive Director, at INSEE Paris.

#### IASS at INSEE :

Let us begin by thanking INSEE for taking care of our IASS business, and the individual staff members for their kind cooperation. Frankly I cannot see how we could get along for our meager fees without INSEE's generosity. Just consider our getting gratis and fast those two volumes of 1983 Madrid papers ; also our Survey Statistician. The S.S. needs considerable improvements ; some improvements are on the way but we ask you also for suggestions of other improvements and changes. N.B. : You must allow two months between submission of material to S.S. and the mailing out an issue. I just learned about this unavollable delay, to which you should add mailing time to and from the IASS Permanent Office.

This is a good place to refer to complaints about the work of our IASS Permanent Office. The Office is willing to explain misunderstandings, also to make corrections when they can. The new Member Directory will have many corrected addresses, for example (partly due to complaints). Changes and errors are both bound to occur again, but you can correct that by writing either directly to the IASS Office ; even better through your Country Representative so he/she can also have it. The addresses are often used by other members, also by your CR and by the IASS Office. We can run a column of "Corrections of Addresses" in the S.S. if enough members ask for corrections.

#### The Presidency (83-85) :

I am proud and grateful for your electing me to serve you for these two years. But it was hard work and I put in almost half-time, and being "pensioned" helped. Past-President Theodore, President-Elect Fellegi, and Executive Director Bodin also helped with wise counsel and encouragement, and this arrangement is being formalized. President needs your help ; for example, changes of addresses and routine inquiries should go to IASS/Paris and not to the President.

Frankly, 4 or 5 members took up too much of my time, whereas I wished for more contact and activity from more members of the Council and from the membership. I hope that new measures with the Council, Bureau and the Country Representatives will improve liaison with your new President Fellegi. (Note that he serves as president-elect of IASS 1983-85 and then president-elect of ISI in 85-87). I believe that you must help to make IASS become an association by the members not only for the members ; that our exchanges must reach beyond the dozen who have been active until now.

#### The Country Representatives :

Having many, good, active CR's is our best hope, I believe, for a healthy and useful IASS. We have made a good start during the past year, but we still need a name from most countries. Please do not wait now for formal procedures : please send us a name, even if it your own.

We arranged for the first meeting of the House of Representatives (14 August 12.00 to 14.30) and I hope this precedent will be continued.

In some countries desires have been expressed for regional organization - the Ibero-American Committee, perhaps one in Scandinavia. No country will be "forced" to join any regional, language or other grouping. However, some active countries may be able to help some neighboring countries where we have few members or none.

In addition to helping with addresses, dues, maintaining and recruiting, the CR's should also organize meetings and other activities within the countries (see S.S. No. 13).

I hope that a Vice-President of IASS will have special responsibility for the House of Representatives.

Council activities :

Frankly, we have not yet been able to involve the Council members in full participation between the biennial meetings and I, along with other presidents and officers, must share some of the blame. The distance and delays are great obstacles that we must overcome. Three measures are being suggested : (1) formalized consultation of the Council, (2) specified responsibilities for Council members, and (3) creation of a Bureau to share decision making (see S.S. No. 12) that the Council just discussed.

Publications :

You have the Report of the Publications Committee. You received the Survey Statisticians, and the two volumes of IASS papers from Madrid'83. Reduced subscription rates for ISR have been arranged. We have a new proposal for low subscription rates for the new and better Survey Methodology from Statistics Canada, which is printed in both French and English. Other journals may follow this precedent.

Committees :

In addition to the Nominations, Programme, and Publications Committees, we have new Chairpersons for the Committees on Workshops (Theodore and de Graft-Johnson) and Terminology (Bailar). We are open to suggestions for other needed committees.

UNESCO :

As constituent members we have successfully nominated for the 1984 Prize (\$ 60,000) for Education in Peace the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War. For the 1985 prize we nominated Prime Minister David Lange of New Zealand.

3.2. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - J.L. BODIN

A. Activities of the Secretariat

Let us recall that the "Institut National de la Statistique et des Etudes Economiques" (INSEE) which is, in France, the central statistical office, has been assuming the IASS Secretariat since its creation, on January 1st, 1974.

This Secretariat is composed of : J.L. BODIN, Executive Director, X. CHAROY, Assistant Executive Director (coopted by the Officers of the Association in September 1984), G. ROY, Editor of the Survey Statistician, Mrs. A.M. VESPA-LEYDER, Administrative Secretary, and of a Secretary tasks. The Secretariat also profits by the part time contribution of a French-English interpreter, Mrs. GALOPIN. She, alone, is paid by the IASS ; the other personnels are assumed by INSEE.

The Secretariat carries out the permanent management tasks of the Association (dues, keeping of the membership list, election, etc...) preparing and editing the publications, preparing the biennial sessions and corresponding with the Officers of the Association Council Members and

Regional Representatives.

The INSEE also provides a very large contribution in kind (offices, telephone, mailing, computerized management of the membership files). For which, M. MALINVAUD, its General Director, should be thanked once more.

B. Publications

a. The main IASS publication is the "Survey Statistician". Since the 44th Session held in Madrid in September 1983, 4 issues have been published :

n° 10 November 1983 (that issue included among other things the proceedings of the Council Meetings and General Assembly, as well as the reports presented during that General Assembly).

n° 11 June 1984

n° 12 December 1984

n° 13 June 1985

We have thus kept the pace of two issues a year to which we were committed. The "Survey Statistician" is mailed to each member either in French or in English according to the language choice which he mentioned when joining in. The Spanish "Instituto Nacional de Estadística" (INE) has been publishing since issue n° 9 a Spanish version which it mails to all the members from Spanish-speaking countries. The General Director of the INE, M. RUIZ-MAYA should be warmly thanked for it.

Let us recall it had been decided in Madrid to postpone from issue n° 10 on, the publication of methodological papers which would not have been previously submitted to a jury, this until an efficient refereeing procedure has been set up.

To the contrary, we have started, in issue n° 13, a "Tribune of Regional Representatives" which we hope will prove dynamic and efficient.

b. The Secretariat also dispatches to all the IASS members no members of the ISI, the "ISI Newsletter" which is issued three times a year. Since the beginning of 1984, the IASS Secretariat has no longer ensured the French translation of this Newsletter which is therefore circulated to all members in English only.

The translation and publication tasks of the French version implied a very heavy work for the Secretariat and, consequently, the French speaking members used to get that Newsletter long after English speaking members. The drawbacks were much longer than the advantages.

c. The Secretariat has also sent to all the members during the first term 1984, a booklet of all the invited and contributed papers of the 44th Session in Madrid. Indeed, the Proceedings circulated by the ISI are sent only to ISI members and to people having attended the session.

This IASS publication is therefore particularly welcome..

d. Finally, the Secretariat has sent very recently a new edition of the members directory updated as of April 30, 1985.

C. Membership of the Association

a. On April 30, 1985, the IASS had 1206 members, among whom 215 ISI members.

The geographic distribution is as follows :

Africa : 173 (among whom 110 from Nigeria)

North Africa  
and Middle East : 37

Asia (Middle East  
excepted): 135

Oceanic & the Pacific : 37

North America : 325

Latin America : 180

Western Europe : 276

Eastern Europe : 12

Others : 31

The biggest geographical disparities should be remedied, and a specific effort should be made regarding Eastern Europe countries. This problem is linked to that of dues payment in inconvertible currencies which it is urgent to solve within the ISI.

There are also 13 institutional members, mainly statistical offices, but not only, which pay annual dues of US \$ 250 in developed countries. These institutions should be thanked for their support to our Association.

b. If this situation is to be compared to that of January 1, 1983, when we had 1265 members, among whom 164 ISI members, one might acknowledge a stagnation, not to say a slight decrease of the membership.

But actually, it is not so, for at least two reasons :

- the membership on January 1, 1983 included the correspondents, which are not actual members of the IASS and the institutional members ; these categories, representing about thirty "members", are not mentioned any more in the membership on April 30, 1985.

- we have gone systematically through the membership file since 1984, so as to strike off all the members who had paid no dues for more than 3 years ; and about 200 names have thus been eliminated.

So an estimation of actual membership variations (dues paid) is as follows, on a 100 basis in 1981 :

1981 : 100  
1982 : 152  
1983 : 144  
1984 : 113  
1985 : 155

We therefore saw a real decrease of the membership in 1984, after a sharp increase in 1982-1983, followed by a new rise in 1985, which expresses both a revival of interest in the activities of the Association and a better organization of the Secretariat.

