



SPECIAL FOCUS:

- Africa Symposium on Statistical Development, p3
- Statistical Development - Selected Areas, p26



Africa Symposium on Statistical Development 2009, Luanda, Angola

African Statistical Newsletter

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Symposium Africain pour le Développement de la Statistique 2009,
Luanda, Angola

Bulletin d'information statistique africain

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“I like good news. I would like to tell good stories about how well we are performing as a country, but that is not what I need, so I expect statistics to give me what I need and not what I like”

Hon. Trevor Manuel, the Minister of Finance of South Africa (2002)

FROM THE DIRECTOR, ACS

A belated Happy New Year to readers of the Newsletter – a year that portends greater achievements in statistical development in the African region. The year started on a high note, with important and exciting activities/ initiatives at various levels - country, sub-regional and regional levels – all in pursuit of statistical development in Africa. This issue of the newsletter reports on some of these activities/ initiatives.

With effect from 1 January 2009, the capacity of the African Centre for Statistics at the UN Economic Commission for Africa was considerably enhanced. The professional staff complement of the Centre was increased by 100% under the UN Development Pillar. Information is provided on how to apply for the new posts. In addition, the Centre has acquired considerable geoinformation capability through staff reassignment at the Commission and her capacity in the area of household surveys is being enhanced by the French government which is attaching an expert to the Centre in this area for the next two years. With this enhanced capacity, we expect ECA to scale up support to countries in various areas of statistics and statistical development. At the African Development Bank, plans were made to effectively utilize the capacity building development fund approved by her Board of Directors late last year. This fund should go a long way in assisting countries meet the resource challenge in their statistical development. And the African Union Commission was able to get the Summit of the African Union endorse the African Charter on Statistics. The Charter is expected to be a useful tool for advocating for statistics at the highest political level and for countries to commit themselves to reforming and developing their National Statistical Systems.

The first quarter of the year also witnessed the holding of the Global Forum on Gender Statistics in Accra, Ghana. The forum which was held in January 2009 soon after a regional workshop on gender statistics held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in December 2008, gave further impetus to the development of gender statistics in Africa. There is an article on this forum. Angola played host to the 4th Africa Symposium on Statistical Development (ASSD) under the theme "Data Processing and Use of Census Data". The symposium which was held in Luanda, the capital city, was attended by over 250 participants from National Statistical Offices and in-



**Ben Kiregyera, Director
African Centre for Statistics**

ternational organizations and agencies. We report on this symposium including the Luanda Declaration and preparations for the 5th symposium to be held in Dakar, Senegal in November 2009 back-to-back with the PARIS21 Consortium meeting.

The second half of the year also promises to be exciting in terms of statistical activities. South Africa will, on behalf of Africa, host the 57th Session of the International Statistical Institute in Durban from 16 to 21 August. Everything points to this session being the best attended and most interesting in the history of the association. We give more information about preparations for the session. After 10 years of existence, PARIS21 will hold its consortium meeting in Dakar, Senegal. Plans are underway to hold the 5th ASSD back-to-back with the consortium. There is an article on the consortium. And of course, countries will be commemorating the African Statistics Day on 18 November 2009. The process of selecting the theme for the commemoration has started.

There are also articles on 2008 African Statistics Day commemoration, statistical capacity building workshops, selected areas of statistical development, arrangements for the International Statistical Institute Congress, news and events.

Finally, we report on the appointment of illustrious sons of Africa to international posts - Mr. Michel Mouyelo-Katoula has been appointed to the post of Global Manager of the 2011 round of the International Comparison Programme (ICP). He will be based at the World Bank in Washington, U.S.A. Until recently, he was the Manager of the Statistical Capacity Building Division at the African Development Bank. Mr. Mohamed El-Heyba Lemrabott Berrou has recently been appointed Manager of PARIS21 replacing Mr. Antoine Simonpietri. Mr. Berrou worked as the Manager of the PRSP in Mauritania before becoming an Advisor to the President of Mauritania. There is an article about the two. On behalf of the African Statistical Coordination Committee, the African Centre for Statistics, the entire African statistical community and indeed on my own behalf, I would like to heartily congratulate them on their appointments and to wish them well. It is our expectation that these appointments will serve to strengthen our partnerships with the ICP and PARIS21 respectively. □

DU DIRECTEUR DU CAS

Un tardif "Meilleurs Vœux de Bonne Année" aux lecteurs du Bulletin – une année qui présage de meilleurs résultats en développement statistique en Afrique. L'année commence avec une note élevée, avec d'importantes et d'excitantes activités/initiatives à différents niveaux – pays, sous-régions et continent – le tout dans la poursuite du développement statistique en Afrique. Cette publication relate de quelques unes de ces activités /initiatives.

A compter du 1er Janvier 2009, la capacité du Centre Africain pour la Statistique de la Commission Economique des Nations Unies pour l'Afrique a considérablement augmenté. Le complément de postes de professionnels a augmenté de 100% sous le pilier du développement des NU. En plus, le Centre a acquis une capacité considérable en géoinformation à travers la réaffectation d'un cadre de la Commission et sa capacité dans les enquêtes auprès des ménages est entrain d'être renforcée par le Gouvernement français qui affecte un expert dans ce domaine au Centre pour les deux prochaines années. Avec cette capacité renforcée, nous espérons que la CEA va renforcer son soutien aux pays dans différents domaines de la statistique et du développement statistique. A la Banque Africaine de Développement, des programmes sont élaborés pour utiliser efficacement le fonds de renforcement des capacités et adoptés par son Conseil d'Administration à la fin de l'année dernière. Ce fonds devrait aider les pays à faire face aux défis des ressources dans le cadre du développement statistique. Et la Commission de l'Union Africaine a réussi à faire endosser la Charte Africaine de la Statistique par le Sommet de l'Union Africaine. La charte est supposée être un outil utile pour le plaidoyer pour la statistique au niveau politique le plus élevé et pour les pays à s'engager à réformer et développer leurs systèmes statistiques nationaux.

Le premier trimestre de l'année a aussi enregistré la tenue du Forum Mondial sur les Statistiques du Genre à Accra, Ghana. Le forum qui s'est tenu en janvier 2009, juste après l'atelier régional sur les statistiques du genre tenu à Addis Abeba, Ethiopie, en décembre 2008, a donné davantage d'élan au développement des statistiques du genre en Afrique. Il y a un article sur ce forum. L'Angola a accueilli le 4ème Symposium Africain sur le Développement de la Statistique sous le thème « Traitement informatique des données et utilisation des données censitaires ». Le symposium a enregistré plus de 250 participants venant des Offices Nationaux de la Statistique et d'organisations et d'agences inter-



Ben Kiregyera, Directeur
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nationales. Nous rapportons sur le symposium y compris la Déclaration de Luanda et les préparations pour le 5ème symposium qui sera organisé à Dakar, Sénégal, en novembre, parallèlement à la réunion du consortium de PARIS21.

La seconde partie de l'année promet aussi d'être passionnante en terme d'activités statistiques. L'Afrique du sud, au nom de l'Afrique, accueille la 57ème session de l'Institut International de Statistique à Durban du 16 au 21 août. Tout porte à croire que cette session sera la meilleure en terme de participation et la plus intéressante dans l'histoire de l'association. Nous donnons plus d'information concernant les préparations de la session. Après 10 ans d'existence, PARIS21 tiendra la réunion de son consortium à Dakar, Sénégal. Les programmes sont en cours pour organiser,

en parallèle, le 5ème SADS. Il y a un article sur le consortium. Et bien sûr, les pays vont célébrer la Journée Africaine de la Statistique, le 18 novembre 2009. Le processus de sélection du thème a débuté.

Il y a aussi des articles sur la célébration de la Journée Africaine de la Statistique de 2008, les ateliers de renforcement des capacités, des domaines choisis de développement statistique, des arrangements pour l'Institut International de Statistique, des nouvelles et des événements.

Finalement, nous publions sur la nomination d'illustres fils d'Afrique à des postes internationaux – Mr. Michel Mouyelo-Katoula a été nommé au poste de Manager Mondial pour le cycle 2011 du Programme de Comparaison Internationale (PCI). Il sera basé à la Banque Mondiale à Washington, USA. Jusqu'à récemment, il était le Manager de la Division de Renforcement des Capacités à la Banque Africaine de Développement. Mr. Mohamed El-Heyba Lemrabott Berrou a récemment été nommé Manager de PARIS21 en remplacement de Mr. Antoine Simonpietri. Mr. Berrou travaillait en tant que Manager du PSRP en Mauritanie avant de devenir Conseiller du Président de Mauritanie. Il y a un article sur ces deux fils d'Afrique. Au nom du Comité Africain de Coordination Statistique, du Centre Africain pour la Statistique et de toute la communauté statistique africaine et évidemment en mon nom personnel, je voudrais les féliciter du fond du cœur pour leurs nomination et leur souhaiter du bien. Nous espérons que ces nominations serviront à renforcer le partenariat avec le PCI et PARIS21. □

I. AFRICA SYMPOSIUM ON STATISTICAL DEVELOPMENT



African Stakeholders Hold a Successful Fourth Africa Symposium on Statistical Development in Luanda

Dimitri Sanga, African Centre for Statistics

The Fourth Africa Symposium on Statistical Development in Luanda

The fourth meeting of the Africa Symposium on Statistical Development (ASSD) took place from 9 to 13 February 2009 in Luanda, Angola. Following one of the recommendations of the first ASSD and given the importance of the 2010 round of Population and Housing Censuses (PHC), this fourth ASSD was also devoted to this very topic.

The objective of the fourth ASSD was to exchange information and best practices on the processing and use of census data in African countries in support of their improved participation in the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses (PHC). It also dealt with the usual exchange of information on a variety of issues in census taking between those African countries that have already conducted their censuses during the round and those preparing themselves to do so in the near future. Special attention was also paid to census taking in countries emerging from conflicts.

Attendance

The ASSD was attended by 250 participants made of representatives from African NSOs, sub regional, regional, and international organizations, and development partners. It was supported by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the African Development Bank (AfDB), the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the South African Government, and other development partners. The meeting noted with appreciation the presence of Afghanistan and Cambodia NSOs, which were invited to share their experience as countries that have experienced conflict and have used statistical development, especially census-taking, as a catalyst for peace initiatives.

The meeting was graced by the presence of high-level officials during the opening session. Opening remarks were made by Mr. Pali Lehohla, Chair of ASSD, Dr. Louis Kasekende, Chief economist of the AfDB, and Ms. Lalla Ben Barka, Deputy Executive Secretary of the ECA. This was followed by a ministerial address by Ms. Ana

Dias Lourenco, Minister of Economic Planning, Republic of Angola and finally the meeting was opened by the Honourable Antonio Paulo Kassoma, Prime Minister of the Republic of Angola.

Resolutions

The meeting recognized that successful PHC remain cornerstones of the National Statistical System (NSS) and indispensable basis for effective policy and decision-making. Therefore no effort should be spared in ensuring that a census is undertaken and that data are disseminated in a timely manner.

All countries experiencing conflict and emerging out of conflict should be supported to conduct or actively prepare for their censuses in the 2010 round of PHC and pick lessons from others, including the recent experiences such as Sudan.

Angola, whose conceptual cartographic preparations are already at an advanced stage, should specifically be actively supported with achieving concrete steps towards conducting its census as well as with statistical institutional reforms in line with the Reference Regional Strategic Framework for Statistical Capacity Building in Africa (RRSF), National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) and the African Charter on Statistics.

Lesotho and Nigeria, among many other African countries, should be encouraged to release their census results without delay in compliance with the General Data dissemination System (GDDS), Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS), and the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics.

On language as a development infrastructure, African statisticians should strive to be multilingual consistent with the official languages adopted by the African Union and ECA.

The ECA should exercise leadership and take the following concrete steps:

- ECA with the support of South Africa, UNSD and other partners should speed up the development of a Manual on Census Data Processing that will provide guidance to African countries on technologies for data processing and present African experiences in census data processing, a guide that should be launched officially at the 5th ASSD in Dakar, Senegal.
- ECA and AfDB should lead a joint mission to Luanda to assess

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the state of the country's plans for conducting the census, the NSDS and other key statistical processes. The mission should be made up of AfDB, AUC, UNFPA and other UN agencies based in Angola, Mozambique as well as South Africa.

- ECA and AfDB should continue to assist countries to advocate for mainstreaming statistics in national development and budget processes as well as to articulate autonomy of statistical offices and independence of statistical operations to both speed up data release to the public and to preserve their impartiality and credibility.
- ECA, AfDB, South Africa and other partners should put in place relevant peer support mechanisms for countries emerging out of conflict.

Emerging issues should be given attention, especially the following: Effective advocacy for the census at political level and in society, need for good preparation for all phases of the census, better testing of all census phases, timely release of census results, harnessing IT for the census including latest technologies such as scanning technology, need for total solution if scanning technology is adopted, care in choice of IT, better training in the use of IT, outsourcing, learning from experiences of other countries in the region as well as Africa Census Support Peer Mechanism.

The next ASSD will take place in Dakar, Senegal from 16 to 21 November 2009.

The First Meeting of the Bureau of the Statistical Commission for Africa

The Bureau of StatCom-Africa met on 12 February 2009 in Luanda, Angola during the Fourth Africa Symposium on Statistical Development (ASSD). In attendance were all the members of the Bureau (Cameroon, Morocco, Niger, Uganda, South Africa). The meeting was also attended by a number of observers including Ghana, Senegal, Togo, Afghanistan, Cambodia, and the following organizations: UNSD and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Secretariat.

The main objective of the First Meeting of the Bureau of StatCom-Africa was to take stock of the status of statistical development on the continent and to provide guidance on the proposed activities of a development account project on "African Statistical Knowledge Networks" to be implemented by the African Centre for Statistics (ACS) and UNSD. On the latter, the meeting was meant to work out modalities for the implementation of the development account project by officially setting up a Steering Committee, taking stock of the objectives, expected accomplishment, and activities of the project, discussing the proposed governance and the proposed activities of the project.

The Bureau took the following decisions:

On the nomination of Reference Regional Strategic Framework for Statistical Capacity Building in Africa (RRSF) coordinators: ACS and AfDB to draft detailed Terms of Reference of national coordinators so as to help African countries to know what is expected of the coordinators and nominate staff accordingly. They should also take advantage of meetings to get Heads of NSOs nominate the coordinators. AfDB and ACS to take necessary steps to get the first comprehensive RRSF report by the end of 2009 as this has to be presented to StatCom-Africa II early next year.

The ACS should ensure large distribution of the proposal on the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA) for information and fundraising. There is also a need to merge the StatCom-Africa working group on training and the Task team on training of PARIS21 into one and closely collaborate with ACBF on statistical training to avoid duplication of efforts in this regard.

The Bureau welcomed the publication of a joint African Statistical Yearbook and called upon the AfDB, ECA and AUC to complete the work by the targeted end of March 2009 deadline.

Francophone African colleagues are called upon to write articles in French for the African Statistical Journal and the African Statistical Newsletter to ensure a balance in their content.

The Bureau welcomed the development of a programme by AfDB and ACS aimed at building the capacity of African countries to report on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) building on the recommendations of the report of UN Regional Economic Commissions to the Inter Agency and Expert Group on MDG Indicators in November 2008.

In the event that the proposed World Statistics Day is celebrated on 20 October 2010, the Bureau proposes that the celebrations start on that day and run until 18 November, which is the African Statistics Day.

The Steering Committee of the Development Account project

The Bureau welcomed the project and called for the ACS and AfDB to ensure that the activities to be launched through the project continue far beyond the project life. It therefore called for the need to mobilize additional resources in this regard.

As far as the vital and civil registration workshop is concerned, the Bureau called on ACS to use the recommendations from the workshops held in Cameroon (2002), Ghana (2004), and Malawi (2008) to fine-tune the content of the workshop.

On study tours and visits, participants suggested that the format be revisited. For example, it might be more efficient to bring a limited

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number of best practices countries in an area to the country in need for a national workshop/training rather than having representatives of countries in need going around visiting best practices countries.

The Bureau resolved to constitute itself into the Steering Committee of the Development Account Project. However, it has mandated ACS to expand the Steering Committee by adding the UNSD, AfDB, and selected African countries with best practices in relevant areas of interest and those lagging behind.

It was recommended migration statistics should be inserted in one of the areas covered by the proposed project. Finally, the AfDB was called upon to consider supporting the project by expanding its activities in the proposed areas.

The next meeting of the Bureau will take place in the margins of the fifth ASSD in Dakar, Senegal in November 2009.

The meeting of the "Friends of ECA"

The meeting of the "Friends of ECA" took place on 13 February 2009 in the margins of the Fourth Africa Symposium on Statistical Development (ASSD). In attendance were all the nine members as well as the ECA, AfDB and the Angola National Statistical Office (NSO).

Participants took note of the successful conclusion of the fourth ASSD and congratulated the organizers in this regard.

The meeting noted the need to address a number of issues before the next ASSD, namely the Terms of Reference of the "Friends of ECA", the membership of the group, the theme for the next ASSD, and sustainability of funds for the ASSD.

After discussions, it was agreed that the Secretariat prepares a concept note on all the above elements and share them with members in preparation for a meeting that should take place in April/May 2009. The venue will be announced to members in due course.

In addition to the above-mentioned elements, it was suggested that the meeting discuss what to do with the weaknesses in managing technologies as transpired from the discussions of the fourth ASSD. The use and management of ICT in census taking and in other statistical operations was added to the agenda of the forthcoming meeting of the "Friends of ECA." It might also be considered as the building block of the forthcoming ASSD.

The meeting with UNFPA on Angola

Some "Friends of ECA" convened a meeting on the support to Angola on 13 February 2009. The meeting was attended by South Africa, Mozambique, Angola, AfDB, ECA, and UNFPA.

After a briefing by the ACS Director on the meeting of the Deputy Executive Secretary of the ECA and the Minister of Planning of the Republic of Angola, participants discussed practical modalities for the forthcoming joint AfDB-ECA mission aimed at reinforcing the capacity of Angola not only to undertake the census but also to address a number of challenges regarding the provision to Angolan stakeholders with quality information in support of the development agenda of the country.

Angola presented the status of ongoing work towards the census. Some cartographic work is ongoing and the preparation of the project document is in an advanced stage. A team from UNFPA headquarters will be working with the Angola NSO to finalize the census project document. A roundtable is expected to be organized as soon as the project document is finalized.

The ACS prepared Terms of Reference for the mission and shared them with all participants as requested. The UNFPA was called upon to lead the process with respect to the census component while the ACS is leading the overall mission.

The meeting with the DR Congo

The ECA, South Africa, AfDB and the DR Congo met to discuss the status of census preparations in this post conflict country.

The Congolese delegate briefed participants on the status of preparations. Preliminary work has been started including the finalization of the project document and the organization of a seminar under the leadership of the UNFPA in DR Congo. Some cartographic work has taken place with the support of UNFPA.

While participant noted and appreciated the leadership of UNFPA in this country, it was noted that there was lack of strong political commitment in the preparation of the census that is supposed to take place in 2010. They also noted that the DR Congo census could only be successful if African expertise is mobilized to support the country and partners involved in the process. This can only be done through the leadership of a regional organisation.

Participants agreed to organise a mission to DRC along the lines of the one that will take place in Angola. PARIS21 will be joining the mission. They called upon the ECA to initiate a letter to both the DR Congo and to the Finance Minister of South Africa in this regard.



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Opening Statement

Dr Louis Kasekende, Chief Economist
African Development Bank Group



Your Excellency Prime Minister Paulo Kassoma

Honorable Minister of Planning Ana Dias Lourenco

Honorable Ministers

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

Introduction

It is a great pleasure for me to address this distinguished audience on behalf of the African Development Bank. Permit me to first of all thank His Excellency President Dos Santos, and the Government and people of Angola for the warm hospitality they have graciously granted us. I would also like to thank all those who have contributed to make possible this symposium on Africa's Population and Housing Census issues.

Statistics for Development

Your Excellency,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Africa's population currently stands at close to a billion people of

which about half live in abject poverty. Close to 40 percent of Africa's population is in urban areas where over 70 percent of the people live in slums and informal settlements. By 2050, Africa's population is projected to reach 2.0 billion and in the absence of appropriate policy interventions, the current developmental challenges of urbanization, inequality and poverty are likely to worsen. This symposium on "Africa's 2010 Round of Population and Housing Census" is therefore timely in that it will help countries to generate reliable and timely data that would inform decision makers to address these challenges we face.

Indeed, we all agree that reliable and timely statistics are indispensable for the effective design, implementation and monitoring of development strategies and programs. The drive to *Manage for Results*, underpinned by good statistics, has gained momentum since the 2002 Monterrey Consensus on International Development Finance; the subsequent International Roundtables on Managing for Development Results; and more recently the 2005 Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness. Good statistics have become even more imperative under the current difficult global economic circumstances which call for rational evidence-based decision making so that available development resources are optimally allocated and effectively utilized. We need good statistics to measure development inputs, outputs, outcomes, and impacts and to provide reliable assessments of key economic and social indicators, covering all aspects of development and the well-being of our people. In this regard, there is no better source for such comprehensive information than a Population and Housing Census. It is the only statistical activity that provides far more comprehensive information covering the entire population at all levels. It also provides a solid basis for statistical capacity building in the countries through improved statistical management, data collection and processing, as well as enhanced analysis and dissemination techniques.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Unfortunately, many African countries have not had a good record in conducting censuses or large scale surveys. The last census round of 2000 in particular saw quite a low participation rate among African countries, resulting in close to half of Africa's population not being counted. The reasons for this vary from lack of resources in some countries to carry out this important statistical exercise, to sheer lack of prioritization of statistics in other countries. It is therefore gratifying to note that the majority of African countries have this time around committed to participate in the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses. If current trends hold up, we are likely to see the highest participation rate among African countries for this round – thanks in large part to the efforts made through this country-led Symposium Initiative. The high number of countries represented here attests to this commitment and let me assure you that the African Development Bank, for its part, will remain a reliable partner in supporting African countries in their efforts to enhance the reliability and timeliness of data available for development policy management.

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The Role of the AfDB

Your Excellency,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Allow me now to say a few words about what the African Development Bank is doing in the area of fostering statistical development in Africa. In recent years, the AfDB has played a key leadership role in supporting statistical development efforts in African countries through providing technical and financial assistance. Under our Phase I *Statistical Capacity Building Program* covering the period 2002-2008, the focus was on improving social and economic statistics, with emphasis on prices and national accounts under the ICP-Africa program; diagnosis of the challenges to statistical systems; helping countries to develop national statistical development strategies; and, supporting training of country officials through statistical training Institutions.

Your Excellency,

I am pleased to report that our Board of Directors in November 2008 approved Phase 2 of our statistical capacity building program in Africa over the next 2 years. The program will scale up and build on the gains from Phase I, and concentrate on providing support for (i) capacity development of national statistical systems; (ii) strengthening economic and social statistics; (iii) human resource development through strengthening training institutions, organization of training and workshops at regional, sub-regional and country levels; and, (iv) more relevant to this symposium, providing technical assistance and material support to countries for their 2010 Census activities. This will be for preparatory activities, data processing and analysis as well as effective dissemination of results.

The thrust of the AfDB strategy will focus on coordinating the delivery of its assistance to African countries through (a) sub-regional organizations by strengthening their capacity to coordinate statistical activities at the country level; and, (b) statistical training centers to undertake critical training of middle to high-level statistical cadres and on-the-job training at the country level. In delivering its program of assistance, the Bank will work closely with regional partners such as ECA, AU and ACBF through the African Statistical Coordination Committee as well as with external multilateral and bilateral partners such as the UN agencies, the World Bank and IMF.

Conclusion

Your Excellency

Ladies and Gentlemen

Permit me to conclude my brief remarks by reiterating that we are all united by a common belief in the value of good statistics and a commitment to do better. Looking back over the last decade, we can agree that an enormous amount of effort has gone into statistical development in the region, but we are still some way from having the statistics needed for effective economic and social development. We need to have better data to meet the results agenda, for PRSPs and MDGs. The proceedings of this Symposium will therefore go a long way in moving us closer to this goal by not only encouraging more countries to participate in the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Census, but also ensuring that they do so in a manner that generates good baseline information needed to inform development efforts in our countries.

African countries, on their part, need to continue prioritizing statistics as an integral component of their development programs and accordingly allocate adequate budgetary resources for statistical activities. We all recognize that although external support is essential for statistical development; no amount of outside assistance can substitute for Africa's own resolve to take on the task of addressing development challenges on the continent through evidence-based decision making. This resolve calls for scaling up the level of support for statistics in the country.

For its part, the African Development Bank will continue to sustain its statistical support to countries and scale up its collaboration with other development partners towards improving development outcomes. We call upon our development partners to similarly supplement statistical capacity building efforts in African countries and to ensure that such support is well coordinated for maximum effectiveness within the Reference Regional Strategic Framework for Statistical Development in Africa (RRSF) and the national statistical development strategies (NSDS).

At this special Luanda Symposium, therefore, my fervent wish is for us to commit ourselves to improving statistical systems in our countries and advancing the results agenda through evidence based development policy management.

I wish you fruitful deliberations.



I. AFRICA SYMPOSIUM ON STATISTICAL DEVELOPMENT

Welcome Address by Deputy Executive Secretary of ECA

Ms. Lalla Ben Barka



Your Excellency, Mr. Paulo Kassoma, Prime Minister of the Republic of Angola;

Your Excellency, Ms. Ana Dias Lourenco, Minister of Economic Planning of the Republic of Angola;

Your Excellency, Dr. Louis Kasekende, Chief Economist, African Development Bank;

Excellencies;

Heads of National Statistics Offices;

Representatives from sub regional, regional, and international organizations;

Distinguished Guests;

Ladies and Gentlemen.

I bring you greetings from Mr. Abdoulie Janneh, the Executive Secretary of the UN Economic Commission for Africa, who would have loved to be here to participate in yet another Africa Symposium on Statistical Development in Africa. It may be recalled that he attended the first symposium in Cape Town, South Africa and the Second Symposium in Kigali, Rwanda. He has had to attend an urgent meeting in New York and has therefore asked me to represent him at this opening ceremony.

Let me join everyone who has spoken before me in welcoming you all to this year's symposium. In a special way, I would like to extend welcome to His Excellency, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Angola and to thank him for gracing this official opening of the symposium. In the same vein, I would like to thank the people of Angola for the warm hospitality that they have extended to all of us since our arrival in this very beautiful city of Luanda.

Your Excellency Mr. Prime Minister, your presence here and that of high ranking government officials serves well the objectives of the symposium which include drumming up political support for statistics in a host country. It is also testimony of the commitment of your government to managing for development results. As we all know, development results means more than simply achieving outputs, important as these outputs may be. It is about achieving development outcomes and impact or sustained improvement in the lives of people: more children educated, fewer infants dying and more families lifted out of poverty. Managing for development results requires that statistics be used as evidence in the development of public policies, decision-making, policy and programme implementation as well as measuring and reporting on development progress. The new focus on managing for development results which all countries in Africa have embraced has created unprecedented demand for "good statistics" in terms of scope, quantity and quality. It has also elevated statistics to a development issue and given it a place in policy dialogue. In many African countries, however, many statistical systems are weak, under-resourced and struggling. And this is particularly true in post-conflict countries, including Angola, where statistical capacity and infrastructure that may have existed were destroyed or they stagnated during the period of conflict. It is, therefore, critical that statistics receives support and attention at the highest level of government as a necessary condition for statistics to thrive in any country. This symposium precisely aims to drum up this support and attention.

Excellencies,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is important that even as statistics gets the political support I have just talked about, national statistical systems should recalibrate and reengineer themselves to respond better to increasing demand for statistics. In this connection, I am happy to note that the themes for the last three symposia have been about population and housing census. The census is not only the main source of data required for planning for socio-economic development but the census activity supports the building of the national statistical infrastructure and capacity in a profound manner. And in addition to using census data for planning purposes, the data are also importantly used in monitoring progress towards attainment of development goals including poverty reduction and Millennium Development Goals generally.

I. AFRICA SYMPOSIUM ON STATISTICAL DEVELOPMENT

The theme for this fourth symposium - Processing Census Data in the Africa 2010 Round of Population and Housing Census - is noteworthy. It shows that the statistical community in Africa is taking seriously the statistical paradox we have had for some time now; a paradox where on the one hand, there is a shortage of data on some important development indicators such as gender, poverty, environment, governance, informal sector, etc. and on the other hand, the available data are not being effectively used for a number of reasons including failure to process and analyze them properly. It cannot be emphasized enough that data on their own have no value; they will have value to the extent that they are properly processed, analyzed and made available to those who need them. Fortunately, advances in technology have made it easier to process data. Looking at the programme for this symposium, I can see that there will be discussions on how to harness technology to improve the way census data are processed and managed. I therefore encourage the symposium participants to take the issue of data processing, analysis and dissemination very seriously.

I would like to thank the representatives of the African Union Commission (AUC), the African Development Bank (ADB) and the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) for coming to participate in this Symposium. Their presence here underscores the shared vision of our regional institutions for the development of statistics in Africa. The need for more coordinated effort to tackle issues pertaining to statistical development of our continent cannot be overemphasized. In September 2007, representatives of the ADB, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the African Union Commission (AUC) and the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) met in Tunis, Tunisia, to discuss the coordination of statistical capacity building work in Africa. They discussed mechanisms for achieving greater synergy between regional institutions, and for coordinating statistical programs and activities within the Reference Regional Strategic Framework for Statistical Capacity Building in Africa (RRSF), with a view to enhancing and sustaining the effectiveness of statistical support to African countries. This is one more illustration of the determination of these institutions to enhance and deepen joint and collaborative efforts to advance Africa's Development agenda. I am happy to mention to you that in context of this grand regional partnership, these regional institutions will, from this year, produce one joint African Statistical Yearbook. In the past, each institution has produced its own statistical yearbook. In addition, these institutions are jointly supporting various statistical activities in Africa including workshops like the recently held workshop on gender statistics and statistical strategies, and this very symposium.