Nota : Association accounts

Association accounts for 1983 and 1984 were presented at the General Assembly ; they were approved. They are not printed here but available on request.

1985 accounts will be given in the Survey Statistician nr 15.

3.3. Report of the Scientific Secretary C. O'MUIRCHARTAIGH

A. Role of the Scientific Secretary

a. Section 6.5

The Scientific Secretary shall be responsible, under the guidance of the President and the Council, for coordinating the activities involved in arranging seminars, conferences and publications as specified by Section 8.

b. Section 8. Seminars, Conferences, Publications

i The Council may arrange seminars, conferences, etc... and other programmes on its own responsibility or in collaboration with the other organizations at the same time as the meetings of the General Assembly of the Association or at other times in suitable places.

ii At least three months notice of meetings, other than the General Assembly and of seminars, conferences, etc... shall be normally sent to all members of the Association.

iii The Council may take arrangements to publish an official journal of the Association or to make necessary arrangements for publishing in a suitable scientific journal the proceeding and papers presented at meetings and conferences of the Association and of its national or regional sections and news and communications relating to the work of the Association.

B. Coordination of Meetings

a. 45th Session of ISI, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 1985

Under the able leadership of D.J. Trewin, the IASS Programme Committee developed the following sessions :

9. Record Linkage Methodology, Applications and Privacy Issues - E. Rapaport (Sweden)
12. Model Based Inference for Sample Surveys - D. Holt (UK)
13. New Techniques for Agricultural Statistics - D.C. Alonzo (Philippines)
14. Methodological Issues of Longitudinal and Panel Surveys - K.M. Wolter (USA)
15. New Developments in Non-Response Adjustments - G. Kalton
16. Dissemination of Information on the Quality of Survey Estimates (panel discussion) - D.J. Dodds (Canada)

17. Problems of Development of Survey Infrastructure in Developing Countries -  
O.O. Ajayi (Nigeria)
18. New technology for Data Collection and Capture - W.J. Keller (Netherlands)

b. 46th Session of ISI, Tokyo, Japan, 1987

Graham Kalton of the University of Michigan has agreed to serve as Chair of the Programme Committee. The work of the Committee is already well advanced. The members of the Committee are :

Graham Kalton (UK) Chair  
Wilton Bussab (Brazil)  
Beverley Carlson (USA)  
Chikio Hayashi (Japan)  
Bert Kersten (Netherlands)  
Jan Kordos (Poland)  
Gildas Roy (France)  
Dennis Trewin (Australia)  
Colm O'Muircheartaigh (Ireland) - ex officio.

c. Other Conferences

Discussions were held concerning a number of other conferences.

i. IASS-INSEE-Morocco Seminar, Rabat, October 1984

From October 10 to 17, 1984, a seminar on "The statistics of employment and of the non structured sector" was held in Rabat under the sponsorship of the IASS. The meeting was reported in The Survey Statistician, Nos. 11 and 12.

ii. Pacific Statistical Congress, Auckland, New Zealand, May 1985

The IASS was one of the sponsoring Societies for this Congress.

iii. Second International Conference on Teaching Statistics (ICOTS II), Victoria, British Columbia, August 1986.

C. Other Activities

a. Survey Statistician

i. The Survey Statistician non longer publishes scientific articles.

ii. A Terminology Section will be published in future issues, under the aegis of the Terminology Committee.

iii. It is proposed that a bibliography will be published in future issues, and the possibility of publishing "condensations" is also being considered.

b. Terminology Committee

The Terminology Committee, chaired by Barbara A. Bailar, has been active since the Madrid meetings.

Acknowledgements :

The Scientific Secretary wishes to acknowledge the help and support provided by the members, officers and council of IASS, and in particular the Executive Director, Monsieur J.L. Bodin, and his staff. During the past two years the workload of the Scientific Secretary has been relatively light, due to the outstanding work, both in quality and quantity, done by President Leslie Kish.

3.4. RESULTS OF ELECTIONS

After elections held in may and june 1985, Council composition is now as follows :

|   |         |   |
|---|---------|---|
| <u>President :</u>                                |         | I.P. Fellegi (Canada)   |
| <u>President Elect :</u>                          |         | C. O'Muircheartaigh (United-Kingdom)  |
| <u>Executive Director :</u>                       |         | X. Charoy (France)  |
| <u>Vice-Presidents :</u>                          |         | O.O. Ajayi (Nigeria)<br>R. Guarini (Italy)  |
| <u>Scientific Secretary :</u>                     |         | D. Holt (United-Kingdom)  |
| <u>Members :</u>                                  | 1985-87 | L. Biggeri (Italy)<br>M. Kantorovitz (Israel)<br>H. Midzuno (Japan)<br>I.B. Thomsen (Norway)<br>V.K. Verma (Netherland)<br>G. Winter (France)                       |
|   | 1985-89 | C. Charre de Trabuchi (Argentina)<br>E.K. Foreman (Australia)<br>R. Platek (Canada)<br>A.J. Scott (New-Zealand)<br>D. Single (India)<br>K.M. Wolter (United States) |
| <u>Director of the ISI<br/>Permanent Office :</u> |         | E. Lunenberg (Netherlands)  |

3.5. REPORT ON THE MEETING OF THE IASS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 15 AUGUST 1985, BY L. KISH

1. The report of the President was distributed to the Assembly (it is also printed in this issue of SS) and not repeated orally. Instead participation from the audience was requested, and also more participation from members during the next two years.

2. Reports were received from the Executive Director : on elections, on membership, on finances and dues. Also from our Committees : on Terminology (Chair B. Ballar) that will begin a column in the S.S. ; on Publications (Chair L. Frankel) that will become more involved in the several innovations ; and on Workshops (Chair G. Theodore). Also reports from Programme Committees for '85 Amsterdam and '87 Tokyo (1).

(1) These reports are available on request at the IASS Secretariate.

3. The ISI Research Center (formerly International Statistical RC) was discussed by Vijay Verma, its director. His summary report was in S.S. N° 13. We shall have brief reports in each S.S. or ISI Newsletter, both of which are received by IASS members. They, all of us, are encouraged to seek ways how we can make better use of the ISIRC and also how we can find sources for projects for it. Some IASS members are in positions where they can connect the statistical needs of projects in their offices with the technical aid that ISIRC can offer.

4. Creating an Executive Committee (Bureau) for IASS to help the President and Executive Director between the biennial Council meetings was discussed.

5. Council Activities were discussed, including a new move for specified individual responsibilities for Council members.

6. Local Representatives as a principal basis for future activities were discussed and strongly endorsed. Vice President O.O. Ajayi will have individual responsibility. The L.R.'s will be in charge of recruiting and retaining members, maintaining current and correct address lists and dues, links of members to IASS office. Also attempt to organize country meetings, and participate in regional meetings and workshops.

7. Publications : IASS members will receive a) The Survey Statistician, b) Two volumes of surveys papers from the '85 Sessions in Amsterdam, c) reduced rates on ISR, and d) reduced rates on Survey Methodology from Statistics Canada, and e) probably reduced rates on the Journal of Official Statistics from Statistics Sweden.

8. The Survey Statistician comes to members in either English or French. The Spanish version that we had for 2 issues may also be renewed. The unrefereed methods articles will be discontinued, but S.S. will have the following features :

1. Country Reports : O.O. Ajayi, G. Roy and R. Platek. Members are asked to help make this a success by submitting brief reports from their own countries, through their Local Representatives.

2. Selected Bibliography.

3. ISIRC News : V. Verma.

4. Questions/Answers : Kish, Thomsen.

5. Terminology Discussions : B. Bailar.

6. Selected Condensations : D. Holt and K.M. Wolter. This will be a new feature, starting with N°. 15, requested from and prepared by authors of articles that have significant content for practical, applied survey work. Members are invited to submit to the editors references (with addresses) to such articles in local journals.

### 3.6. CONDENSED REPORT OF THE COUNCIL MEETINGS (13 AND 19 AUGUST 1985), BY X. CHAROY

Two Council meetings were held, before and after the IASS General Assembly, respectively presided over by L. Kish and I. Fellegi. A condensed report of these two meetings is given below.