Excellencies,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

My statement would not be complete if I did not pay special tribute to the Republic of South Africa for the great contribution it has made and continues to make to the development of statistics in Africa. As the chair of "Friends of ECA", South Africa provided leadership that led eventually to the activation of statistics at the ECA and to a large extent in Africa. It has also provided financial and other forms of support to various countries in the SADC sub-region as well as other countries. The key role played by Statistics South Africa in supporting the census programme in Sudan last year can be singled out for special commendation. We are also aware of the financial and other forms of support by South Africa which have made the holding of these symposia possible. On behalf of the UN-ECA, I would like to thank the Statistician General of South Africa, the government and people of South Africa for their generosity and commitment to Africa's development in general and statistical development in particular. I must say that the statistical community in Africa is setting the best example of how professionals can galvanize themselves in the service of their countries and the continent. Statistics has become vibrant thanks to the current crop of leaders of national statistical systems and statistics departments of regional economic communities and regional organizations. As part of the repositioning of ECA in 2006 to serve Africa better, knowledge management, statistics and statistical development were made priority sub-programmes of the organization. An African Centre for Statistics was established to implement the statistics sub-programme of the organization. This Centre is working in close partnerships with regional and international partners to assist African countries build sustainable capacity for statistical production, management and use especially for policy and decision-making. I am happy to inform you that in spite of the zero growth policy of the United Nations, there has been a doubling of professional staff strength of the African Centre for Statistics effective 1 January 2009. This shows how committed the United Nations is to supporting statistical development in Africa. Let me in this connection commit the ECA to assisting the government of Angola in the planning for her next census and in the development of the national strategy for the development of statistics.

Hosting an event on this scale can be difficult and challenging. I would like to thank the National Statistical Institute of Angola for the elaborate arrangements they have made for this symposium and to Honourable Ana Dias Lourenco, the Minister of Planning for providing necessary political oversight and other support to these arrangements. Let us maintain this momentum as we plan to hold the 5th symposium in Dakar, Senegal this year.

Finally, it is my honour to once more thank you Mr. Prime Minister for gracing this occasion.

I wish the symposium participants fruitful deliberations. □

I. AFRICA SYMPOSIUM ON STATISTICAL DEVELOPMENT

Welcome Speech by Angola's Minister of Planning

Ana Dias Lourenço



Your Excellency the Primer Minister of Angola, Engineer Paulo Kassoma

Your Excellencies Members of the Government of Angola

Deputy Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

Mrs. Lalla Ben Barka

Ambassadors

Presidents and Director-Generals of National Statistical Institutes

Ladies and Gentlemen,

This Symposium is being held at a very difficult moment in the world economy, which is suffering its worst crisis ever. As usually happens in such situations, African countries end up being the most affected in their economical development and human progress, for reasons related with the weakness of their productive issues, the unevenness of their social structures and the excessive dependence on more developed economies.

It is indispensable to evaluate the expected effects of the double financial and economical crisis on the African economies. This demands the existence of macro and micro national statistical systems in order to gather quantitative information required for the definition of reactive and pro-active economic policies designed to minimize the negative impacts of the more than expected world economic stagnation.

And one of the areas in which these perverse effects are normally felt is the population, thus the need to have a wide scope of statistical information concerning the living conditions of the citizens.

It is precisely on the ways to reinforce and develop the African statistical systems for the collection, treatment, dissemination and use of census information on the population that this fourth Symposium on the Development of Statistics in Africa is about.

During five days, the different sessions of the symposium will deal with very interesting current issues concerning the organization of population censuses. Practically all aspects related to this subject are covered, with emphasis on the cartographic and informatics tools necessary for the success of these heavy statistical operations.

Another important aspect is to take action to raise the statistical awareness of the public and of the economic, social and civil agents so that their different positions and decisions are solidly founded on information correctly obtained and adequately treated. From this assertion, one infers the need to reinforce the teaching and the interest for the numerical sciences in order to allow the development of a rigorous culture of information.

Certainly, the knowledge of some census experiences in different African countries will be particularly interesting. As your Excellencies know, my country has not held population and housing censuses since 1970. The reasons for this 40 year interruption on the knowledge of the characteristics of the essential macroeconomic aggregate of public policies, the population, are well known.

Other relevant aspects of this symposium: the mobilization of the population to participate in a heavy statistical procedure, the determination of the expense budget and the capture of the required funds, the international methodological framework prescribed by the appropriate organizations of the United Nations system, the institutional participation of different organisms of the National Public Administration, the general problem of motivation for the census in countries that have recently come out of internal conflicts, etc., etc.

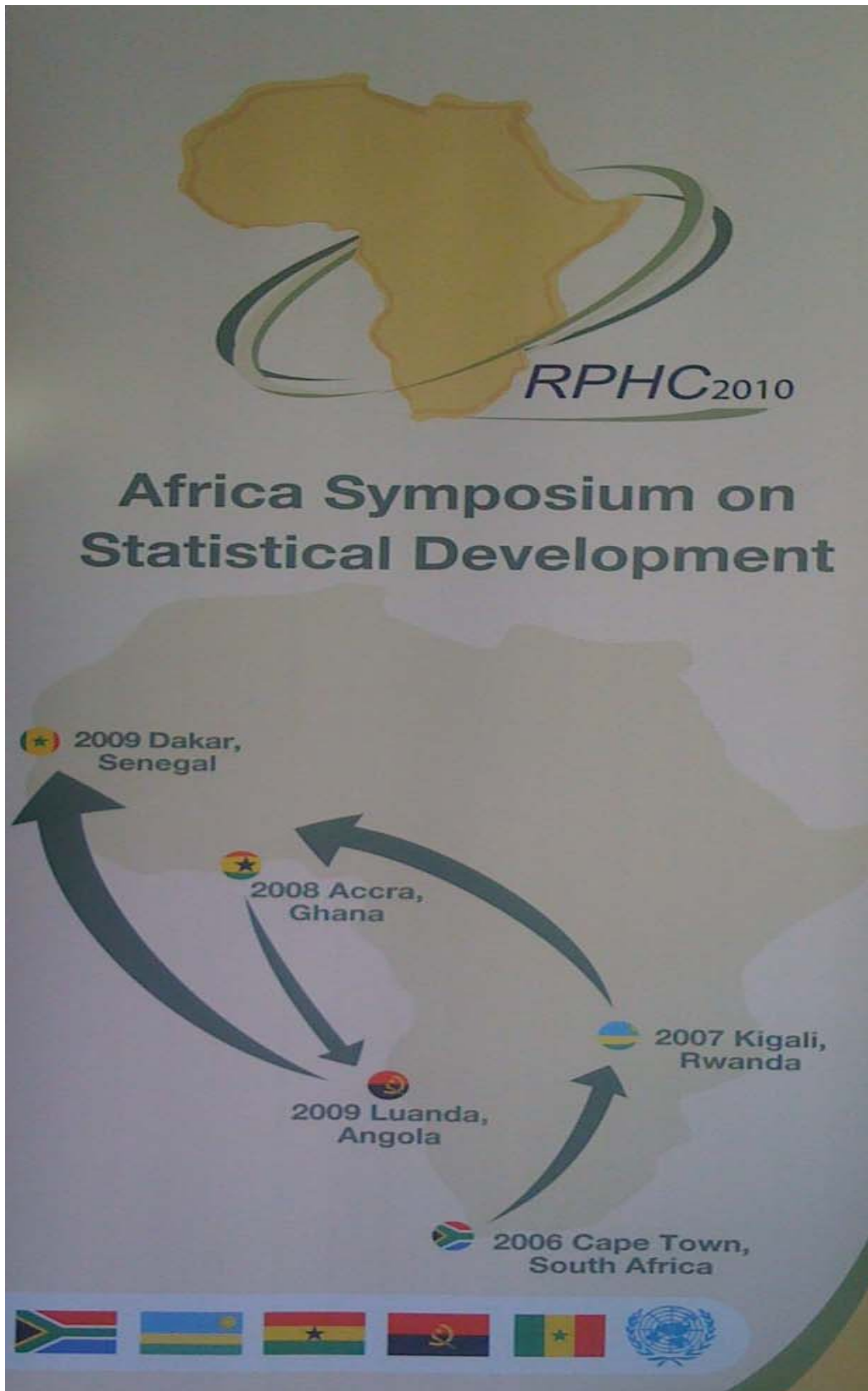
These are indeed motivating and current issues and I expect the results will be very useful to all participants in this symposium.

To end, let me refer the importance we attribute to the realization in Angola of this 4th Symposium on the Development of Statistics in Africa. We are honoured by your presence in Luanda and I welcome the Presidents and Director-Generals of the Statistical Institutes of our brother African countries, our guests and all the participants. Enjoy the Angolan hospitality.

Thank you very much for your attention. □

(Translation courtesy of the National Statistical Institutes of Mozambique and Portugal)

I. AFRICA SYMPOSIUM ON STATISTICAL DEVELOPMENT



I. AFRICA SYMPOSIUM ON STATISTICAL DEVELOPMENT

Speech of his Excellency the Prime Minister of Angola

Engineer Paulo Kassoma



Mrs Lalla Ben Barka, Deputy Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa,

Mr. Pali Lehola, President of the Symposium on the Development of Statistics in Africa,

Distinguished Deputies to the National Parliament,

Distinguished Members of the Government of Angola,

Presidents and General Directors of the National Statistical Institutes,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is for me a great honour to welcome you all to this **4th Symposium on the Development of Statistics in Africa**. Your presence shows the high interest of African countries in the development of joint policies and strategies, oriented towards the production and dissemination of Official Statistics.

I thank all African countries that the UN Statistics Division, as well as the office of UNDP in Luanda, for the attention and support given to the realization of this meeting. This will provide us with the statistical capacities needed for the Population and Housing World Census in 2010.

Indeed, the multiple challenges and problems that the African Governments are facing lead us to be conscious of the importance of Official Statistics based upon scientific and objective grounds, as indispensable decision-making instruments at all levels of our Society.

It is generally well known that the efficiency of our economies, indispensable to the social well being, is strongly dependent on economic and institutional reshuffles, based on correct policies and strategies.

Fortunately, in Angola, after April 2002, the economic conditions have deeply changed. It is today possible to speak on economic stability, on the growth of the productive system, on the increase of the offering of basic services to the population, on the rehabilitation and modernization of infra-structures over all nation, on the job creation, on the better basic social conditions of the population, on the increase in democracy and on the attraction of foreigner direct investment.

Angola is now achieving a normal situation and, for that reason, statistics play a more and more relevant role in all decision-making procedures.

Due to this, in the 2009 National Plan, the Government led by His Excellency the President of the Republic, JOSÉ EDUARDO DOS SANTOS, states that "The reinforcement of the National Statistical System (NSS) will be oriented in 2009 towards the following objectives: to promote the production and dissemination of all information based on official statistics, in a continued and sustainable way, within internationally accepted patterns; to deepen and systematize the coordination of functional and operational relationships between INE (Statistics Angola) and other organisations, producers of the National Statistical System".

The understanding and the generalized use of information technologies, in a Globalizing context, imply the need for political and economic decisions based upon official statistics.

The National Statistical Systems and the National Statistical Institutes should be regarded as basic infra-structures to the development, in the sense that they make the government understand the running and the changes in the economic and social cycles, and better take the pressing appropriate decisions, oriented towards a sustained development with the minimization of risks.

In this context, the production and dissemination of official statistics with a good quality, as a determinant instrument for the formulation, execution and evaluation of Public Policies (without forgetting the need of informative official statistics for the social and economic agents and the general citizen) enable us to face the changes with a higher security at a short, medium and long-term.

Indeed, without reliable, punctual and credible Official Statistics, the exercise of the government action becomes more fragile and unreal, possibly with no exit in the concretization of its objectives of promoting development.

I. AFRICA SYMPOSIUM ON STATISTICAL DEVELOPMENT

Nobody ignores the conjectural and structural difficulties we are confronted with, and this is one of the reasons to develop and modernize the Official Statistics of our countries, even if we have to ask for the technical and financial support of our Cooperation Partners.

We have good reasons to believe that such support will be placed at our disposal, so that we can have National Statistical Systems, National Statistical Institutes and institutional working conditions adequate to the sustained development of African Countries.

But in order to achieve those results it is necessary to have the Official Statistics of African countries in conformity with the Fundamental Principles of the Official Statistics adopted on April 14, 1994, by the United Nations Statistical Commission.

Excellences,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Given the high importance of this Symposium, I take this opportunity to enhance some of the principles that, in our opinion, need to be taken into account in order to achieve an excellent performance of the National Statistical Systems and of the African National Statistical Institutes:

In first place, the adoption of a scientific behaviour, impartial and objective in the elaboration of official statistics;

In second place, it is also important to have from the Official Statistics prompt answers to their users, among whom we include the policy-makers, the economic and social agents, researchers, the media, students and the general citizen;

In third place, and taking into account the current development of the new information technologies, it is urgent to have a new approach to the organization and functioning of the National Statistical Institutes, with a permanent adequation of programs to the new challenges.

We also need to preserve, as a fourth item to take into account, the principle of inviolability of the secrecy of individual statistical data collected by National Statistical Institutes, in order to save citizens' privacy, to preserve the concurrence among economic agents and to lead the inquired people to be confident on their National Statistical System.

Finally, we think that the National Statistical Institutes need to be considered, both technically and scientifically, as Centres of Rationality totally independent of any groups, ruling their mission of public service to the Society by reliability, objectivity, and impartiality, in order to better promote the development of the respective

Countries.

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We have no doubt that Democracy becomes more and more strong if more and more citizens have a conscientious perception of the technical independence and the credibility and integrity of the National Statistical Institutes.

The paradigm's change on the institutionalization of the National Statistical Systems clearly recognizes that the National Statistical Institutes are very specific organisations, different from other public institutes.

The dimension of the official statistics, as a determinant instrument of a good Government Action, is clear from the fact that they enable us:

To analyze the economic performance;

To evaluate the opportunities and the new conjectural and structural challenges;

To anticipate the society trends, through the social and economic indicators;

To elaborate methodologies and support the institutional exchange for information management;

To improve the techniques of evaluation and analysis of governmental programmes.

Before my last words, I would like to enhance the relevant role of the Media in the dissemination of the Official Statistics produced by the National Statistical Institutes.

This role of Media is also indispensable to increase the Statistical Literacy in our countries, a necessary condition to a suitable impresarios activity and a responsible citizenship.

For that it is necessary to organize seminars directed to the journalists, so that they can receive the indispensable training, in order to be able to understand and use the different types of Official Statistics.

To end my speech, I wish you all a useful participation and a lot of success in the organization of this IV Symposium.

Thank you. □

(Translation courtesy of the National Statistical Institutes of Mozambique and Portugal)

I. AFRICA SYMPOSIUM ON STATISTICAL DEVELOPMENT

4th Africa Symposium on Statistical Development, Luanda, Angola, 9-13 February 2009

Resolution

We, the National Statistical Offices of African countries, supported by the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the African Development Bank (AfDB), the UN Statistics Division (UNSD), the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), the South African Government and development partners, gathered in Luanda on 09-13 February 2009 during the 4th Africa Symposium on Statistical Development (ASSD) under the theme "Data Processing and Use of Census Data":

Aware of the challenges that National Statistical Offices and national governments continue to face in the development of statistics on the African continent and elsewhere in the world;

Noting the presence of the newly appointed Resident Representative of the UNFPA to Angola; and also noting the presence of colleagues from National Statistical Offices of Afghanistan and Cambodia, as countries that have experienced conflict and have employed statistical development, especially census-taking, as a catalyst for peace initiatives;

Further noting that the Lusophone countries attained their independence relatively late in the scheme of African independences that swept from the late 50s and that, consequently, will need special attention for which we appreciate Portugal's presence in our midst to share with us her experiences;

Recalling the resolutions of the 1st ASSD in Cape Town, South Africa in 2006 where we committed to the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses under the leadership of the ECA, building capacity on the African continent as well as encouraging institutional reforms;

Recalling the Luanda Declaration of December 2006 that further committed National Statistical Offices to the resolutions of the 1st ASSD of Cape Town;

Reaffirming a decision by African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development resolved during their May 2006 meeting in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, to provide support to in-conflict and post-conflict countries;

Commending the AfDB for its Board of Directors approval in November 2008 of the Phase II of its statistical capacity building program in Africa over the next 2 years (2009-2010).

Recognising the invitation to host the 4th ASSD in Angola by the

Minister of Planning, Ms Ana Afonso Dias Lourenço, who is responsible for the National Statistical Office (Instituto Nacional de Estatístico) of Angola and who continues to champion the cause for statistical development;

Noting the experiences that were shared by countries, especially the difficulties Lesotho encountered in processing their data and notable progress they have made towards overcoming these difficulties;

Further noting and pleased that the release of final and detailed census results for Africa's most populous country Nigeria is imminent;

Encouraged by the progress that countries emerging out of conflict are making towards participating in the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Census, especially noting the 5th Population and Housing Census of Sudan and the progress made on conceptual work in cartography Angola has registered in preparing for her census;

Noting the limitations that language places on the development of statistics on the continent;

We resolve that:

Successful population and housing census remains a cornerstone of the national statistical system and an indispensable basis for effective policy and decision-making. Therefore no effort should be spared in ensuring that a census is undertaken and that data are disseminated in a timely manner;

All countries experiencing conflict and emerging out of conflict should be supported to conduct or actively prepare for their censuses in the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses and pick lessons from others, including the recent ones such as Sudan;

Angola, whose conceptual cartographic preparations are already in an advanced state, should specifically be actively supported with achieving concrete steps towards conducting her census as well as with statistical institutional reforms in line with the Reference Regional Strategic Framework for Statistical Capacity Building in Africa, National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) and the African Charter on Statistics ;

Lesotho and Nigeria among many other countries, should be encouraged to release their census results without delay in compliance with the GDDS, SDDS and the Fundamental Principles for Official Statistics;

On language as a development infrastructure, African statisticians should strive to be multilingual consistent with the official languages adopted by the AfDB, AUC and ECA.

I. AFRICA SYMPOSIUM ON STATISTICAL DEVELOPMENT

The ECA should exercise leadership jointly with AfDB and take the following concrete steps:

- ECA with the support of South Africa, UNSD and other partners SHOULD speed up the development of a Manual on Census Data Processing that will provide guidance to African countries on technologies for data processing and present African experiences in census data processing, a guide which should be launched officially at the 5th ASSD in Dakar, Senegal.
- ECA should lead a joint mission to Luanda to assess the state of the country's plans for conducting the census, the NSDS and other key statistical processes. The mission should be made up of AfDB, AUC, UNFPA and other UN agencies based in Angola, Mozambique as well as South Africa.
- ECA and AfDB should continue to assist countries to advocate for mainstreaming statistics in national development and budget processes as well as to articulate autonomy of statistical offices and independence of statistical operations to both speed up data release to the public and to preserve their impartiality and credibility.
- ECA, AfDB, South Africa and other partners should put in

place relevant peer support mechanisms for countries emerging out of conflict.

Emerging issues should be given attention, especially the following: Effective advocacy for the census at political level and in society, need for good preparation for all phases of the census, better testing of all census phases, timely release of census results, harnessing IT for the census including latest technologies such as scanning technology, need for total solution if scanning technology is adopted, care in choice of IT, better training in the use of IT, outsourcing, learning from experiences of other countries in region as well as Africa Census Support Peer Mechanism.

Conclusion

In conclusion, we thank ECA, AfDB, UNSD and Statistics South Africa for successfully convening the 4th ASSD. We are grateful to the Prime Minister of Angola, The Honourable Mr Antonio Paulo Kassoma, and the Minister of Planning, The Honourable Ms Ana Afonso Dias Lourenço, for gracing the 4th ASSD. We wish also to thank our colleagues at the Instituto Nacional de Estatístico and the people of Angola for their generosity and warm hospitality accorded us during our stay in Luanda. □



Group picture of ASSD 2009 participants, Luanda, Angola

I. AFRICA SYMPOSIUM ON STATISTICAL DEVELOPMENT

Africa Symposium on Statistical Development
2009, Luanda, Angola

Picture Gallery

AFRICAN STATISTICAL NEWSLETTER
BULLETTIN D'INFORMATION STATISTIQUE AFRICAINE



Centre Prof. Denise Livesley, President of International Statistical Institute



Dr. Louis Kasekende, Chief Economist (AfDB), Mr. Pali Lehohla, Statistician General, Statistics South Africa, Ms. Lalla Ben Barka, Deputy Executive Secretary of ECA



Ms. Maria Ferreira dos Santos Oliveira, Director General (INE) holding the ASSD symbol, Deputy Minister of Planning, Angola and Director of African Centre for Statistics, ECA

I. AFRICA SYMPOSIUM ON STATISTICAL DEVELOPMENT



Centre Dr. Lukoki Arthur, Deputy Director, INE, Angola



Meeting of the Bureau of StatCom-Africa
The picture includes, special guests: Head of NSO of Afghanistan (left) and Cambodia representative back row (right)



Right, Mr. Nur Weheliye, Somalia, second from right front: Mr. Risenga Maluleke, Statistics South Africa,



Ms. Maria Ferreira dos Santos Oliveira, Director General (INE) hosting the event

II. AFRICAN STATISTICS DAY

Agriculture Minister Christopher Toe stresses the Importance of Statistics in the development of Agriculture in Liberia

Joey Kennedy and Diavana Koikoi, Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services



Agriculture Minister of Liberia, Dr. Christopher Toe

Liberia's Agriculture Minister, Dr. Christopher Toe has said, "the Agricultural sector accounts for more than fifty per cent of the country's GDP. This shows the important role agriculture plays in the economy of the post conflict country".

In a keynote address delivered during the celebration of African Statistics Day in November 2008, the Agriculture Minister indicated that more than 70 per cent of the population of the country is sustained by agriculture.

He said that this is why the three-year development agenda of the government, the Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS), calls for the revitalization of the sector to enable it contribute to inclusive and sustainable economic development and growth, provide food security and nutrition, employment and income and measurable poverty reduction in Liberia.

Achieving this goal, he said, requires a lot of challenges that include adopting new technologies and techniques to increase food crop yields, ensuring access to seeds, and fertilizers and increasing linkages to output markets by rebuilding farm to market roads.

The Agriculture Minister also stressed the need to continuously provide food assistance to vulnerable groups that are severely food insecure.

Dr. Toe also underscored the significance of strengthening agricultural institutions destroyed during the civil war and recommended the need to slow down the extent of illegal fishing in order to add value to catches.

He said there is an urgency associated with the desire to slow down deforestation and providing greater opportunities for women and youths in the formal sector.

Speaking on ensuring self sufficiency in food production in Liberia, Dr. Toe said from the perspective of food consumption, Liberia remains heavily dependent on imports, adding that rice remains the most important food crop both nutritionally and politically in Liberia with about 40 per cent of annual consumption met through imports.

He said over one third of households currently receive food assistance, noting that food insecurity is more severe for women, the elderly and orphans emphasizing that mal-nutrition rates are high, with the poor nutritional status of children and pregnant women carrying a legacy into the future.

On the availability of agricultural statistics for Liberia, the Agriculture Minister disclosed that the formal Statistical System for Liberia dates back to 1971 and was designed primarily to provide current statistics which was planned to be an ongoing program to facilitate agricultural development planning and policy decision making.

The system, he noted, was shattered by the civil war and is currently being rebuilt.

Within the context of the PRS, Dr. Toe said data on agricultural production, prices and market conditions are needed to measure the success of the agricultural sector.

He said for the PRS period which runs from 2008 to 2011, the work plan for Agricultural statistics will prioritize Annual Crop Production Survey, Crop Monitoring and Early Warning System, Fishery and Agriculture Databases and Fishery and Livestock Surveys.



III AFRICAN STATISTICS DAY

2008 African Statistics Day Celebration in Tanzania

Albina A. Chuwa, National Bureau of Statistics, Tanzania

Tanzania commemorated the '2008 African Statistics Day' on 18 November 2008 at Peramiho, a village in Songea rural district of Ruvuma region, which is located in the southern part of the country.

The celebrations were conducted in Ruvuma region specifically because it is among the main four regions which are the producers of food crops in Tanzania, popularly known as the Big Four. The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) celebrated the day at the village level in order to make the theme very useful not only to the people of Peramiho village but also all citizens whose main activity is agriculture. Furthermore, there was a need for the effort of the NBS to continue with sensitization of statistical awareness and use of agricultural data and information for development at grass root level.

The celebrations were officially opened by the Regional Administration Secretary Mr. Salehe Pamba on behalf of the Regional Commissioner of Ruvuma region Hon. Monica Mbega (MP). In his speech, he made some remarks with regard to the theme of the 2008 African Statistics Day. He said that the theme was very relevant to the people of Tanzania due to the fact that 75 percent of our country's population depends on agriculture as the main source of income. He argued that the NBS should continue to create peoples' awareness at the village/street level so that they get sufficient knowledge about statistics and become good users of it. Similarly, the Guest of Honour commented on the rise of prices in agriculture equipments and other related inputs as is a big challenge to the Government

The NBS also took advantage of the celebrations to disseminate some of the products on social and economic statistics. Two presentations were made on this day; the first one was on Agriculture sector which is the backbone of the economy of the country especially on the livelihood of the rural population. The presentation focused on the 2002/03 Agriculture Sample Census results based on the major findings in relation to agricultural production and productivity in Ruvuma region. The results were on crop production, use of agriculture inputs, crop storage and crop marketing. In addition to production and productivity, other indicators presented include access to credit facilities for agricultural activities, agricultural services provided to farmers, livestock keeping, poverty indicators and household source of income.

The second presentation was on Social Statistics mainly on the progress made by Tanzania towards achieving the MDGs and the

preliminary results of the 2007/08 Tanzania HIV/AIDS and malaria Indicator Survey with special attention of Ruvuma region. The presentation on this aspect covered the general objectives of the survey, an overview of the prevalence of HIV for adults and Malaria for children under five years, use of mosquito nets as well as general knowledge of HIV/AIDS and methods used to combat the disease.

Finally, the National Bureau of Statistics would like to thank the African Centre for Statistics of ECA for selecting the theme relevant to challenge to the development of agriculture sector in our country and Africa in general.



II. AFRICAN STATISTICS DAY

Uganda Celebrates African Statistics Day in Style

Ben Paul Mungyereza, Uganda Bureau of Statistics

The Africa Statistics Day of November 18th has been celebrated by a number of countries since 1992. However, in the year 2000, Uganda Bureau of Statistics decided to celebrate a week rather than a day. The week preceding the 18th of November was declared the Statistics Week. This was because of the need to increase statistical awareness across the Ugandan society. However, all the celebrations except in 2002, were based at the centre and in the capital city Kampala. In 2008, the Uganda Bureau of Statistics decided not only to widen the scope of the celebrations but also to take them closer to the people. The theme for the celebrations – “Challenges of Rising Food Prices and Agricultural Development in Africa: The Role of Statistics” could not have come at better time.

Having conducted the last recognized Census of Agriculture in 1963-65, the support by government to fund the Agricultural Census in 2008 was a turning point in generating benchmark agricultural data. While Africa was celebrating the statistics day, Uganda felt that the celebration should reflect the statistical breakthrough for generating the critically needed data on agriculture. The celebrations were held in one of the most active agricultural districts in the country – Masaka district. Whereas there are many other agricultural districts in the country, Masaka district was selected because it had the highest number of enumeration areas for the Census of Agriculture. Out of about 3600 enumeration areas (EAs) in a country with 80 districts, 69 EAs were from Masaka district. A series of activities were held in the district including the official launch of the Uganda Census of Agriculture, a charity walk, blood donation in aid of Masaka Referral Hospital, a Media Workshop, a Symposium and a writing competition.



Dr. Muwanga-Zake, Chairman, Board of Directors of UBOS addressing participants at the symposium

The celebrations started on November 17th, 2008 with a symposium held at the headquarters of the district. The symposium attracted some university and secondary school students, political and business leadership in the district and the general public. Below, the Chairman Board of Directors UBOS, Dr. Muwanga-Zake addressing participants at the symposium.

The celebrations were also marked by writing competitions. Three categories of entries to the writing competition were made. Category one was for secondary schools and post-primary tertiary institutions. These were required to write a 500-800 word letter to their community explaining the importance of any national census. The second category catered for universities and post-secondary tertiary institutions. These were required to write a 1000-1500 word essay on the role of statistics in linking our environment to agricultural production. Category three was open to the general public and was required to write an essay on the role of the community in contributing statistics for national development. Prizes and certificates for each of these categories were handed over at the climax of the celebrations on November 18th 2008. The competitions were advertised widely and more than 500 entries were received from all the categories.

One of the challenges of statisticians has been the inability to effectively communicate statistics. A competition for the media workers was also part of the celebrations to mark Africa Statistics Day. Throughout the year there were journalists who dedicated themselves to consistently and accurately report on statistical activities and/or integrate statistics in their media reporting. The competition aimed at awarding those media workers that had excelled at accurately and consistently reporting statistics. Separate awards were given for the electronic and print media. A total of 34 entries were received and UBOS engaged three media consultants to evaluate. The awards were presented by the Speaker of Uganda Parliament Rt. Hon. Edward Sekandi who was the Chief Guest at the climax of the celebrations. Beside, Ibrahim Kasita of the New Vision daily newspaper receives the award from the Chief Guest.



Award ceremony

II. AFRICAN STATISTICS DAY

The celebrations also involved blood donation to Masaka Regional Referral Hospital by the staff of Uganda Bureau of Statistics. A total of 216 units of blood were donated. The Bureau later received a certificate of appreciation from Uganda Red Cross Society. Beside one of the staff of Uganda Bureau of Statistics is checked by a nurse in preparation for blood donation.



Blood donations

Fertility is one key demographic indicator that tells a lot about the status of women and indeed families in any country. Whereas fertility is a household issue, the maternity wards are a medium for realizing births. The Bureau decided to visit the maternity ward of the referral hospital to understand the conditions therein. This was followed by a charity walk aimed at raising funds for supporting the ward. A match through the streets of Masaka town by the district leadership and staff of Uganda Bureau of Statistics demonstrated the interest Statisticians have not only in measuring fertility but also in understanding the conditions under which women give birth.



The Chief Walker waving and a cap in the hand

The Chief Walker was the Chairman LCV – the political head of the district. In the caption, the Chief Walker (waving with a cap in the

hand) flanked by the Executive Director UBOS (waving and in a cap) wave to the cheering crowds. Just behind the Executive Director is the Chief Administrative Officer Masaka District. Indeed the district leadership demonstrated their support for the development of statistics in Uganda.

Involvement of district leadership in statistical activities has a positive impact on the quality of statistics at the local government level. The district leadership preferred to receive maternity beds instead of cash to support the maternity ward. Two maternity beds were later donated to the referral hospital by Uganda Bureau of Statistics on February 27th 2009. The beds were handed over to the representative of the Chief Administrative Officer by the Deputy Executive Director UBOS.



Handing over beds

The main celebrations were held in the constituency of the chief guest, the Speaker of Parliament in Kyanamukaaka. Also present at the celebrations was the Minister of State for Planning Hon. Rukia Chekamondo. The main celebrations were well attended by all district leadership in Masaka district. The function which was also



The Rt. Hon Speaker of Uganda Parliament ...