#### 1 - Executive Director

Mr Xavier Charoy has been nominated as Executive Director. Mr Jean-Louis Bodin, former Executive Director, will become Assistant Executive Director and remain Treasurer of the Association until the end of 1985.

2 - Executive Committee

The creation of an Executive Committee has been decided. It will include the President, the President elect, the Vice-Presidents, the Scientific Secretary and the Executive Director. At least the President and the Executive Director must attend the meetings of the Executive Committee ; all members of the Council will be invited to take part. The Executive Committee will meet at least once between the biennial sessions. If necessary, the Association will be charged for the travel expenses of the President or of the Executive Director. Three such meetings of what was called the "mini Bureau" have actually been held during the period '83-'85, two in London, one in Paris.

This will be one of the points submitted to a mail vote of the members of IASS within the revision of the statutes.

3 - Dues

As most of IASS expenditures as well as its provisional budget are made in French Francs, the reference currency for dues will be expressed in French Francs ; this also to avoid the problem of the US dollar fluctuation.

Until 1987, the dues rate will therefore remain at F.F. 130 (or F.F. 65), which corresponds to the value of US \$ 16 (or US \$ 8) by the end of 1983. Of course, the dues can be paid in any other convertible currency at the official exchange rate of the day of payment.

4 - Committee

Nominations Committee :

Chairman : Lars Lyberg (Sweden)

Publications Committee :

Chairman : G. Brackstone (Canada)

'89 Programme Committee :

Chairman : L. Biggeri (Italy)

Amendments :

The amendments to the statutes, proposed to the General Assembly, have been considered and approved by the Council. They will be submitted to a mail vote of all members before the end of 1985.

Sampling Consultation by Correspondance :

The responsibility of this new service provided by IASS to its members will be given to the ISIRC (See the V. Verma paper in this issue).

ISIRC :

V. Verma, director of the ISIRC, will write a report on its activities twice a year to be inserted in the S.S.

Specific individual responsibilities for Council members :

In order to increase the responsibilities of the Council members, individual functions are given to them as follows :

|  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Local representatives and House of Representatives | O.O. Ajayi (R. Platek)             |
| Country reports in Survey Statistician             | G. Roy, (O.O. Ajayi)               |
| Council deliberations in S.S.                      | R. Guarini, (C. O'Muircheartaigh)  |
| Selected condensations in S.S.                     | D. Holt, (D.W.M. Wolter)           |
| ISIRC reports in S.S.                              | V. Verma, (Midzuno)                |
| Questions/Answers in S.S.                          | L. Kish, (I. Thomsen)              |
| Workshop committee                                 | L. Biggeri, (D. Singh)             |
| Terminology committee                              | A.J. Scott, (M. Kantorowitz)       |
| Publications committee                             | R. Platek, (C. Charre de Trabuchi) |

Local representatives :

The functions of the Local Representatives have been defined during the ad hoc meeting of August 14 th, chaired by L. Kish. The report of this meeting, published in this issue, gives all details about the decisions taken.

Survey Statistician :

As it has been decided in Madrid, the Council decides to postpone the publication of methodological papers until an adequate refereeing procedure has been set up.

Instead, new sections will appear in the Survey Statistician :

- a column on terminology (editor : B. Bailar) ;
- country reports (the editor might be the Vice-President in charge of Regional Representatives : Ajayi ?) ;
- selected condensations by authors of interesting articles that members might have discovered through their readings (editor : the Scientific Secretary).

Previous columns will go on :

- House of Representatives (editor : Ajayi) ;
- News of the Association ;
- Question/Answer

Other Publications :

As before, the members of the IASS will be able to get the International Statistical Review at a reduced rate.

Moreover, Statistics Canada will provide those who wish with their bilingual journal "Survey Methodology/Techniques d'enquêtes" at a reduced rate. For the members from developing countries, the IASS will pay half of it.

Statistics Sweden will also provide their "Journal of Official Statistics" at the special rate of 20 \$.

The Centenary volume specially edited by the ISI will be available at a special rate.

**3.7. REPORT OF THE MEETING OF LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES (14 AUGUST 1985), BY O.O. AJAYI.**

The IASS representatives met on the 14th of August 1985 under the chairmanship of President Kish.

Amongst issues covered were :

a) Functions of Representatives which include :

- (i) recruitment of members
- (ii) retaining members
- (iii) dues collection
- (iv) centralized dues payment to Paris
- (v) updating of members addresses

Apart from these, representatives are to maintain continuous links with the IASS Paris Office, sending country reports and news, arrange country/regional meetings/workshops and ensure that they attend the biennial sessions of the ISI.

b) The issue of what appropriate name to use in addressing IASS Representatives was discussed and dealt with. Local Representative/Country Representative/Regional Representative were names that were considered. It seemed that "Local Representative" was favoured over the others. However, the gathering or the forum of the Local Representatives will continue to be referred to as "House of Representatives".

c) That a "package" of materials be prepared for the Local Representatives (LR's) to make their promotion activities easier and much more successful. The "package" will include amongst others :

- (i) documentation on IASS
- (ii) spare copies of the Survey Statistician to give to would-be members
- (iii) blank letter (headed papers for use of LR's in their correspondances)

Other tips for representatives to use in promoting membership are :

- Inserting an invitation to join IASS in Local Journals or Newsletters
- Writing regularly to members within the country/region
- Representatives are to regularly find out what is going on in other parts of the world and pass these around members in their areas
- In Local meetings of Statistical Associations that LR's make effort to slot in an IASS programme e.g. Questions/Answers sessions on sampling problems.

d) Benefits for members will need to be increased too, e.g. :

- Bigger Survey Statistician ;
- Journals of other organizations at reduced rates (Arrangements for Survey Methodology Journal of Statistics Canada and Journal of Official Statistics of Statistics Sweden are well under way) ;
- Information exchange on technical matters ;
- Organization of smaller-scale international meetings within the regions ;
- Country meetings of the IASS to have IASS resource persons attend them when fund is available.

e) One of the Vice-Presidents of the IASS has been approved to take charge of the affairs of the representatives. His functions will include motivation for country reports and will also deal with the House of Representatives column in the SS. Local Representatives will be consulted more on the goings-on in the Association and comments from LR's receive answers from the V.P. Countries that are as of now uncovered will be contacted through National Statistical offices and other agencies by the V.P. (Reps).

f) Miscellaneous :

Difficulties being encountered in payment of dues particularly by our members based in Eastern Europe were well discussed. The options of payment by using UNESCO coupons and one under which the office of members pay on their behalf were considered. Addresses of National Commissions for UNESCO will be supplied by the Paris Office of the IASS.

g) The meeting was the largest of LR's and was very fruitful.

### 3.8. REPORT OF THE MEETING OF WORKSHOP COMMITTEE (20 AUGUST 1985), BY G. THEODORE.

#### A. Goals of the meeting

IASS is interested in promoting meetings between its members, to help statisticians in developing countries isolated in the field to participate in the promotion of general operations like censuses.

#### B. Usefulness of regional meetings

This usefulness is linked to various conditions :

- non-competition or duplication with other initiativee national or international ;
  - they must be meetings of statisticians having a past experience ;
  - written document (communication) must be prepared in order to make the discussions easier.
- Final reports are also requested.

C. The difficulties cannot be under-estimated :

IASS does not have financial resources to take charge of the travelling expenses and per diem of the participants and discussants. Nevertheless IASS can :

- finance part of the expense (between 500 and 1 000 US \$) ;
- send one statistician expert in one point dealt with by the workshop ;
- give a simple co-sponsorship ;
- help and assist in the creation of the workshop, giving a kind of label to the project ;
- participate in a project of ISIRC.

This enumeration shows the flexibility of the approach, but two conditions must be fulfilled :

- i. requests of the countries
- ii. non-duplication with other projects : a certain gap must be filled.

D. Past achievements :

Workshops have been carried out in Mexico, Sao Paolo, New-Delhi and Manila under the leadership of L. KISH.

IASS participated in two seminars for French speaking participants in Dakar (1981) and Rabat (1984). The first one was devoted to organization of surveys and censuses, the second one concerning handicraft and the informal sector.

In May 1985 IASS was invited to participate in a meeting held in Auckland (New-Zealand) conducted by IASC.