II. AFRICAN STATISTICS DAY

attended by the Chairman Board of Directors, Management and Staff of UBOS was an opportunity to unveil the Uganda Census of Agriculture logo and officially launch the activity.

The Rt. Hon Speaker of Uganda Parliament officially launched the Uganda Census of Agriculture on November 18th 2008 to coincide with the Statistics Day. Just before the launch, a demonstration was made to the Guest of Honour on the measurement of crop fields using a Geographical Positioning System (GPS). In the caption, one of the Census of Agriculture enumerators from Masaka district demonstrates the use of the GPS to the Guest of Honour.

The climax of the celebrations was the launch of the Census of Agriculture 2008/09 with wild cheers from the crowd. Looking on is the Minister of State for Planning and the Executive Director Uganda

Bureau of Statistics (in a cap). Indeed this was a great day for the agricultural statistics fraternity in Uganda.



Launch of the Census of Agriculture 2008/09

“I like good news. I would like to tell good stories about how well we are performing as a country, but that is not what I need, so I expect statistics to give me what I need and not what I like”

Hon. Trevor Manuel, the Minister of Finance of South Africa (2002)

II. AFRICAN STATISTICS DAY

Poem on Statistics

Joseph Mugasa, Teacher at Masaka Secondary School, Uganda

To make our people smart
And learn how to count and plan
For the country, the tribe and the clan?

Does anyone really care
About people ever stuck
In stagnant waters of ignorance
And all types of useless arrogance?

Come let's together plan to count
No matter how much the amount
In money wealth or property
To help people for whom we account.

Some one cares to know
How many chicken are in Charles' kitchen
And heads of cattle growing in Kato's kraal
We want to know how many goats Goreetti got
And pigs put to death in Peter's pork place.

Do these facts link to our daily affairs
Of women waiting for water at the well
And lorries heaving with loads
Beyond the capacity of our roads
Do the facts help the orphaned schoolboy at Buna?

The Uganda Bureau of Statistics is here
In the rural heartland of Kyanamukaaka
To show your place in the numbers.

Statistics is not a static
Pool of water in a stagnant state
It is a stream of facts and figures
Flowing with the power of a steam engine
Marching the numbers with plans
Caring for how many here
Should meet how many there
And need how many more
To solve our human problems. ▣

III. STATISTICAL CAPACITY BUILDING / WORKSHOPS

Training Course on Statistics for Climate Change Policies in Sub-Saharan Africa 2009, Bonn, Germany, 02 – 10 March 2009

Negussie Gorfe, African Centre for Statistics



Course participants at UNFCCC

Introduction

The UN Statistical Commission (UNSC) at its thirty-ninth session in February 2008 requested a programme review on climate change and official statistics. Following the request of UNSC, a Conference on Climate Change and Official Statistics, organized by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) in collaboration with the Statistical Office of the European Communities (Eurostat) and the World Bank, was held in Oslo, Norway, from 14 to 16 April 2008. The objective of the conference was to discuss how official statistics can contribute to the measurement and monitoring of the different aspects of climate change and to bring together all current activities into a coherent framework. The conference was therefore designed as a forum for the exploration of ideas and to establish an agenda for future work.

After the Oslo conference, The Conference on Climate Change, Development and Official Statistics in the Asia-Pacific Region that was organized by UNSD in collaboration with the Korea National Statistical Office (KNSO) was held in Seoul, Republic of Korea on 11 and 12 December 2008. The purpose of this Conference was to discuss the recommendations of the Oslo conference and contribute to the finalization of a roadmap for mainstreaming climate change in official statistics.

Furthermore, at the request of the UNSD, the Australian Bureau of Statistics prepared a report on Climate Change and Official Sta-

tistics that was considered by the UNSC at its 40th Session held from February 23 to 27, 2009 in New York. The report presented a review and analysis of users' needs and challenges; it explored the areas where official statistics can provide input and added value to the analysis of the environmental, social and economic aspects of climate change and the related adaptation and mitigation measures; and it also made specific recommendations to mainstream climate change in official statistics both at the national and international levels.

Statistics for Climate Change Policies in Sub-Saharan Africa

Objectives of the course

This training course was organized by InWent Capacity Building, Germany. The training course was designed to enable participants to integrate the development and application of environmental indicators related to climate change into their daily work. The participants were expected to bring in their professional experiences and exchange ideas with other experts from sub-Saharan African countries. Furthermore, the course was meant to give an overview of the most important features and challenges of climate change for statistics in African countries.

The classroom training course was a continuation of the online training that took place between 5 January 2009 and 20 February 2009. During the online sessions the participants covered seven modules. Every module was meant to be a subject of one-week work and the titles of each module were: The Physiological Features of Climate Change; Analytical Tools for Climate Change Statistics; Modelling Climate Change Impacts for Africa; International Conventions on Climate Change and Challenges to Statistics; Reporting requirements in accordance with the UNFCCC; Disaster Statistics and Tools for Disaster Prevention; and The System of Integrated Environmental-Economic Accounts and Some of Its Applications to Monitor Climate Change.

The classroom training session was officially opened by Mr. Thomas Wollnik, Head of the Division of the InWent Centre for Economic, Environmental and Social Statistics on 2 March 2009. He welcomed all participants to Bonn, Germany where many United Nations offices are located. The classroom training session lasted for 7 working days. Dr. Bernd Gutterer, the consultant at InWent was responsible for the implementation of the blended training course and he was also the facilitator of the online sessions.

Attendance

There were 22 participants from eleven African countries and ECA where 13.6% of them were females. The countries that represented were Botswana, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Namibia, Swaziland, Uganda, and Zambia. The partici-

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pants were mainly from national statistical offices, environment ministries, water resources offices, meteorological offices, transport agencies, etc. The participants had prepared case studies on their countries' climate change aspects and presented them during the training session. The titles of the presentations of the participants were: Desertification as key problem in Botswana - impact of climate change; Environmental statistics conceptual frameworks in the light of land degradation - the major environmental challenge in Ethiopia; The potential impact of climate change in the Gambia; Climate change and its impacts on Ghana's economy with emphasis on the Cocoa Sector; Climate change and forest resources in Ghana - deforestation and forest degradation; The impact of climate change on human health in Ghana; Climate change in Côte d'Ivoire: Application of the Driving Force – Pressure – State – Impact – Response (DPSIR) framework; Application of the DPSIR framework to analyze climate change factors around the Mount Kenya Region (Deforestation, rainfall, water use); Potential impacts of climate change in Kenya – Floods; Namibia climate change data on land use, land use change and forestry (LULUCF) & energy sector; Climate change in Namibia and the provision and availability of water; Effect of climate change on Nigerian economy; Application of DPSIR framework on land degradation: Assess impact of climate change in Swaziland; The impact of climate change on Lake Victoria water levels; Application of DPSIR framework on forest and land degradation: Challenges in Zambia; and The African Centre for Statistics and the work of ECA in the area of climate change.

Furthermore, presentations were made by resource persons from the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the representative of the State of Bremen of Germany, and by representatives from German Watch. The presentations' focus was on: UNFCCC introduction; UNFCCC on climate change policies and data; UNFCCC on Greenhouse Gas Calculations; Data in the context of climate change - the perspective of: public administration, business and industry in the Bremen State; Climate Change Policies in Germany; International Climate Protection Initiatives; Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation; and Risk management and insurance for climate change: The role of civil society in climate protection processes. The participants also visited the Headquarters of the UNFCCC where they were given briefings on its main activities.

Main conclusions

The participants indicated that:

- The training course will improve environment statistics in countries. It will also assist in the preparation of national communications to UNFCCC;
- The country presentations were useful for evaluating other countries' data on climate change;

- The knowledge gained during the training should be passed on to others upon return to their respective offices;
- Longer time should be allocated for the classroom training with more practical applications;
- The size of the working groups should be smaller for the e-learning sessions;
- Further trainings are required on statistical methods relating to climate change and environment statistics, modelling of climate change, GHG emissions calculation, environmental data analysis, policies on climate change, CDM methodologies, disaster management etc.;
- Reliable data are crucial and should also be used with care;
- Collaboration is required among various stakeholders involved in climate change area. There is also a need for an office to coordinate all activities;
- There is a need to establish the database of national communication reviewers;
- The Designated National Agency (Focal Point) of countries should organize technical sessions to brief all stakeholders involved in climate change area; and
- There is a need to include policy makers in the training sessions organized by InWent Capacity Building, Germany.

Upon the completion of the blended course, the participants were awarded with certificates by Dr. Uwe Singer, Senior Project Manager at InWent. Dr. Singer indicated that the standard course on environment statistics will be organized at the end of 2009 or early 2010. Furthermore, he said that the training on environment statistics with GIS for environment data analysis will be organized in August 2009. He also indicated that his office will strengthen its cooperation with UNFCCC. Finally he informed the participants to keep up the network established during the course and further reminded participants to raise public awareness on climate change issues.



IV. STATISTICAL DEVELOPMENT - SELECTED AREAS



PARIS21 Consortium meeting: Dakar, Senegal, 16-18 November 2009: Towards a new commitment to statistical development

Sylvie Walter, PARIS21

The PARIS21 Partnership is organising its Consortium Meeting jointly with the Government of Senegal. The meeting will be held at the Hôtel Méridien Président in **Dakar** from **16-18 November 2009**. The event will bring together some 400 high-level participants - representing policy makers, statisticians, and civil society in developing and developed countries, and multilateral organisations - to discuss statistical capacity building in developing countries and review the achievements and future contribution of the Partnership and its Secretariat. The PARIS21 Partnership is honoured that the President of Senegal, His Excellency Maitre Abdoulaye Wade, has agreed to deliver the opening speech.

The PARIS21 Consortium Meeting aims to provide a forum for all stakeholders interested in the production and use of statistics for development to:

- Consider the status of statistical development in developing countries and what has been achieved over the past ten years, since the creation of PARIS21 in 1999;
- Determine what still remains to be done; and agree on next steps and the responsibilities, roles and constraints of the various partners over the next decade; and
- Review the achievements of the PARIS21 Partnership and its Secretariat and agree on their future roles.

A key output of the PARIS21 Consortium Meeting will be a **Dakar Declaration on Statistics for Development**, reflecting these ob-

jectives. It will be also an opportunity to mark PARIS21's **10th anniversary**. The PARIS21 Meeting will be followed at the same venue by the **5th Africa Symposium on Statistical Development**.

Ten years on, a renewed mandate for PARIS21

PARIS21 was launched on 18 November 1999 by a meeting of users and producers of statistics from developing countries, OECD member countries, and from international organisations. It was inspired by the need for better use of better statistics and indicators to support achievement of UN Conference and Summit goals, in response to an Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) resolution.

Key events in the short history of PARIS21 include the prominence given to statistics in the three International Roundtables on Managing for Development Results. This included adoption, as the central part of the **Marrakech Action Plan for Statistics** in February 2004, of the PARIS21 target for all low income countries to develop and implement **National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDSs)** to help them produce better statistics for national and international use, including tracking progress and measuring achievements against the Millennium Development Goals through to 2015.

PARIS21's current programme for 2007-2010 is being driven by the outcome of the third International Roundtable on Managing for Development Results, held in Hanoi in February 2007. This identified inadequate investment in statistics as a key constraint on managing for better development results. Hanoi and subsequent meetings have highlighted the need to **scale up support to statistics**. One important means of achieving this aim is through a sector-wide/ programmatic approach, centred on well-designed NSDSs. This has been reflected in a new Statistics for Results Facility that will be hosted by the World Bank.

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Organisation of the agenda for the PARIS21 Consortium Meeting

The PARIS21 Consortium Meeting will be organised around themes which will be discussed in both plenary and parallel sessions. Case studies, particularly developing country examples, will be at the centre of the presentations made to share experiences of what has worked and what has not. Topics will include:

- The **demand for statistics**, access to data and the use of data in national and international development policy frameworks such as poverty reduction strategies and the Millennium Development Goals;
- The role of **NSDSs**, the UN Fundamental Principles for Official Statistics and regional frameworks such as the African Charter on Statistics;
- The various aspects of **capacity building**, such as training, and how to address sectoral and geographic units; as well as the situation in **fragile states**;
- The **support to statistical development**: e.g. the place of statistics in the policy dialogue between countries and cooperating partners; the Paris Declaration applied to support for statistics; types of financing, both national and international; and types and sourcing of technical assistance;
- The **co-ordination** of National Statistical Systems and of support for statistical capacity building;
- The **measurement and monitoring of progress** in statistical development, and sharing of experience, e.g. results of peer reviews; and
- The **future role of PARIS21**.

During the Consortium Meeting, an **exhibition** will provide countries, cooperating partners, initiatives, foundations, etc. the opportunity to demonstrate examples of good practice in the development and use of statistics.

Participation at the PARIS21 Consortium Meeting

Participation at the Consortium Meeting will be by invitation. Limited funding will be available to cover travel and subsistence costs for invitees mainly coming from developing countries. Invitations are scheduled to be sent in April/May.

Meanwhile, anyone interested in finding out more can contact Sylvie Walter at Sylvie.Walter@oecd.org and view the website being developed for the meeting under: www.consortium-paris21.org. The website is available in English and French.



Réunion du Consortium PARIS21 : Dakar, Sénégal, 16-18 novembre 2009: Développement statistique : vers un nouvel engagement

Sylvie Walter, PARIS21

Le Partenariat de PARIS21 organise, conjointement avec le Gouvernement du Sénégal, la réunion de son Consortium qui se tiendra à l'hôtel Méridien Président de **Dakar** du **16 au 18 novembre 2009**. Cet événement rassemblera environ 400 participants de haut niveau – décideurs, statisticiens, représentants de la société civile de pays développés ou en développement et organisations multilatérales – pour débattre du renforcement de la capacité statistique dans les pays en développement et examiner les progrès accomplis et les contributions attendues du Partenariat et de son Secrétariat. Le Partenariat de PARIS21 est honoré par la présence du Président du Sénégal, Son Excellence Maître Abdoulaye Wade, qui a accepté de prononcer le discours d'ouverture.

La réunion du Consortium PARIS21 a pour but de réunir les représentants de toutes les parties prenantes dans la production et l'utilisation des statistiques pour le développement, afin de :

- Analyser la situation de la statistique dans les pays en développement et les progrès accomplis au cours des dix dernières années, depuis la création de PARIS21 en 1999 ;
- Identifier les actions restant à mener et définir d'entente les prochaines étapes, les rôles et responsabilités de chacun, ainsi que les contraintes auxquelles seront soumis les différents partenaires lors des dix années à venir ;
- Examiner les actions et les réalisations du Partenariat de PARIS21 et de son Secrétariat, et déterminer leurs rôles futurs.

Cette réunion du Consortium PARIS21 aboutira à une **Déclaration de Dakar sur la statistique pour le développement** synthétisant les travaux. Elle sera aussi l'occasion de célébrer le **10^e anniversaire de PARIS21**. La réunion du Consortium sera suivie par le **5^e Symposium africain sur le développement de la statistique**, qui se déroulera au même endroit.

Dix ans après, un mandat renouvelé pour PARIS21

PARIS21 a été créé le 18 novembre 1999 par un groupe d'utilisateurs et de producteurs de statistiques de pays en développement, de pays membres de l'OCDE et d'organisations internationales. Ce Partenariat a été lancé en réponse à une résolution du Conseil économique et social des Nations Unies (ECOSOC) pour répondre au besoin d'une meilleure utilisation de meilleures statistiques pour

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atteindre les objectifs de la Conférence des Nations Unies sur le développement.