E. For the future, it has been agreed that two kinds of meetings can be held.

i. Workshop like the New-Delhi one, and it has been suggested that by all means such a workshop will be held in Tokyo in 1987.

ii. Workshop like the Rabat one lasting a week and more formal. These two kinds of operations must progress concurrently.

I.B. Thomsen points out that currently exists all over the world every kind of courses and that the creation of new workshops and seminars must be seriously justified.

O.O. Ajayi spoke on behalf of the Nigerian F.S.O. and the problem of an EEC Luxemburg financing was raised. The first steps would be an official request from Nigerian after what more would be made by the IASS President and Executive Director. The problem of bilingual seminars was raised. They facilitate the homogeneity of concepts, methodology, and realizations, but mainly for financial reasons, it seems more practical to carry out monolingual meetings.

Mr. Geoffroy Fenrice, fiscal adviser in Bangkok (Ministry of Finances) asked for information in order to see if some initiative could be taken in Thailand.

Dr. A. Gonzalez Villalobos expressed his interest in that question and it will be necessary that his Director L.A. Baocaria receives some documents from IASS. For the region, the location of such a seminar in Brazil would be advisable. In any case the various organizations UNFA, CEPAL, Inter-american Institute of Statistics, CIENES must be informed.

J. Kordos for this part thinks that to begin with, it would be better to increase the membership of IASS and to have national workshops and seminars in Poland for instance, then to invite an expert of IASS whenever possible.

To conclude the meeting, the IASS President put ahead the four following points :

i. A note will be published in the next Survey Statistician asking for information in current courses really given in developing countries in order to examine if any gap exists.

ii. The same article will invite members of IASS having an experience in meetings or workshops to communicate this experience (by example the Polish experience).

iii. The potential donors will be approached in order to facilitate the working out of the Tokyo workshop. In the same time IASS will wait for the various requests and will do its best to find and contact the financial sources.

iv. Any opportunity will be taken in order that all associations or organizations considering a meeting dealing with survey will advertize that event in the Survey Statistician.

Proposition concerning the composition of the 1985-87 committee : this point has not been discussed and the chairman of the Committee will send same propositions to the IASS President. It will be essential to obtain a regional coverage.

N.B. : Prior to the meetings contact has been taken with Martin Collins (SCPR, Survey-Methods Center) in order to examine the possibility of a West-european Workshop.

### 3.9. SURVEY CONSULTATION BY CORRESPONDANCE, BY G. THEODORE AND V. VERMA.

1 - The IASS in collaboration with the ISI Research Centre (ISIRC) proposes to establish a service called Survey Consultation by Correspondance (SCC). For the first two years, the ISIRC has been invited to take responsibility for the execution of this service. Decision regarding any changes in this arrangement will be taken by the IASS Council and ISIRC Director at the Tokyo session. The ISIRC will keep IASS Secretariat fully informed of progress of the service. The IASS Executive office, Council and representatives will play as active a role as possible in this work.

3 - The main task of SCC will be to answer technical questions received from IASS members. These questions will deal with methodology and organization of censuses and surveys. Bibliographic information as well as reprints of technical papers on a selective basis may also be provided where possible.

4 - The IASS will establish a panel of experts to advice the ISIRC where necessary on answers to specific questions raised, provide bibliographic references etc. A general invitation to members to join the panel will be issued in the Survey Statistician.

5 - IASS and ISIRC will publicise the existence of this service using the various means available. Questions and answers of general interest may be published in the Survey Statistician.

6 - The IASS secretariat will take necessary action to ensure that work of the SCC service is taken into consideration as appropriate by the Workshop, Programme and other technical Committees of IASS.

7 - The IASS secretariat will periodically report on work of SCC. The first detailed report will be issued no later than May 1987.

The above decision and any further information will be published in the next issue of Survey Statistician.

As a practical measure towards establishing the SCC, the IASS has invited the ISI Research Centre (ISIRC) to collaborate with the Association and, on its behalf, take responsibility for the execution of the service at least for a trial period of two years. Making a tangible contribution towards statistical development of developing countries is an objective which ISIRC shares with IASS. Therefore, both as an IASS Council Member charged with special responsibility for SCC and as Director of the ISIRC, I am very pleased about this proposed arrangement.

The key to operating an effective and useful SCC is to tap the substantial intellectual resources and experience available within membership of the IASS. For this purpose, it is necessary to begin by establishing active panels of experts who will volunteer to provide, promptly and reliably and practically free of charge, technical advice and consultation by correspondence on questions and issues raised by users of the service.

I would like to invite and urge members who feel able to serve on such consultative panels to communicate their willingness to the IASS Secretariat or to me at the ISI Research Centre. Please also indicate your major areas of specialisation and interest in the broad field of survey theory and practice.

Vijay K. Verma  
IASS Council Member (1983-87), and  
Director of the ISI Research Centre  
428, Prinses Beatrixlaan, PB.Box 950  
2270 AZ Voorburg, Netherlands

## 4 Life of the Association

### 4.1. APOLOGIES AND THANKS

The secretariate of the Association means to apologize to U.S.A. : the number of members living in U.S.A. was omitted in the 1985 members' directory (page 180). There are 273 persons (53 of them are ISI members).

On another hand, the secretariate and the council warmly thank those ISI members who voluntarily paid IASS fees, which their ISI membership dispensed them from. Really, it's an encouragement for developing IASS activities.

### 4.2. SOME PRACTICAL DETAILS

In his message (§ 5), President I.P. Fellegi points out reduced subscription rates for three journals : International Statistical Review, Survey Methodology, Journal of Official Statistics, for IASS members.

Some practical details about these subscriptions are given below.

\* International Statistical Review is available at the annual rate of £ 9. Subscription forms will be directly mailed to : ISI Permanent Office, 428 Beatrixlaan, PO BOX 950, 22 70 AZ Voorburg, Netherlands.

\* R. Platek, President of the Publishing Committee of the canadian Survey Methodology Journal, kindly proposes to insert what follows :

At the Amsterdam meeting, an agreement was reached to make the Survey Methodology Journal published by Statistics Canada available to IASS members at a reduced rate. This Journal is published biannually and deals with a broad range of topics of interest to survey statisticians. The enclosed leaflet gives more information about the Journal and the type of article published.

The price of an annual subscription to Survey Methodology is \$ 10.00 U.S. for members in developed countries and \$ 5.00 U.S. for members in developing countries. Members wishing to receive the Journal should complete the form below and mail it with their payment to the IASS Secretariat, c/o INSEE, 18, Bd Adolphe Pinard, 75675 Paris Cedex 14, France.

Name :

Address :

Yes, I wish to subscribe to Survey Methodology at the IASS member rate. I enclose my payment.

Date :

Signature :

\* L. Lyberg, Editor of the swedish Journal of Official Statistics (4 issues per year) also agrees to a reduced subscription rate for IASS members : 20 \$ US for an annual subscription.

Members wishing to receive the Journal of Official Statistics should complete the form below and mail it to : Editor, Journal of Official Statistics Sweden - S.11581 Stocholm - SWEDEN.

Note : Send no money ; the Editor will bill you.

Name :

Address :

Yes, I wish to subscribe to the Journal of Official Statistics, at the IASS member rate of 20 \$ US.

Date :

Signature :

## 5 Local Representatives

### 5.1. LIST OF LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES.

|                |                                 |  |
|----------------|---------------------------------|--|
| ARGENTINA      | Mrs. Clyde CHARRE DE TRABUCHI   | French 2740<br>1425 BUENOS AIRES   |
|                | Mr. Alvaro GONZALES VILLA LOBOS | Paraguay 1353<br>1057 BUENOS AIRES   |
| BANGLADESH     | Mr. Siddigur RAHMAN             | Director, BBS<br>19, Outer Circular Road<br>Rajarbagh<br>DHAKA - 17  |
| BELGIUM        | Mr. Louis LOHLE-TART            | Rue Americaine, 81<br>B. 1050 BRUXELLES  |
| BOTSWANA       | Mr. Robert John PEMBER          | Central Statistical Office<br>Private Bag 0024<br>GABORONE   |
| BRAZIL         | Mrs. E. PINHO DE CASTRO SILVA   | Rua Tabapua 308<br>Apto 52<br>04533 SAO PAULO SP   |
|                | Mr. Witton DE OLIVEIRA BUSSAB   | Universidade de Sao Paulo<br>Instito de Matematica<br>Estatistica<br>CP 20570 AQ IQUATEMI<br>SAO PAULO 0A451                             |
| CANADA         | Mr. Gordon BRACKSTONE           | 78 Charing Road<br>NEPEA<br>ONTARIO K2 G4 C9   |
| CHINA          | Mr. WU HUI                      | State Statistical Bureau<br>BEIJING  |
| CUBA           | Mr. Luis SILVA                  | Instito Superror de Ciencias<br>Medioas de la Habana<br>Vice Rectoria de Invest.e<br>Posgrado<br>Avenida 25 N.<br>15005 PLAYA, HABANA 16 |
| DENMARK        | Mr. Finn MADSEN                 | Danish National Institue of<br>Social Research<br>Borgergade 28<br>DK 1300 KOBENHAVN - K   |
| FRANCE         | Mr. Jean-Michel REMPP           | INSEE<br>18 Boulevard Adolphe Pinard<br>75675 PARIS CEDEX 14   |
| GERMANY (D.R.) | Mr. Gotthard FORBRIG            | Wilhelm Pieck Universitat<br>Klement Gotwald Str. Nr. 6<br>ROSTOCK 1 - 2500   |
| GERMANY (F.R.) | Pr. Heinrich STRECKER           | Im Rotbad 40<br>D.7400 TUEBINGEN   |

|                      |                               |  |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| HUNGARY              | Mr. Adam MARTON               | Central Statistical Office<br>Keleti K. n° 5-7<br>BUDAPEST 1525  |
| INDIA                | Mr. J. ROY                    | Indian Statistical Institute<br>203 Barrackpore Trunk Road<br>CALCUTTA 35                                      |
| INDONESIA            | Mrs. SUKMADI Sri Budianti     | Central Bureau of Statistics<br>JL.DR Sutomo 8<br>P.O. Box 3<br>JAKARTA  |
| ISRAEL               | Mrs. Malka KANTOROWITZ        | Central Bureau of Statistics<br>Hakirya - Romena<br>JERUSALEM  |
| ITALY                | Mr. Luigi FABBRIS             | Universita di Padova<br>Dipartimento di Scienze Statistiche<br>Via San Francesco, 33<br>I - 35 121 PADOVA      |
| IVORY COAST          | Mr. Bakary DAHO               | Direction de la Statistique<br>01 BP V 55<br>ABIDJAN 01  |
| JAPAN                | Dr. C. HAYASHI                | Institute of Statistical Mathematics<br>4-6-7 Minami-Azabu Minato-Ku<br>TOKYO 106                              |
| KENYA                | Mr. Philip GACHUKI            | Central Bureau of Statistics<br>P.O. Box 30266 NAIROBI<br>M.A.S.S.   |
| LEBANON              | Mr. François PARAH            | BP 208 HAZMIEH<br>Statistics Dept. Faculty of Science<br>Al Fatel University<br>P.O. Box 13574                 |
| LIBYA                | Mr. Faroul EL BISHTI          | TRIPOLI<br>Direction Nationale de la<br>Statistique et de l'Informatique<br>BP 12<br>BAMAKO                    |
| MALI                 | Mr. Naman KEITA               | INEGI<br>Insurgentes Sur 795<br>12 Piso<br>MEXICO D.F. C.P. 03810  |
| MEXICO               | Dr. Edmundo F. BERUMEN TORRES | 28, Vunrbloem Str.<br>2317 LEIDEN<br>Department of Statistics<br>Private Bag - 85 Molesworth St.<br>WELLINGTON |
| NETHERLANDS          | Mr. S.J.M. DE REE             | Federal Office of Statistics<br>P.M.B. 12528<br>LAGOS  |
| NEW-ZEALAND          | Mr. Stephen KUZMICICH         | Central Bureau of Statistics<br>Dronningsgate 16<br>OSLO   |
| NIGERIA              | Mr. O.O. AJAYI                | National Statistical Office<br>P.O. Wards Strip<br>PAPUA NEW GUINEA  |
| NORWAY               | Mr. I.B. THOMSEN              | 581, Belisario Flores<br>LIMA 14   |
| PAPUA-<br>NEW GUINEA | Mr. John SHADLOW              |  |
| PERU                 | Mrs. Leonora LAGUNA           |  |

|                     |                        |  |
|---------------------|------------------------|--|
| SENEGAL             | Mme Awa THIONGANE      | Direction de la Statistique<br>BP 116<br>DAKAR   |
| SPAIN               | Mrs. Carmen ARRIBAS    | Instituto Nacional de Estadística<br>Paseo de la Castellana, 183<br>28016 MADRID               |
| SWEDEN              | Mr. Lars LYBERG        | Statistics Sweden<br>P/STM<br>115 81 STOCKHOLM   |
| SYRIA               | Mr. A. MALEK AL AKHRAS | Office of the Prime Minister<br>Central Bureau of Statistics<br>DAMASCUS                       |
| TRINIDAD-<br>TOBAGO | Mr. Jack HAREWOOD      | University of the West Indies<br>Institute of Social and Economic<br>Research<br>ST. AUGUSTINE |
| UNITED KINGDOM      | Mrs. Denise LIEVESLEY  | Survey Methods Center SCPR<br>35 Northampton Square<br>LONDON EC IV OAX                        |
| U.S.A.              | Mr. Martin R. FRANKEL  | 52 Calass Lane<br>STAMFORD<br>CT 06903   |

## 5.2. NEWS FROM LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES

5.2.1. Nigeria chapter of IASS : how the association has been organized in Nigeria, by O.O. AJAYI.

### INTRODUCTION :

At the time IASS was introduced to the professional statisticians within Nigeria in 1973 when an initial registration of members was made not much work was done by way of bringing the members together or in assisting them with payment of subscriptions. However, in 1977 during which membership was only 38, efforts started to be made to assist members with the payment of dues and members could look towards a focal point for any problems they want solution on and by 1983, membership had risen to 155 (25 of these are delinquent and they are currently being followed up).

### PROMOTION OF MEMBERSHIP :

Promotion for membership is actively being carried out by the country representative and the methods of doing this are as follows :

(a) During conferences and symposia held under the auspices of the Nigerian Statistical Association (NSA) briefs on IASS get usually distributed to participants and that in addition to a short address given by the IASS representative.

(b) Other fora are at the various conferences of heads of statistical organizations in Nigeria.

(c) Also opportunity is usually seized of occasions of National Workshops and Seminars. An example was the National Workshops on the Production and uses of statistics in Nigeria during which an IASS desk was established to promote and register new members.

(d) Apart from all these above, the Representative sends regularly copies of IASS briefs and application forms to statistical organizations, University departments of statistics, Demography and Economics to make it possible for other members to publicise within the organizations.

These sources have yielded quite many additional members and greater interest in the IASS.

MEMBERSHIP COMPOSITION :

Membership is mainly from statistical organizations (State & Federal), government corporation, National Institutes and University departments of Statistics, Economics, Demography & Social Statistics etc. They are Heads, Directors or Deputy Directors or young professionals within organizations. Many are Professors, Senior Lecturers in the Universities or work within private companies or Banks. They hold degrees in statistics, Mathematics, Economics, Demography & Social Statistics ranging from Bachelors degrees to Ph. D's. Or they hold professional statistical qualifications e.g. membership of Institute of Statisticians, such diplomas from professional diploma in statistics (PDS) or ISPC (Washington) or ISEC (India).

LOCAL SECRETARIAT :

To make the work of the country representative - effective, a local secretariat was established as far back as 1978 and this has been based at the Research and Statistical Standards branch of the Federal Office of Statistics. The representative has an appointed Assitant in person of O.C. Akinyede apart from additional assistance being rendered by other persons within the branch. This local secretariat gets in regular contact with the entire membership and the members on the other hand too make frequent enquiries from the secretariat. Collection of dues, attendance to all correspondences, rendring of annual report to Paris are some of its functions. The secretariat indeed does all the duties now formally designed for country representatives. The cost of running the secretariat has been solely borne by the representative up-to-date. The cost of postages, commissions on transactions etc... runs at an average of about \$ 120.00 annually.

LIAISON WITH PARIS :

Liaison with IASS headquarters has been taken very seriously. Enquiries from Paris are usually promptly answered and contacts with Paris on behalf of members are a frequent affair. This practice has helped in no small way to strengthen the interest of members in the Association's aims and objectives.