La courte histoire de PARIS21 a été marquée par des avancées importantes, notamment la place centrale accordée à la statistique lors des trois **Tables rondes internationales sur la gestion axée sur les résultats en matière de développement**. Ainsi en février 2004, dans le cadre du **Plan d'action de Marrakech pour la statistique**, a été adopté l'objectif de PARIS21 sur la conception et la mise en œuvre de **Stratégies nationales de développement de la statistique** (SNDS) dans tous les pays à faible revenu, afin de les aider à produire des statistiques de meilleure qualité exploitable à l'échelle nationale et internationale. Cet objectif englobe le suivi des avancées et la mesure des réalisations au regard des Objectifs du Millénaire pour le développement d'ici 2015.

Le programme de travail de PARIS21 pour 2007-2010 s'inspire des conclusions de la troisième Table ronde internationale sur la gestion axée sur les résultats en matière de développement qui s'est tenue à Hanoi en février 2007. Des investissements inadaptés dans la statistique ont été identifiés comme des facteurs nuisant à la gestion visant à améliorer les résultats du développement. A Hanoi, et lors de réunions ultérieures, la nécessité de **renforcer le soutien à la statistique** a été soulignée. L'un des moyens les plus efficaces d'y parvenir est de mettre en place des approches sectorielles/programmes reposant sur des SNDS bien conçues. Cette conclusion a débouché sur la création d'un nouvel outil, le Statistics for Results Facility, au sein de la Banque mondiale.

Ordre du jour de la réunion du Consortium PARIS21

La réunion du Consortium PARIS21 s'articulera autour de différents thèmes abordés en sessions plénières et parallèles. Des études de cas, portant notamment sur des pays, illustreront les présentations destinées à tirer les enseignements des solutions efficaces ou non. Les aspects abordés seront les suivants :

- **La demande de statistiques**, l'accès aux données et leur utilisation dans l'élaboration de cadres politiques nationaux et internationaux tels que les stratégies de réduction de la pauvreté ou les Objectifs du Millénaire pour le développement.
- Le rôle des **SNDS**, des Principes fondamentaux de la statistique officielle édictés par l'ONU et des cadres régionaux, à l'image de la Charte africaine de la statistique.
- Le **renforcement des capacités**, notamment par la formation et l'aide aux entités sectorielles et géographiques, ainsi que l'amélioration de la situation dans les **États fragiles**.
- **Le soutien au développement de la statistique** : par exemple, la place des statistiques dans le dialogue politique entre les pays et les partenaires de la coopération ; la mise en œuvre de la Déclaration de Paris en appui des statistiques ; les financements nationaux et internationaux ; les possibilités et

modalités d'assistance technique.

- La **coordination** des systèmes statistiques nationaux et du soutien au renforcement des capacités.
- **La mesure et le suivi du progrès** en matière de développement statistique et le partage des expériences, par exemple le résultat des évaluations par les pairs.
- **Le rôle de PARIS21 à l'avenir**.

Durant la réunion du Consortium, une **exposition** permettra aux pays, partenaires, responsables d'initiatives, de fondations, etc., de mieux connaître les bonnes pratiques en matière d'élaboration et d'utilisation des statistiques.

Participation à la réunion du Consortium PARIS21

La participation à la réunion du Consortium se fera sur invitation. Des financements limités pourront permettre de prendre en charge le voyage et les frais de séjour des invités, originaires principalement de pays en développement. Les invitations seront envoyées en avril/mai.

Pour en savoir plus, n'hésitez pas à contacter Sylvie Walter (Sylvie.Walter@oecd.org) et à consulter le site Internet, en anglais et en français, consacré à la réunion : www.consortium-paris21.org. □

Mainstreaming Statistics in National Development Processes

Ben Kiregyera, African Centre for Statistics
Ben Paul Mungyereza, Uganda Bureau of Statistics

In Africa, there has been a substantial increase in demand for official statistics and development indicators as a result of countries signing up to managing for results (or results agenda). This has put massive pressure on national statistical systems (NSSs) to deliver better statistics in terms of relevance, scope, quantity and quality, consistency through time and space as well as timeliness and level of data disaggregation. However, various assessments of statistical development in Africa show that past inadequate attention to statistics, the low profile for statistics, under-investment in statistical capacity development by national governments and piecemeal and uncoordinated donor support to statistics have rendered the said systems weak, under-resourced and vulnerable. Indeed for these very reasons, NSSs are still trapped in a "vicious cycle" of statistical under-development and under-performance, and are unable to meet the ever-increasing demand for statistics to support national policy and development processes. The assessments also show that there is increasing awareness especially among high level pol-

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icy and decision-makers in countries about the role and importance of statistics to national development processes. Unfortunately, however, this awareness is not translating easily into commensurate resource commitments to statistics and statistical development.

It has been argued elsewhere that one sure way to ensure effective support for statistics at country level is to mainstream statistics in national development processes and budgets. Unfortunately, it has been lately realized that the whole idea of mainstreaming of statistics is not well understood by policy and decision-makers and statisticians alike. Every national development plan or poverty reduction strategy has a chapter on monitoring and evaluation (M&E) as a matter of course. There is the tendency to think that because statistics is mentioned in the chapter on M&E, it is mainstreamed. Far from it!. A careful look at these M&E chapters shows that they provide for undertaking of specific statistical activities like censuses and surveys to provide the data needed for M&E. The M&E chapters, therefore, are about outputs of statistical activities. One of the reasons why many countries have failed to achieve statistical development is because of the over-emphasis on getting statistical outputs vis-à-vis building sustainable capacity to produce statistics in future. Unfortunately, donor support has also by and large been geared to meeting immediate and specific data needs rather than building statistical capacity. It is, therefore, crucial to distinguish between statistical outputs and statistical capacity.

Mainstreaming statistics in national development plans or poverty reduction strategies is about targeting statistics as a sector for development. This essentially means providing for building national capacity to meet both current and future data needs including data for monitoring implementation of the plan or the poverty reduction strategy. The best way to do this is to include a separate chapter on statistics as a cross-cutting sector to be targeted in the plan or the strategy (as other sectors) for development. The chapter should, inter alia, provide an assessment of the current situation (baseline), strategies and an action plan for developing the sector, a budget and indicators for measuring development progress through time. If a country already has a comprehensive National Strategy for Statistical Development (NSDS) that covers sectors, it should be the basis for writing the chapter. If a country does not have the NSDS, it should seek to design one as a basis for writing the chapter. This chapter on statistical development should be cross-referenced with the M&E chapter that is about use of statistics and indicators to measure progress or lack of it.

The biggest challenge in doing the above is clear appreciation of the idea of mainstreaming and patiently advocating for it among high level policy and decision-makers. This was tried recently in Uganda where the government is preparing a five-year national development plan. With assistance from the African Centre for Statistics, a meeting was held in December 2008 with the Board Chairman and senior staff of the National Planning Authority to introduce the idea. This meeting was attended by the Board Chair-

man, Uganda Bureau of Statistics, the Executive Director and other selected senior staff from UBOS. One important issue that came up was the importance of having baseline information upon which the National Development Plan would be based. It was emphasized that having a strategy for developing statistics within the National Development Plan would be critical for measuring the performance of the economy over the Plan period. The Board Chairman of the National Planning Authority then requested for a draft chapter to be prepared for possible inclusion in the plan. However, it was agreed that the draft would be presented at the main stakeholders' workshop to get wider views. This was received well by the statistics fraternity as a golden opportunity. The chapter was prepared using materials from the Plan for National Statistical Development (PNSD), Uganda's NSDS for the period 2006/7-2010/11. In order to ease the process of incorporating this rather unique and new chapter in the National Development Plan, guidelines provided for compilation of the other thematic papers were used. These guidelines had earlier been given to all sectors that had chapters in the National Development Plan.

The retreat to discuss the thematic papers from each of the sectors was held in January 2009. The retreat which attracted more than 150 participants from key sectors in Uganda was indeed a good opportunity for the statistics draft chapter to be presented. The presentation was made by the Executive Director, UBOS and it was very well received. It was clear that all the other thematic papers had used statistics to argue for their cases. Meanwhile these statistics are catered for by the PNSD. The involvement of a number of key MDAs in development of the PNSD was cited as a best practice for developing statistics and it made a strong case for inclusion of the chapter in the National Development Plan. □

Why National Statistical Office Need GIS Capacity

Dozie Ezigbalike, African Centre for Statistics

Presentation Needs

The second of the 10 UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics states as follows:

Principle 2. *To retain trust in official statistics, the statistical agencies need to decide according to strictly professional considerations, including scientific principles and professional ethics, on the methods and procedures for the collection, processing, storage and presentation of statistical data*

Let us start from the last part of this principle, namely, presentation of statistical data. Two widely known statistical products are

IV. STATISTICAL DEVELOPMENT - SELECTED AREAS

data from national population and housing censuses and household sample surveys. National governments, development partners and investors need these data products to make decisions, such as apportioning of resources based on population concentrations, among others. The UN Statistics Division's handbook on Designing Household Surveys notes that

... Statistics on population composition by age and sex including geographical distribution (emphasis added) are among the most basic data necessary to describe a population and/or a sub-group of a population. These basic characteristics provide the context within which other important information on social phenomena, such as education, disability, labour force participation, health conditions, nutritional status, criminal victimization, fertility, mortality and migration, can be studied.

Households and enumeration areas are geographical entities, in that they exist at fixed locations. Their presentation therefore requires methods that would convey that locational dimension. The best method to convey the spatial or locational aspect of the information is graphically in the form of maps. With so many variables and computed indicators, we need a tool that permits the generation of maps dynamically from databases, as opposed to manually composing each map. This tool is the Geographic Information System (GIS).

GIS – A Definition

Being a "system", the GIS is a collection of components. Wikipedia defines a geographic information system as "an information system for capturing, storing, analyzing, managing and presenting data which is spatially referenced (linked to location)." In addition to printed reports and tables, national statistics offices (NSOs) are now increasing making their data available from online databases, with facilities for users to select customized variables and indicators, and have the results displayed in a variety of formats including tables and charts. Increasingly, mapping functionalities are included to produce dynamic maps based on selected indicators and variables. These functionalities are provided by the GIS, which are also increasingly web-based. An important component of the GIS is the spatial database, which contains the geometric data describing the spatial entities (enumeration areas, administrative units, points, etc) to which the statistics refer. These are usually provided by the national mapping agencies – preferably in the context of a national spatial data infrastructure.

Incorporating Geography in Survey Planning

However, the use of the GIS in NSOs goes beyond data presentation. The quoted UN handbook warns that "geographical breakdown in the tables is only possible if the sample is designed to permit such breakdown." This prior design for geographical breakdown requires the mapping of the enumeration areas and other geographical sam-

pling units. The GIS allows statisticians to delineate these units and to optimize them by size of the enumeration areas, either by land areas, or estimated count of the households or respondents. The optimization can also be based on some other measure, such as work units, which may incorporate routing features as the enumerator moves between households. The GIS also enables statisticians to associate survey sites with location for mapping purposes, especially in conjunction with either positioning devices (such as the Global Positioning System or other global navigation satellite systems) or address coding systems.

Spatial Statistics and Estimation

In sampling statistics, "scientific principles" are used to estimate indicators from samples. The mathematics of the methods would need to take into consideration the fixed locations of the sampled units. The GIS incorporates techniques for spatial statistics that can account, among other considerations, for spatial aspects such as spatial clustering, dispersion or proximities. It includes features for estimating "missing" values based on their spatial relationships with observed values. Just like we have several measures of statistical averages, there are averages that incorporate the spatial location of the measured variables and advanced GIS packages include modules for generating them. These spatial statistics enable the planner to determine the spatially optimal location and configuration of facilities and allocation of resources.

More than Cartography

From the above brief discussion, it is obvious that NSOs need more than just cartography. The need is for tools, techniques and methodologies for incorporating geography in all phases of their work, from planning the data collection campaigns, through management and analyses to dissemination and presentation of the results. NSOs therefore need full fledged Geography Sections or Units that provide these services on a continuous basis. Such sections/units are increasingly being established in NSOs, sometimes called "Cartographic" units, even though their functions are more encompassing than just map making.

Apart from the software and hardware, such geographic data management would involve developing appropriate skills among statisticians to use the tools in their work, as well as having some specialized GIS staff to maintain the backend geographies and modules on which the visible components are based.

We are Here to Help

As part of its work on statistical development in Africa, the African Centre for Statistics is available to advise member States and African organizations on how to incorporate geography in their statistics operations. For more information, please contact the Director at statistics@uneca.org. □

IV. STATISTICAL DEVELOPMENT - SELECTED AREAS

Liberia Conducts 2nd Malaria Indicator Survey

Joey Kennedy, Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services



Heads of NGOs and Government Officials at the launch of the 2008 LMIS in Monrovia

The National Malaria Control Program Division at the Ministry of Health and the Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS) in collaboration with other development partners have begun the conduct of the 2nd ever Malaria Indicator Survey to be conducted in the country.

Dubbed the 2008 Liberia Malaria Indicator Survey (2008 LMIS), the Survey will collect data on households that own a mosquito net and the number of children that slept under the net the previous night.

The survey will also measure the prevalence of malaria and its associated syndrome- anemia among children throughout the country.

Data from the survey will be used by the National Malaria Control Division of the Health Ministry to measure the impact of interventions in the country and will provide information on achievements from donor's contributions such as the United States President's Malaria Initiative (PMI), Global Funds for AIDS, Malaria and Tuberculosis, WHO, UNICEF and other key partners.

The results of the survey will also provide data on mosquito nets coverage and use, coverage of intermittent preventive treatment for pregnant women and treatment practices for childhood fever as well as assess knowledge, attitudes and practices of Malaria prevention, control and treatment in the general population.

The Survey will be conducted on a regional basis by 12 teams with each team comprising one supervisor, two interviewers and two health technicians.

The regional groups include the greater Monrovia Region; the Northwestern Region-Bomi, Grand Cape Mount and Gbapolu Counties; South Central Region—Rural Montserrado, Margibi and Grand Bassa Counties; North Central Region-Bong, Nimba and Lofa Counties; South Eastern Region A-Rivercess, Sinoe and Grand Gedeh Counties and South Eastern Region B-Rivergee, Grand Kru and Maryland Counties.

The survey will utilize a two stage sample design. The first stage involves selecting about one hundred and fifty sample points (clusters) from the list of enumeration areas (EAs) covered in the 2008 National Population and Housing Census. The lists of names of household heads are also taken from the Census Questionnaires.

Because of the approximately equal sample sizes in each region, the sample will not be self-weighting at the national level and weighting factors will be added to the data files so that the results will be proportional at the national level. The sample is expected to produce interviews with about 3,400 women, conduct anemia and malaria tests for 3,000 children age 6-59 months.

The 2008 LMIS will administer two questionnaires; a household questionnaire and a woman's questionnaire for all women age 15-49 in the selected households.

The household questionnaire will be used to list all the usual members and visitors in the selected households.

Basic information on the characteristics of each person listed, including sex, age, education and relationship to the head of household would be collected.

The purpose of the household questionnaire is to identify women who are eligible for the individual interview and children under five for anemia and malaria testing.

Questions on the ownership and use of mosquito nets are also included in the household questionnaire.

The household questionnaire will also collect non-income proxy indicators about the household's dwelling unit, ownership of various durable goods and land and household food security.

The women questionnaire will be used to collect information from women aged 15-49 years, covering background characteristics, including age, education, media exposure, employment and religion.

It will also gather information on the reproductive history of the women, highlighting the number of births in the last six years, date of last birth, whether received intermittent preventative treatment for malaria during last pregnancy or whether currently pregnant and anti-malaria treatment for children under five with recent fever. □

IV. STATISTICAL DEVELOPMENT - SELECTED AREAS

Booklet on Africa Addendum to the United Nations Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses, Rev.2

African Centre for Statistics

It is widely recognized that Population and Housing Censuses provide a primary source of information about the number and characteristics of a given population. The fact that the Census aims to have complete coverage and to collect information about the whole population means that data can be provided for small areas and sub-groups thus meeting a need, which no other data source can fulfil. The importance of censuses cannot be overemphasized. They are used, inter alia, as benchmarks and they provide sampling frames for inter-censal sample surveys, for effective socio-economic planning and governance, and monitoring and evaluation of development policies and programmes including progress towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and other development agendas.

The United Nations produces a series of international recommendations, known as the Principles and Recommendations on Population and Housing Censuses (P&R), to guide countries in planning and carrying out improved and cost effective censuses. These recommendations are revisited during different rounds of the censuses to reflect new and emerging issues.

Although African countries have been committed to using the P&R and other international recommendations, there has been limited participation of the continent in processes leading to these international standards, norms, definitions, and classifications, a situation which the countries and UN resolved to reverse. Through a series of consultations during the Africa Symposia on Statistical Development and other fora organized by the UNECA and the UNSD, African countries contributed substantively to the revision of the global P&R for the 2010 round of Population and Housing Censuses. Nevertheless African countries felt that a number of issues in census undertaking specific to the region needed to be paid particular attention. They, accordingly, resolved to complement the set of global guidelines by Africa specific ones.

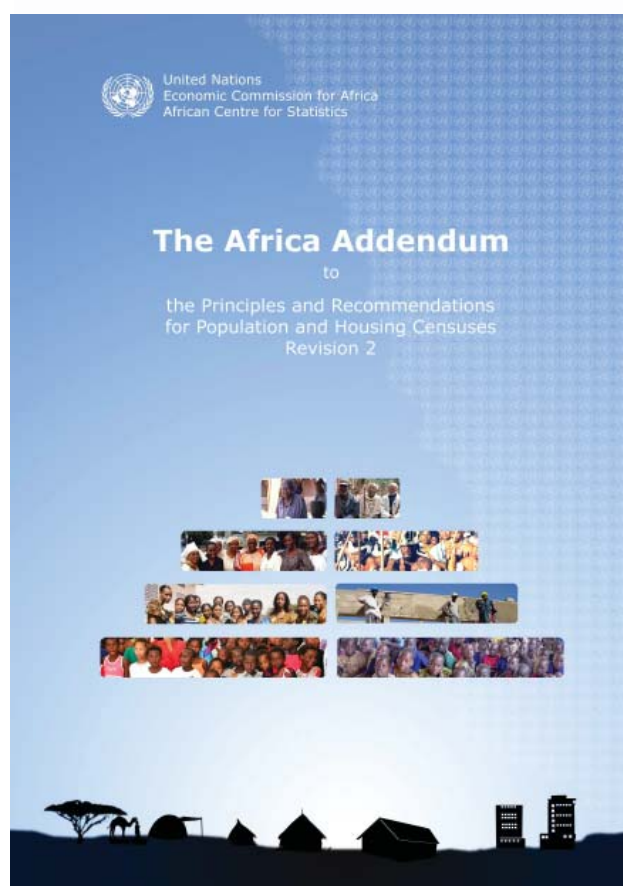
This Addendum to the Global Principles and Recommendations on Population and Housing Censuses is a set of guidelines, specific to the region, on topics, definitions and issues pertaining to both the operation and analysis of censuses. It covers issues unique to the region which could not be accommodated in the global recommendations. It is, therefore, meant to be used in conjunction with the global Principles and Recommendations on Population and Housing Censuses.

This publication is part of the ongoing efforts by the UNECA to max-

imize the quantity and quality of participation by African countries in the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses given their centrality in monitoring the progress towards the attainment of the development agendas including the MDGs agreed upon at national, sub regional, regional, and international levels.

The publication is part of the Statistics Working Paper Series which the African Centre for Statistics has started to produce. Already published under the series is a booklet on Reforming National Statistical Systems in Africa: A Case for Making the National Statistics Office Autonomous. Other booklets in the works include:

- A guide on Census planning and management for African countries
- African Handbook on Experiences in Census Data Processing, Analysis, and Dissemination
- Africa Gender Supplement: Recommendations for the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses
- Study on the Measurement of the Informal Sector and Informal Employment in Africa.



V. INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL INSTITUTE



About the ISI

South Africa will host the 57th Session of the International Statistical Institute (ISI) in August 2009. Statistics South Africa has been tasked with the honour of organising this prestigious event. Planning is well underway and a number of important milestones have already been achieved towards staging the 1st ever ISI Session in sub-Saharan Africa.

So... what is the ISI?

Established in 1885, the International Statistical Institute (ISI) is one of the oldest scientific associations operating in the modern world. Its success can be attributed to the worldwide demand for professional statistical information, its leadership in the development of statistical methods and their application, and in the collective dedication of its members.

Its influence can be seen in the improvements in information and analysis throughout the economic, social, biological and industrial sectors. Its industrial influence is evidenced in advanced statistical practices, resulting in improved quality assurance. The ISI is also proud of its continuing support of statistical progress in the developing world.

The Institute's activities are funded by grants from intergovernmental organisations, governments, local authorities, foundations, private businesses and others.

The ISI is composed of more than 2 000 elected members who are internationally recognised as the definitive leaders in the field of statistics. Its membership crosses all borders, and is drawn from over 130 countries.

This reservoir of expertise is supplemented by approximately 3 000 additional individual members of the Institute's specialised sections:



The ISI publishes a variety of professional books, journals, newsletters and reports, representing the cutting edge in the development of contemporary statistical knowledge.

Its Permanent Office is situated in The Hague, Netherlands, where it is incorporated. The Institute has consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

The ISI is especially renowned for its biennial meetings in which the entire membership congregates to exchange ideas, develop new links and discuss current trends and developments in the statistical world.

(Courtesy of ISI Website) □

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Latest news on ISI congress Durban August 2009

Registration

Registration for the Conference is now open see <http://www.statssa.gov.za/isi2009>

All registration fees include full access to the conference venue, including scientific sessions, exhibition and poster areas, as well as transport to and from the official hotels. Accompanying persons may not present papers or posters.

Delegates and students:

Conference bag
 Session material
 Lunch vouchers Monday, Tuesday, Thursday-Saturday
 Opening and closing ceremonies
 Reception Sunday 16 August
 Gala dinner Saturday 22 August
 Beach party Tuesday 18 August
 Airport transfers
 Hotel/ICC shuttle services (daily)

Accompanying persons:

Conference bag
 Opening and closing ceremonies
 Reception Sunday 16 August
 Gala dinner Saturday 22 August
 Beach party Tuesday 18 August
 Airport transfers
 Hotel/ICC shuttle services (daily)
 Lunch vouchers (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday-Saturday) can be purchased

Day registration (Sunday to Saturday):

Available to South African residents only.
 Conference bag
 Session material
 Lunch voucher

Contributing to the conference

The ISI scientific programme comprises four components:

- Invited Paper Meetings (IPMs). These meetings are largely finalised. The topics being addressed are listed on

the ISI website at www.statssa.gov.za/isi2009 which also contains contact details for the organisers of the IPMs.

- Special Topic Contributed Paper Meetings (STCPMs). There are still opportunities to organise meetings on a particular topic or aspect of statistics of your choice. Each STCPM will be allocated a slot of two and a quarter hours. The format of the meeting is flexible – you may want to include a number of short presentations, or fewer more substantial papers, or you could organise a panel discussion. We welcome innovation and look forward to your contributions! If you would like to discuss your ideas please contact Professor Tim Dunne, Chair: Local Scientific Programme, by email <Tim.Dunne@uct.ac.za> as soon as possible.
- Contributed Paper Meetings (CPs). Please consider submitting a contributed paper to the Durban conference. You have until 13 April 2009 to submit your abstract on any topic within the very broad field of statistical theory, methods, application or education, but please do not leave this until the last minute as it helps our South African colleagues to have as much notice as possible regarding the contributed papers. We will aim to include as many of the contributed papers as possible but you will be asked if you would be prepared to present a poster if there is no room left in the contributed paper meetings. We will attempt to group contributed papers according to their content and it will help with this process if you can select one or more of the categories offered on the registration form which best describes your paper. Contributed paper authors are typically offered 15 minutes for their presentation.
- Posters. An alternative to offering a contributed paper is to prepare a poster on a topic of your choice. If selected you will be asked to bring your poster with you to Durban and you will be allocated a time slot and display space so that you can explain your research/work to interested participants and answer their questions. There will be prizes for the best posters and our intention is that this should be a fun part of the conference, at which we particularly welcome contributions from students and other young statisticians.

Deadlines

31 May 2009: Submission of the final manuscripts of invited papers. If the paper has not been received, the IPM Organiser may withdraw the author from the programme.

27 April 2009: Deadline for each IPM and STCPM Organiser to provide the Local Programme Committee with a meeting schedule, indicating the order of presentation and specific time allocated for each author and discussant, for inclusion in the Conference Week Programme.

15 May 2009: Registration deadline for all authors of both invited

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and contributed papers, invited meeting organisers and discussants, as well as poster presented

30 June 2009: Local Programme Committee to notify organisers, authors and discussants of date and time of meeting, order of presentations within meeting and to put the programme on the website.

25 Sept 2009: Dissemination Embargo date. Final papers of registered authors to be available for viewing via the Session website

African legacy projects

The ISBalo Capacity Building Programme has been designed to facilitate participation of Africa's statistical community in the debates over key issues on measurement, monitoring and evaluation of development and to encourage the improvement of statistical methodologies and foster innovations. Its five focus areas aim to mobilize and build the capacity of the African statistical community in preparation for the 57th Session of the ISI in order to ensure that the ISI leaves a lasting legacy on the continent. They cover

- Statistical Research and Capacity Development
- Training and support for Young Statisticians
- Maths, Stats and the Girl-Child
- The Statistical Education Programme
- Africa Women in Statistics

Events and activities in relation to these African Legacy Projects are being designed to take place at the ISI congress and we are seeking ways to involve participants in these.

Social programme and tours

The Social Programme will be a highlight of the 57th Session of the ISI and is designed to provide participants with an opportunity to relax and experience a taste of South African cuisine and culture and maximize networking opportunities.

Durban is an excellent location for a family holiday and there will be many options for half and one day tours during the ISI congress for participants and accompanying people. Wednesday afternoon is free for exploring the city, lazing on the beach or taking trips to the beautiful surrounding country.

South Africa is "A World in One Country" – one of breathtaking scenery and interesting history. Your ISI 2009 team has designed special ISI 2009 tours to many of our major tourist attractions. Please visit our web site for a selection of tours or tailor-make your tour to your own requirements.

Opening and closing ceremonies

The conference will open on Sunday afternoon (16 August) with a

ceremony incorporating cultural displays and an informal dinner. It will close with an exciting closing ceremony followed by a gala dinner on Saturday evening (22 August). All of these are included in the registration fee for all participants and accompanying persons. Plan your dates of travel well to prevent missing out on these memorable occasions!

Entry information

Requirements for entering South Africa

You will need the following:

- A valid visa, for specified countries (see information on visas below)
- Sufficient funds
- A return or onward ticket
- Yellow fever certificates will be needed by some African participants. Visit <http://www.travelclinic.co.za> for more information

Passports

Please make sure that you have at least TWO EMPTY PAGES in your passport before travelling to South Africa and that your passport is valid for at least six months after your departure from South Africa.

Visas

Please access <http://www.home-affairs.gov.za/visas.asp> to view the list of countries whose citizens currently require a visa for South Africa. Note that this list is subject to change.

If you do require a visa, you must apply and receive your visa BEFORE your departure for South Africa. Visas are not issued at South African ports of entry and if you arrive without a visa, immigration officials will refuse you entry to South Africa.

Please check as soon as possible whether you need a visa and apply for one well in advance. We suggest that you check again before you travel to make sure that there are no changes to the list of nationalities exempt from visas. The ISI office in The Hague and the South African team are ready to assist with your application (such as supplying letters of invitation) but this help will be less effective at the last minute. Any enquiries can be directed to us by email at isi2009@globalcon.co.za

Security and safety information

The South African organisers of the conference do appreciate that some participants may be concerned about security and safety. Creating a safe and secure environment for our guests during ISI 2009 is of paramount importance to us and you can rest assured that detailed plans are in place to address this issue.

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What actions are being taken to ensure that you have a pleasant and memorable visit to Durban in 2009?

- Participants to the conference will be met at their point of entry into South Africa, and guided through the airport formalities and - if they arrive at a different airport - will be helped with the transfer to Durban
- Transport will be provided to and from the airport to the conference hotels
- All the conference hotels have been vetted and are in acceptable locations
- Transport will be provided to the International Conference Centre (ICC) from the conference hotels at key points in the day
- In addition there is to be a new public bus system by August next year which will be running a service around the centre of the city every few minutes
- Briefing meetings have been held with the Durban City Metro Police who are very experienced at supporting international conferences and will be aware of our particular programme
- The ICC is in a pleasant location and has excellent security systems and staff – participants and accompanying persons will have automated passes to get into the Centre
- Security guidance will be provided to every participant and updates posted in the hotels and in the ICC
- Security advice will be available in the ICC

- Durban was recently ranked as the No. 1 International conference destination in Africa by the International Congress and Convention Association (ICCA) – testimony to its ability to host successful International events.
- ICC Durban was ranked as the No. 1 Convention Centre in Africa by the International Travel Awards in 2001.

For more information on Durban Visit the website: <http://www.durban.kzn.org.za>



So... what makes Durban a great destination for ISI 2009?

- Durban, according to the latest published data, has the lowest crime rate of all the major cities in South Africa
- It is a very popular holiday destination for families in South Africa
- Durban has hosted many large international conferences without incident including the United Nations Conference against Racism, and the 13th International AIDS Conference both of which attracted more than 13 000 delegates. Other high profile events include the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting and the Southern African Economic Summit, hosted by the World Economic Forum (for an unprecedented three years running) and over 70 international events since ICC opened in 1997. More recently, the 2nd Pan Commonwealth Forum on Open Learning attracted Ministers and delegates from 60 countries.

VI. NEWS AND EVENTS

Appointments

Ben Kiregyera, African Centre for Statistics

In the first quarter of this year, two members of the African Statistical System were appointed to important posts in international organizations. On behalf of the statistical community in Africa, the African Centre for Statistics and, indeed on my own behalf, I would like to heartily congratulate Mr. Mohamed-EI-Heyba Lemrabott Berrou who has been appointed Manager of PARIS21 (Partnerships in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century) based at OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) in Paris, France, and Mr. Michel Mouyelo-Katoula who has been appointed the Manager of the Global Office for the 2011 Round of the International Comparison Programme (ICP), based at the World Bank in Washington, USA.

Mohamed-EI-Heyba Lemrabott Berrou



Mr. Mohamed-EI-Heyba Lemrabott Berrou, has succeeded Mr. Antoine Simonpietri as Manager of the PARIS21 Secretariat at the Development Co-operation Directorate in OECD.