PAYMENT OF SUBSCRIPTION :

Genenrally IASS members in Nigeria pay in local currency to the representative either in cash, or by cheque drawn in favour of the representative then applies for foreign exchange permission through his bank. The approved draft is then sent. Another method of payment in recent time was through use of UNESCO coupons. There are even occassions when representative paid directly to Paris whenever he had any opportunity to visit Paris.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT :

No doubt there are many other activities yet to be carried out in order to get greater benefits to members. It is planned that regular statistical activities like workshops, seminars be arranged as soon as fund could be found. Also it is intended to develop a local news letter to members which will fill the periodic gap in between the issues of ISI news letters.

### 5.2.2. Survey Activities in Nigeria

(a) The Federal Office of Statistics (FOS), Nigeria conducts rounds of National Integrated Survey of Households (NISH) every survey year (April of a year to March of the following year). The round for the 1985/86 is in progress currently and modules within NISH being undertaken this survey year are the Rural Agricultural Sample Survey (RASS), National Consumer Survey (NCS), General Household Survey (GHS), Labour Force Survey (LFS) and Household Transport Survey (HTS). During the 1984/85 round which just ended National Agricultural Sample Census (NASC), was carried out. Similarly the following modules were carried out : R.A.S.S., N.C.S., G.H.S., L.F.S. While preliminary reports are available for some of the modules, the LFS report is already published. NISH makes use of master sample which was designed to last 5 years. This sample was made up of 9 replicates with 5 replicates available for study in each year (A replicate is made up of 6 PSU's). It is a rotating design in which one replicate is rotated "in" while one is rotated "out" in each year. This allows for 80 % sample PSU overlap in each year. The last sample (the Final Panel) is being used up this year. Of course a redesign programme is going on to prepare ready a new master sample to be available by 1986/87 round.

(b) The establishment of a NISH counterpart on Integrated Survey System for Establishment i.e. the National Integrated Survey of Establishments (NISE) began last October and it is gradually getting firm on the ground. The first round of NISE has taken place covering Manufacturing, Distribution, Hotels and Restaurants and Building and Construction Establishments. The scope of coverage was Establishment employing 10 persons and above. The second round will be launched sometime in October 1985.

## 6 Question/Answer

This column is lead by Leslie Kish. Please send your questions to him (ISR, the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 48106 - USA) or to IASS Office in Paris. Tell us if your wish, or not, your name be published with the question. This column has to be considered as an open forum : we'll be glad to publish (after referee) additions, modifications or discussions about responses given. Those who will have contributed to responses will be named.

This Q/A column is approaching its goal of stimulating interesting discussion that can clarify our ideas on sampling problems. The Q on measurability (SS13) was condensed from correspondence from Prof. William Kruskal of Chicago U. in response to my A on "representative sampling" (SS12). Dr. Emil Jebe liked this A and writes : "I have tried to expunge "representative" from all of my writing and speaking..." I print below at length as Q two stimulating discussions on measurability, and my Answers will show, I hope, how I changed and learned from them.

In anticipation of discussions on other points also, let us introduce a notation that uses the number of the Survey Statistician, then the number of the question.

### Question 14.1 :

Question from Dr. Benjamin J. Tepping (Westat, Washington, D.C., USA) : "I have just read your answer to the Question on "measurability" in the current issue (N° 13) of The Survey Statistician. It seems clear to me that the definition that you propose for measurability is too restrictive. Consider, for example, a two-stage design in which the first-stage sampling unit is a cluster of elements and the second stage consists of the selection of a single element at random from each sample cluster. If more than one cluster is selected at the first stage from each stratum, the data permit unbiased estimates of the mean per element and of the variance of those estimates. Of course, consistent estimates of the components of the variance would not be available, but I think it would still be appropriate to call the design measurable, even though  $P_{ij}$  is zero when elements  $i$  and  $j$  are members of the same cluster.

I am afraid that the only definition that I can offer is to call a design measurable if there exists a consistent estimator (a function of the survey data) of the variance of the statistics yielded by the survey data. This implies that a design may be measurable for some statistics of the survey and not for others".

Question from Prof. Gad Nathan (Hebrew U, Israel) :

"Measurability". The definition of "measurable samples" (samples with positive and knowable joint inclusion probabilities) and of "measurability" (availability of valid estimates or approximations of sampling variability) are not equivalent, since the first definition only ensures unbiased estimates of sampling variability. I think, however, that the second definition is the more meaningful, since valid approximations to unbiased estimates of sample variability are often available, at least for examples 2 and 3 (as mentioned in the answer), even though the design is not "strictly measurable". Perhaps for the first definition the term should be "strictly measurable", whereas just "measurable" could be used for the second. However, it should be noted that a design which is not "strictly measurable" only because of zero joint inclusion probabilities,  $P_{ij}$ , (i.e., all values of  $P_{ij}$  are "knowable", but some of them are zero) can easily be very slightly modified to become "strictly measurable", simply by selecting at random one additional unit from the whole population (or from the non-sampled units). If this were done for example 1, we would get a "strictly measurable" design which is not "measurable". This is so since the unbiased estimation of variance thus made available has extremely high variance and can hardly be considered "valid". Thus, it might be better to use completely different terms for the two definitions (e.g., "measurable" and "evaluable" ?)..

Answer : We must be grateful for Tepping and Nathan's thoughtful remarks, which help me to clear up the confusion in my last answer and in my thinking. Now we are in substantial agreement, I hope.

First, let us separate unbiased variances from the more important practical aspect of "measurability". Unbiased variances refer clearly to the theoretical property that the mathematical expectation of the variance computed from the sample equals ; the true variance of that statistic :  $Exp(\text{var}(y)) = \text{Var}(y) = \text{Mean}(y-Y)^2$ , this being the variance of the statistic, hence it may hold "for some statistics of the survey and not for others". For example, for the ratio estimator ( $y/x$ ) unbiased variances may not be available (in useable form) even when they are for  $\text{var}(y)$ . Hence I now oppose the term "measurable sample" that I used in SS13. Also I would now prefer to lessen confusion by avoiding the term "strictly measurable", because unbiased variance estimator (UVE) is good enough for the concept we need in practice. We need not become involved in fine points such as : would we accept Mean-Square-Error instead of Variance when  $E(y) \neq Y$  ; or what estimate of the variance gives unbiased estimates in Tepping's example of single elements from clusters ? It may be interesting to find whether  $P_{ij} > 0$  knowable is necessary as well as sufficient for  $E(\text{var}(y)) = \text{Var}(y)$ . We hope further work on this topic in SS15 from J.N.K. RAO and A.K. SRIVASTAVA.

For practical needs : "Measurability" denotes designs which allow the computation, from the sample itself, of valid estimates or approximations of its sampling variability".

1) This is not a crystal clear concept like UVE, the which is neither necessary nor sufficient for measurability. It is one of several useful criteria, like goal orientation, practicality and economy, that we need for good samples. Even probability selection is not an entirely clear criterion, if we use it in the face of tolerable amounts of unavoidable nonresponses.

2) Measurability also may pertain to statistics, not strictly to the design alone. For example, measurability may not be available for estimates for small regions even from measurable national samples. Also for some conceivable statistics variances may be unavailable for any design. Despite these limitations we should be able to distinguish roughly measurable designs and to use this important criterion.

3) I described briefly in my Answer (S.S.13). The requirements of measurable samples : a) two or more selections from each stratum ; b) actual identification of the strata and the selections, at least for the first stage of selection, on available records (cards, tapes, etc) ; c)  $P_i > 0$  and not too small for stable estimates, and  $P_i$  (or  $w_i$  proportional to  $P_i$ ) available (on tapes) for weighting ; d) number of replicates large enough for stable estimates.

Of my examples in the Answer of S.S.13 I would now accept often as measurable the following designs though they have no UVE :

- 2) single clusters from strata, with "collapsed" strata ;
- 3) systematic selections ;
- 7) fixed sample size  $n$  from frame with blanks ;
- x) also Tepping's example of single selections from second stage units.

However this would still leave as not measurable :

- 1) selections of single clusters, even if with known  $P$  ;
- 4 and 5)  $k$  replications of judgment or quota sample - though these arguably have UVE ;
- 6) nonprobability selections for experimental designs.