Shaking hands with Antoine at handover ceremony

Mr. Berrou, a Mauritanian national, has many years of experience as a high level user of data. He worked as an Advisor in charge of the "Studies, Analysis & Evaluation" Unit, then as Director of Studies and Planning at the Human Rights, Poverty Reduction & Social Integration (Government) Commission, and as Coordinator

of the Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS) Process in his country. From August 2007 to August 2008, he worked as a Senior Advisor to the President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, where he was in charge of the "Productive Sectors, Infrastructure and Land Planning" Unit.

Mr. Berrou holds two M.Sc degrees in Mathematics and Applied Mathematics from the University of Arizona (USA), as well as a Master's degree in Applied Mathematics from the University of Paris-VII (France).

It is our expectation that this appointment will serve to reinforce the excellent partnership arrangements between PARIS21 and the African Statistical System.

Michel Mouyelo-Katoula



Mr. Mouyelo-Katoula, a national of Congo Brazzaville, has very rich experience in statistical management and development, spanning work done in Africa within National Statistics Offices (Director in Congo and as an expert in Namibia), a regional organization (African Development Bank) and in Europe especially at Eurostat, European Centre for Development Statistics in Luxembourg and Eurocost in Luxembourg, among other places where he has worked since graduation.

He was the Regional Coordinator of the 2005 ICP-Africa programme and at the time of his recent appointment, he was the Manager of the Statistical Capacity Building Division of the African Development Bank. As a founder member of the African Statistical Coordination Committee that brings together main regional players in statistical development in the region, namely the African Union Commission, the African development Bank, the African capacity Building Foundation and the UN Economic Commission for Africa, Michel has contributed immensely to the articulation and actualization of partnership initiatives and arrangements in statistical development in Africa. His intellectual and technical skills will be missed.

It is our expectation that Michel will be backstopping the ICP-Africa programme from Washington and that the perspectives he gained from coordinating ICP-Africa programme will be found invaluable in the organization and implementation of the global ICP. □

VI. NEWS AND EVENTS



Employment Opportunities at the African Centre for Statistics Opportunités d'emploi au Centre Africain pour la Statistique

With the recent increase in the number of professional posts at the African Centre for Statistics, the process of recruitment of experts has started in the following areas:

- Head of Section, Demographic and Social Statistics
- Head of Section, Economic Statistics
- Gender and Social Statistics
- Trade Statistics
- Statistical Methods and Modelling

The posts are to be advertised in the UN central vacancy announcement website (<http://jobs.un.org>). Also to be advertised is the post of the Director of the African Centre for Statistics.

We would like to encourage eligible candidates to apply for these posts.

Avec la récente augmentation du nombre de postes de professionnels au Centre Africain pour la Statistique, le processus de recrutement des experts a commencé dans les domaines suivants :

- Chef de Section, Démographie et Statistiques sociales
- Chef de Section, Statistiques économiques
- Genre et Statistiques sociales
- Statistiques du commerce extérieur
- Méthodes statistiques et modelling

Les postes seront publiés dans site web des Nations Unies (<http://jobs.un.org>). Aussi il sera prochainement publié le poste de Directeur du Centre Africain pour la Statistique. Nous voudrions encourager les candidats éligibles à poser leur candidature pour ces postes. □

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The Twenty-fifth Session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, Nairobi, 5 to 12 May, 2009

Message from the Secretariat

Yacob Zewoldi, UNGEGN Secretariat, United Nations Statistics Division

Note verbale

The note verbale, the provisional agenda (GEGN/25/1), and information about documentation for the Conference (GEGN/25/2) were sent to all Permanent Missions to the United Nations in October 2008. A copy can be provided upon request. The provisional agenda and the information on documentation are on the UNGEGN website (unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo) and have also been emailed to UNGEGN experts.

Documents for the Conference

Since the facilities for reproduction of documents at the session site will be limited, experts are asked to forward to the United Nations Secretariat to (zewoldi@un.org, wang1@un.org and geoinfo_unsd@un.org), at their earliest convenience but not later than 18 March 2009, digital documents prepared in support of items on the provisional agenda for the twenty-fifth session. Each document should include a short summary and the appropriate item on the provisional agenda must be indicated. Those documents received before the deadline will be processed by the United Nations and put on the UNGEGN website. The UNGEGN Secretariat will work with late papers, but cannot promise the same consideration.

Other useful information

Useful information on the UN office in Nairobi, Kenya and a guide on Nairobi (hotels, security, transport, etc...) is available on the UNGEGN website <http://unstats.un.org/unsd- /geoinfo/default.htm>. I hope this information will help you to plan ahead your attendance in the meeting. Finally, I would like to thank those who contributed to this Bulletin. Looking forward to meeting you all in Nairobi!

A Statistician's Encounter with Geographical Names

Pali Lehohla, Statistics South Africa

Sometime in 1988, I attended a Toponymy training programme at the University of Pretoria because I thought censuses and place names are so intricately intertwined subjects and indeed I held as I still do, a view that these are essential entities to life. I was irked by the absence and low regard for place names in the successive censuses of South Africa. These only counted in relation to white suburbia and non-existent in the non-white areas, a clear legacy that blacks did not count in South Africa. When I moved into Statistics South Africa, then Central Statistical Service, I sent a number of staff to this United Nations training programme so that their taste buds could develop appreciation for this area of work and its fundamental place in society and statistics.

In 1995, I tasked Miriam Babita to wrestle with the challenging task of place names because of the central role they play in development. This is not because of themselves as names but primarily because of their role in dissemination and development. History was made, the placename layer was created and Census 96 dissemination was successfully implemented.

At this moment however, the organization is confronted by the difficult path of managing geography and one of the key challenges is that of place names, their capture and adequacy. The deliberations on this front are just as stimulating. The battle for placenames in South Africa is not only one about political transition and transformation but is also about statistical development. □

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Heads of National Statistical Offices in Africa

Country / Pays		Name
Algeria	M.	Mohammed Boumati
Angola	Ms.	Maria Ferreira dos Santos Oliveira
Benin	Mr.	Cosme Vodounou
Botswana	Ms.	Anna Majelantle
Burkina Faso	Mr.	Ouattara Bamory
Burundi	Mr.	Déogratias Buzingo
Cameroon	Mr.	Joseph Tedou
Cape Verde	M.	António de Reis Duarte
Central African Republic	M.	Mustapha Issen
Chad	M.	Ousmane Abdoulaye Haggar
Comoros	M.	Bastoin Msoma
Congo	M.	Samuel Ambapour Kosso
Côte d'Ivoire	Mr.	Mathieu Meleu
D.R. Congo	M.	Marcel Nyumbaiza Malungu
Djibouti	Mr.	Amareh Ali Said
Egypt	Mr.	Abou Baker M. El- Gendy
Equatorial Guinea	M.	Luis Ondo Obono
Eritrea	Mr.	Aynom Berhane
Ethiopia	Ms.	Samia Zekaria
Gabon	M.	Louis Martin Wora
Gambia, The	Mr.	Alies. S. N'dow
Ghana	Dr.	Grace Bediako
Guinea	M.	Oumar Diallo
Guinea-Bissau	M.	Carlos Mendes da Costa
Kenya	Mr.	Anthony K.M. Kilele
Lesotho	Ms.	Liengoane Mothoweso Lefosa
Liberia	Dr.	Edward Liberty

Country / Pays		Name
Libya	Mr.	Salem Abu-Aisha
Madagascar	M.	Rakotomalala Andriamampianina
Malawi	Mr.	Charles Machinjili
Mali	M.	Seydou Moussa Traoré
Mauritania	M.	Baba Ould Boumeiss
Mauritius	Mr.	Harish Bundhoo
Morocco	Mr.	Mohammed Taamouti
Mozambique	Mr.	Joao Dias Loureiro
Namibia	Mr.	Fanuel Hangula
Niger	M.	Abdoulahi Beidou
Nigeria	Dr.	Vincent O. Akinyosoye
Rwanda		
Sao Tomé and Príncipe	M.	Albano Germano de Deus
Senegal	M.	M. Babakar Fall
Seychelles	Mr.	Jude Padayachy
Sierra Leone	Mr.	Joseph A. Lawrence Kamara
Somalia	Mr.	Nur A. Weheliye
South Africa	Mr.	Pali Jobo Lehohla
Sudan	Dr.	Yassin Abdin
Swaziland	Ms.	Isabella Hlophe
Tanzania	Ms.	Albina Chuwa
Togo	M.	Kokou Yao N'guissan
Tunisia	M.	Khalifa Ben Fekih
Uganda	Mr.	J.B. Male-Mukasa
Zambia	Ms.	Efrida Chulu
Zimbabwe	Mr.	Moffat Nyoni



Request:

ACS will appreciate it if it can be kept updated about changes in the leadership of NSOs.

VI. NEWS AND EVENTS

National Statistical Associations in Africa

Country	Association		Name	
Burkina Faso	Association des Statisticiens et Démographes du Burkina Faso	M.	Some Nibene Habib	President
Cameroon	Association des Statisticiens du Cameroun	Mr.	Isaac Njiemoun	Contact person
Congo	Association des Statisticiens	Mr.	Bolide Ntumba	Contact person
Equatorial Guinea	Association des statisticiens		Angeles Ngongolo	Contact person
Ethiopia	Ethiopian Statistical Association	Dr.	Emmanuel G. Yohannes	President
Gabon	Association des Statisticiens du Gabon	Mr.	Jean Nestor Nguema	Contact person
Ghana	Ghana Statistical Association	Mr.	Nicholas Nsoah-Nuamah	Contact person
Kenya	Kenya Statistical Society	Dr.	Leo Odongo	Chairman
Madagascar	Association Malgache des Ingenieur Statisticiens	Mr.	Eric Rakto-manana	Contact person
Malawi	Statistical Association	Dr.	Lawrence Kazembe	Contact person
Mali	Association de Malienne Statistique	M.	Aboumediene Toure	Contact person
Mauritania	Association des Statisticiens de Mauritanie	M.	Cissoko Mamadou	President
Niger	Association des Statisticiens et Démographes du Niger	Mr.	Alichina Idrissa Kourguéni	President
Rwanda	Association Rwandaise des Statisticiens	Mr.	Nzayisenga Canisius	President
Senegal	Association Sénégalaise pour la Statistique	Mr.	Amadou Talla Gueye	President
South Africa	South African Statistical Association	Dr.	Khangelani Zuma	President
Tanzania	Tanzania Statistical Association	Mr.	Peter C.T. Mayeye	Contact person
Togo	Association des Statisticien et Démographes	Mr.	Kponton Anani Théodore	Président
Tunisia	Tunisian Association of Statistics and its Applications	Mr.	Malika Charrad	Contact person
Uganda	Uganda Statistical Society	Mr.	Owino Abraham Yeyo	President



Request:

ACS will appreciate it if it can be kept updated about changes in the leadership of National Statistical Associations and Statistical Training Centres.

Statistical Training Centres in Africa

Centre	Location	Contact
Eastern Africa Statistical Training Centre	Dar es Salaam, Tanzania	Mr. Michael Sindato
Ecole Nationale de la Statistique et de l'Analyse Economique	Dakar, Senegal	Mr. Bocar Toure
Ecole nationale de statistique et d'économie appliquée	Rabat, Morocco	Mr. Abdelaziz El Ghazali
Institut de Formation et de Recherche Démographiques	Yaoundé, Cameroon	Mr. Augusto Roku Mesani
Institut national de statistique et d'économie appliquée	Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire	Mr. Koffi Nguessan
Institut supérieur de statistique et d'économie appliquée	Yaoundé, Cameroon	Mr. Akoto Eliwo Mandjale
Regional Institute for Population Studies	Legon, Ghana	Mr. Stephan Owusu Kwankya
Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics	Kampala, Uganda	Mr. Jonathan Ochocho Odwee



Statistics Units in Regional Economic Communities (RECs)

Centre	Location	Contact person
Common Market for Eastern & Southern Africa (COMESA)	Zambia, Lusaka	Mr. Anthony Walakira
Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD)	Tripoli, Libya	
East African Community (EAC)	Arusha, Tanzania	Mr. Robert Maate
Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS)	Libreville, Gabon	Mr. Louis Sylvain Goma
Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)	Nigeria, Abuja	Mr. Mahamadou Yahaya
Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD)	Djibouti, Djibouti	
Southern African Development Community (SADC)	Gaborone, Botswana	Mr. Ackim Teudulo Jere
Union du Maghreb Arabe (UMA)	Morocco, Rabat	Mr. Habib Boulares



VI. NEWS AND EVENTS

Upcoming Events (April 1 - June 30 2009)

Date	Event	Organisers	Location
April 16	18è session du Conseil des Ministres d'Afristat	Afristat	Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso
April 09 -10	Session extraordinaire du Conseil Scientifique d'Afristat	Afristat	Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso
April 13 -15	Comité de direction d'AFRISTAT	Afristat	Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso
May 04 - 07	Workshop on Manufacturing Statistics for African Countries	UNSD, CSO-Zambia, UNECA, SADC	Lusaka, Zambia
May 05 - 12	Twenty-fifth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN)	UNSD, UNGEGN Bureau, UNECA	Nairobi, Kenya
May 25 - 27	Fourth Regional Forum on Statistical Capacity Building for the Arab States	PARIS21	Cairo, Egypt
May 26 - 29	IASSIST/IFDO 2009	PARIS21	Tampere, Finland
June TBD	16th meeting of the SADC Statistics Committee for heads of statistics	SADC	TBD
June 4-5	PARIS21 Steering Committee	PARIS21	Paris, France

Other Events

Date	Event	Organisers	Location
16-22 August 2009	The 57th Session of the International Statistical Institute (ISI 2009)	ISI and Statistics South Africa	Durban, South Africa
16-18 November 2009	PARIS21 Consortium meeting	PARIS21	Dakar, Senegal
16-21 November 2009	5th Africa Symposium on Statistical Development (ASSD)	ECA, South Africa and Senegal	Dakar, Senegal
18 November 2009	African Statistics Day	African NSOs	All African Countries



African Statistical Newsletter Editorial Policy

The Newsletter: The African Statistical newsletter aims to supplement the efforts of the African Statistical Journal to provide a platform for sharing knowledge and information about statistical methodologies and their application to solve practical problems in Africa. It covers all activities and news deemed to be of interest to the African statistical community, ranging from statistical advocacy to institutional development including capacity building and technical assistance, to specific statistical activities like censuses and surveys.

Target Clientele: The Newsletter is intended for the statistical community, across the whole of Africa as well as development practitioners with an interest in Africa's development.

Frequency: The African Statistical Newsletter is a quarterly periodical published four times a year. Issues are generally released within two weeks after the last day of the quarter. Material should be submitted to African Centre for Statistics email (statistics@uneca.org) by 15th day of the last month for publication in that quarter's newsletter.

Source of Articles and Photos: The articles and photographs published are written and submitted by experts practicing statistics in Africa and the rest of the world who are interested in statistical development in Africa. All articles must comply with the standards and technical publishing requirements. Generally, articles should not exceed 4 pages and should be of general interest to the statistical community. The editorial board carries out minor editing of the articles and reserves the right to determine the content of the newsletter.

Language: The Newsletter is bi-lingual –English and French. Articles are published in the language in which they are submitted. If an article is deemed to be of especial interest across the continent, we aim to publish it in both languages of the Newsletter.

Accessibility: The African Statistical Newsletter is posted on the Internet and is also published in hardcopies for limited distribution. An electronic version in PDF format is also emailed to all contacts maintained by the African Centre for Statistics - to be added to this database send your contact details to statistics@uneca.org.

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