Question 14.2 :

In that Answer on "measurability" (S.S.13) I also wrote : "7. We may also note an equal probability sample that is not a probability sample ; select a sample of fixed size  $n$  (perhaps with srs) from a frame with population size  $N$  unknown, due to blanks and foreign elements. The sampling fraction  $P = n/N$  is not known". The sampling fraction  $P_f = n_f/N_f$ , for the entire frame population of  $N_f = N + \text{blanks}$  is not fixed, though  $n_f$  and  $N_f$  can be counted (perhaps with a little effort). Dr. G. Nathan writes that : " $n$ , rather than  $n_f$ , is fixed a priori, so that  $n_f$  is a random variable (i.e., selection is continued until  $n$  "non-zero" cases are obtained). In this case, the sample is not strictly a probability sample since the overall inclusion probability (which is now  $n/N$  rather than  $n_f/N_f$ ) is unknown, if  $N$  is not known. However, by considering conditional distributions, given  $n_f$ , it is easy to see that the  $\bar{y}$  is still an unbiased estimator for the population mean and that an unbiased estimator for the total is  $(N_f/(n_f-1)) (n-1)\bar{y}$ . The variances of this estimator can also be estimated unbiasedly. Thus, possibly, the definition of "probability sampling" should be modified to include the case where the conditional probabilities of inclusion in the sample, given the initial sample size, are positive and known".

We are now in substantial agreement, and Prof. Nathan agrees that his estimator of the total, though unbiased, may be very poor when  $n$  and  $n/n_f$  are small. This is a nontrivial problem of concepts and definitions, though it is simplest form of a more general problem. I wrote about his under title, "Fix sampling rates, not sizes" (Kish, Bulletin Int. Stat. Inst., 1977, 47(3), 515-28,

section 4). This refers to examples of selections of fixed numbers of a)  $n$  from many strata without knowing the  $N$  within strata ; b)  $n_i$  from many clusters without knowing the  $N_i$  within clusters. Other problems than blanks may arise in the frame listing ; the frame elements may be unequal clusters of elements, and if the total  $\sum n_i$  are fixed, the selection probabilities become random.

Question 14.3 - Dr. Barbara Bailar (U.S. Census Bureau, Washington) writes about Question 2 in S.S. 13 "What are the differences between longitudinal, panel and follow up surveys ?" In my Answer I wrote "longitudinal studies has been widely used as a general term to cover all kinds of studies over time and I avoid using it for specific designs". Also that panel surveys refer to overlapping studies with repeated observations on the same elements".

I looked at quite a few references and find that : a) Some writers use "longitudinal only for repeated observations on the same individual elements, and this coincides with my definition of a panel". b) Other writers use "strictly longitudinal" for that purpose to distinguish it from longitudinal in a looser sense. c) Those "looser senses" include longitudinal data from 1) repeated surveys of the same sampling units, such as area segments ; 2) repeated studies confined to a single site such as a city or institution ; and both of these suffer changing populations of individual elements ; 3) retrospective data on individuals collected for a long period all at one time (interview) ; etc...

For these reasons I would like to separate the term "longitudinal" that has been used so widely and diversely from "panel", which is less often (though sometimes) confused with other uses.

Dr. Bailar will I hope use her column on Terminology and thus may have the last word. I hope we can tolerate some disagreement between this Q/A column dealing with concepts with the Column on Terminology-though concepts and terminology should overlap to a great extent.

## 7 Terminology Column

There is much confusion in the literature about the distinctions among the following terms : longitudinal, cross-sectional, panel, recurring, and follow-up surveys. Leslie Kish gave his views on these terms in the last issue of the Survey Statistician. The Terminology Committee has been working on these terms and discussed them at our meeting in Amsterdam. Though many members of the Committee participated in the discussion, this article primarily reflects work by Barbara Bailar, Chair of the Terminology Committee. We welcome comments, additions, criticisms on this work and will feature them in a future discussion.

Some of the confusion with these terms arises because sample design elements are mixed with sample analysis methods. Ideally we would speak of a longitudinal designed survey and a longitudinal analysis of a survey. We shorten those concepts and bury both concepts, and sometimes only one of them, in the term "longitudinal survey".

A longitudinal survey has as its principal aim the examination of components of change in the same observational units over time. A crucial part of the definition is that linked records from the same units are to be created. A cross-sectional survey may also have the purpose of measuring change over time, but change measured only in the aggregate. Cross-sectional surveys do not have as an objective the linking of records for the same individual over time. Three distinguishing features of a longitudinal survey are : repeated data collection for the identical observational units over a period of time, the creation of longitudinal records for these observational units, and analysis of the longitudinal records in a micro-record level.

There are other terms that are used to describe surveys that include some of these elements, but there are no restrictions on their usage for either longitudinal or cross-sectional surveys. Some of the terms used are : continuous surveys, recurring surveys, panel surveys, periodic surveys, follow-up surveys, and rotating panel surveys. Some of these descriptions have to do with the number of times interviews take place at a given sample address, others have to do with sample design

features.

From the sample design point of view one is interested in how much of the sample is constant over time. Nonoverlapping samples are not longitudinal. However they can be part of continuous, recurring and periodic surveys. Partial overlaps of the sample from period to period could be either longitudinal or cross-sectional. These include rotating panel surveys as well as recurring, continuous, and periodic surveys. What makes a partial overlap a longitudinal survey is whether or not data for specific observational units are pulled together to create a longitudinal record over time. The Current Population Survey (CPS) in the United States is a good example of a survey with a partially overlapping sample from month to month. Each address is selected into the sample and is interviewed for four successive months, dropped for eight months, and then interviewed for four more consecutive months. In each month, one-eighth of the sample is new and being interviewed for the first time, one-eighth for the second time, and so forth. Clearly, this is a rotating panel design. It is periodic, continuing, and recurring. But it is not longitudinal. One reason is that though the specific addresses are in sample eight times, the specific people who live at those addresses are not necessarily in sample for the eight times. A family that moves out is not followed; the new family moving in is included in the sample. The second feature that makes the CPS cross-sectional and not longitudinal is that the individual records for sample individuals are not pulled together in order to analyze the data. (Recently a longitudinal file is being made, but because of the same people not being in sample over time, it is not useful as it could be).

In contrast to the CPS was the National Medical Care Expenditure Survey in the U.S. conducted between 1977 and 1979. Survey participants were contacted six times. Movers were interviewed and a longitudinal file was constructed, pulling together the records for individual survey respondents.

Finally, there are some surveys in which the sampling units are identical over time. These could be either cross-sectional or longitudinal surveys. It depends again on whether the records for individuals are pulled together into a longitudinal file and how the analysis is conducted.

The other dimension -- how many times data are collected from a given observational unit and the intervals between collection -- is also interesting, but not definitive. Certainly if data are to be collected only once, that must be a cross-sectional survey. But data can be collected twice, six times, regularly every other year, and many other variations and still be either cross-sectional or longitudinal. Thus, the Current Population Survey, though data are collected regularly eight times over a period of 16 months, is a cross-sectional survey while the National Longitudinal Study of the High School Class of 1972, carried out in the U.S., with interviews taking place with identical individuals in 1972, 1974, 1975, 1977, 1980, and 1984 is a longitudinal survey.

In medical studies, "follow-up surveys" is a term used to connote the use of repeated examinations of high-risk groups over a period of years. It seems to be a type of longitudinal study, since the records are definitely linked and analysis is on a micro-record basis. This use of the term has been expanded by survey researchers to include special data collection from a subset of some larger population. This subset usually has some particularly interesting characteristics. It could be recognized that a "follow-up survey" is a special type of longitudinal survey, but focused on a discrete part of a population. Unfortunately, this term has become confused with actions taken to complete data collection. In Kendall and Buckland (1982) the term is used to connote the act of taking care of nonresponse for a given survey. Though this business of completing data collection is often called "follow-up" it is not a follow-up survey.

Finally, are panel identical with longitudinal surveys? Panel data are described by Markus (1979) as information obtained by interwining a sample of respondents at two or more points in time. However, collecting data for the same individuals over time does not necessarily result in a longitudinal survey. Panel surveys can be both cross-sectional or longitudinal.

To summarize; the distinguishing features are as follows. Nonoverlapping samples, though a survey may be recurring, periodic, or continuous, necessarily means that a survey is cross-sectional. If data are to be collected only once, a survey is necessarily cross-sectional. Beyond that, recurring, continuous, periodic, rotating panel, or panel surveys may be either longitudinal or cross-sectional. The distinguishing features of a longitudinal survey are : (1) repeated data collection for identical observational units over a period of time (2) the creation of longitudinal records for these observational units, and (3) the main analysis is of the longitudinal file on a micro-record basis.

The Terminology Committee would like your reaction to these ideas. This work is an initial expression of our ideas ; it is not a recommendation. Before we recommend usage, we plan to feature ideas that come to use from a larger audience. Please send comments to : Dr. Barbara, A. Bailar, Terminology Committee, Bureau of the Census, Rm. 2031-3, Washington, D.C. 20233.

Kendall, M.G. and W.R. Buckland (1982), A Dictionary of Statistical Terms, London and New York : Longman Group Ltd., 4th edition, p. 75.

Markus, G.B. (1979), Analyzing Panel Data, Beverly Hills and London : Sage Publications, p. 7.

## 8 Announcements

### 8.1. ASSOCIATION DES STATISTICIENS ET DEMOGRAPHES DE COTE D'IVOIRE.

We are pleased to publish hereafter a letter from our colleague Daho Bakary (Ivory Coast, 09 August 1985).

I beg to inform you that an association of statisticians and demographers was created in Ivory Coast : the "Association des Statisticiens et Démographes de Côte d'Ivoire" (ASDECI), which I was elected President of, on February 28 1985.

The association aims at :

- strengthening business and friendship links between Statisticians and Demographers living in Ivory Coast and those being trained, and to insure the necessary contents with those of other regions, countries and continents.;
- representing Statisticians and Demographers of Ivory Coast, to make their profession known and to promote their insertion in active life.;
- making its members better aware of scientific and technical developments, particularly those about Statistics and Demography.

So this letter aims at getting us into touch with IAASS.

ASDECI is ready to collaborate and to participate in your activities in order to spread statistical and demographic knowledge and contribute to the promotion of Statisticians and Demographers.

### 8.2. 1st WORLD CONGRESS OF THE BERNOULLI SOCIETY FOR MATHEMATICAL STATISTICS AND PROBABILITY.

The first Congress of the Bernoulli Society, an ISI section, will be held in Tashkent (USSR), september 8-14 1986. Programme of the Congress will cover a great variety of topics in mathematical

statistics, probability and applications.

For further information, please contact :

K. Krickeberg, U.E.R. de Mathématiques  
Logique Formelle et Informatique  
Université de Paris V  
12, rue Cujas, 75005 PARIS, FRANCE.

### 8.3. SECOND CATALAN INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON STATISTICS :

This Symposium is organized by the Consorci d'Informació i Documentació de Catalunya and the Comissió Interdepartamental de Recerca i Innovació Tecnològica ; it will be held at Barcelona, Spain, on the 18th and 19th september 1986.

Sessions will be devoted to following topics : times series analysis, industrial statistics, statistics from real problems, statistics in economics and social sciences, data analysis and analysis of correspondances, artificial intelligence applied to statistics, advances in probability theory and mathematical statistics, teaching of statistics statistics in public Administration.

Official languages will be Catalan, Spanish, English and French.

Information about registration and papers can be obtained from the Symposium Secretariat :

Eugenia Salvador and Olga Catusas  
Consorci d'Informació i Documentació de Catalunya  
Urgell, 187  
08036 BARCELONA - SPAIN

## 9 Bibliography

### 9.1. WORLD FERTILITY SURVEY.

The address given in SS n° 13 was incorrect, the ISI World Fertility Survey Office in London having closed last december (1984). So copies of WFS publications may only be ordered from the ISI Permanent Office, 428 Beatrixlaan, PO Box 950, 2270 AZ Voorburg, Netherlands.

### 9.2. A CELEBRATION OF STATISTICS.

A celebration of Statistics is a collection of essays marking the 100 th anniversary of the ISI. The papers in this volume were carefully chosen to reflect the breadth of statistical research and applications in modern applied and theoretical science. As a result, the topics range from statistical computing and the use of statistics in experimental agriculture, to an exposition of the concept of robustness.

Most of the contributions are designed to be accessible to both the specialist and non-specialist.

Contents are given below.

- . Prediction and Entropy
- . Statistical developments in World War II : an International Perspective
- . Statistics in the United Kingdom, 1939-45
- . The Fascination of Sand
- . International Trends of Official Statistics
- . Cohort analysis in Epidemiology.
- . Psychiatric Statistics
- . Mathematical Models for Infections Disease Statistics
- . Evolutionary Origins of Statisticians and Statistics
- . Statistical Computing : What's Past is Prologue
- . Conditional Econometric Modeling : an Application to New House Prices in the U.K.
- . Large-scale Social Experimentation in the U.S.
- . The Development of Sample Surveys of Finite Populations
- . On some New Probabilistic Developments of Significance to Statistics : Martingals, Long Range Dependence, Fractals, and Random Fields
- . Concept of Robustness
- . Robust Estimators of Location and their Second-Order Asymptotic Relations
- . Mathematical Statistics in the Humanities, and some Related Problems in Astronomy
- . Reflections on the World Fertility Survey
- . Economic and Social Statistics for Comparative Assessments
- . An Introduction to the Optimum Design of Experiments
- . Agricultural Experimentation in a Developing Country
- . On the Statistical Analysis of Floods
- . Weighted Distributions Arising out of Methods of Ascertainment : what population does a sample represent ?
- . Statistical Problems in Crop Forecasting.

This volume is available to IASS members, at the reduced price of 26 \$ US (instead of 39 \$ US) ; please send your order form to the ISI Permanent Office (of :9.1).

9.3. POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT REVIEW : CUMULATIVE INDEX TO VOLUMES 1-10 (1975-1984).

The Survey Statistician gives no more the contents of the demographic journal Population and Development Review, whose address was given in n° 12.

Nevertheless it seems interesting to point out the publication of that volume, index of all articles, notes and book reviews published in Population and Development Review since its first issue.

This volume has three main parts : alphabetical ordering by author, analytic and geographical index, listing of books reviewed.

It's available for 2,50 £ US (+ mailing cost).

Add : Population and Development Review  
The Population Council  
One Dag Hammarskjold Plaza  
New-York, N - Y 10017

9.4. METHODOLOGICAL ISSUES FOR HEALTH CARE SURVEYS, by Brenda G. COX and Steven B. Cohen, June 1985.

Focusing on practical aspects of survey research, this comprehensive source examines the 1977 National Medical Care Expenditure Survey and the 1980 National Medical Care Utilization and Expenditure Survey.

The authors provide an overview of health care data and its applications, give background information used in sample design, give procedures and techniques to replace or impute missing data, discuss statistical methods for analyzing complex survey data and approximating the variance of survey estimates.

Contents of this volume (472 pages) are as follows :

- . Measuring Health Care Parameters in Sample Surveys
- . Sample Design Considerations for Health Care Surveys
- . A comparison of two Longitudinal Design Alternatives
- . Data Collection Organization Effect
- . A Demonstration of Optimal Allocation
- . A Comparison of Household and Provider Reports of Medical Conditions
- . Weight Development for Survey Data
- . Imputation Procedures to Compensate for Missing Responses to Data Items
- . Imputation Illustrated for Demographic Items
- . An Analysis of Alternative Attrition Compensation Strategies
- . Imputation for Partial Non-response
- . Statistical Analysis of Complex Survey Data
- . Variance Approximations Strategies for Survey Estimates
- . Family Unit Analysis in the National Medical Care Expenditure Survey
- . A Comparative Study of Synthetic Estimation Procedures.

This volume is available at the price of 65 \$ US (U.S. and Canada), 78 à US (all other countries) :

add. : Marcel Dekker, Inc  
270 Madison Avenue, New-York, N-Y, 10016  
Postfach 133, CH-4010, Basel, Switzerland

9.5. SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY PLANNING RESEARCH : Survey Methods Newsletter.

. spring 1985 : Women and Social Class (a short article by Helen Roberts) ; social surveys, social science and social policy (report of the january seminar) ;

. autum 1985 : Telephone Interviewing (report of the february seminar)

add : The Publications Officer, SCPB  
35, Northampton Square  
London EC1V 0AX

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