



World Statistics Day in Accra, Ghana, 20 October 2010

The Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) organized a National Workshop on Statistics to commemorate World Statistics Day on 20 October 2010 in Accra, Ghana. The Workshop was held at the International Conference Centre. The programme outline is attached below this report.

The Workshop was very well attended by various stakeholders, including national data users and producers, academia, research institutes, United Nations entities, the World Bank, the European Union, the ECOWAS Commission, etc. There was also press coverage. There was an article in the Ghanaian Times on 21 October 2010 about the event and the GSS is going to send me a copy of the scanned article shortly.

Dr. Grace Bediako, Government Statistician provided the welcome address and thanked the UN Statistics Division (UNSD) for having developed the idea of the first World Statistics Day and for being physically present in Ghana to celebrate this important day with them. In her address, she acknowledged the assistance of the UN system at large to the improvement of statistics in Ghana and she stressed the three themes of service, professionalism and integrity in our statistical work. She noted that the focus of this one-day Workshop would be on the General Data Dissemination System (GDDS).

The UN Resident Coordinator of Ghana was not able to participate but a representative from UNFPA-Ghana made a statement. UN statistician Reena Shah delivered the statement prepared by the Director of UNSD and thanked the GSS for having included UNSD in their programme. She explained to the audience that she was also in Ghana to facilitate a National Workshop on Environment Statistics being jointly organized by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the GSS from 21 to 22 October 2010 and that the World Statistics Day was a timely event to encourage work in and provide stimulus to this new and emerging field of environment statistics.

Several staff of the GSS made presentations on, inter alia, The Role of GDDS in the National Statistical System, Data Requirements in the Compilation of National Account Aggregates etc., and the Bank of Ghana made a presentation on the Balance of Payments. There was a lot of discussion following each of the presentations. The GSS was very pleased with the outcomes of the first World Statistics Day and hope to replicate such activities in the future.



GHANA STATISTICAL SERVICE

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTER
WEDNESDAY, 20 OCTOER 2010

PROGRAMME OUTLINE FOR WORLD STATISTICS DAY CELEBRATION

TIME	ACTIVITIES
8:30 - 9:00 a.m.	Arrival of invited Guest and registration
9:00 - 9:05 a.m.	Opening prayer
9:05 - 9:15 a.m.	Introduction of Chairperson
9:15 - 9:30 a.m.	Chairperson's Remarks-----
9:30 - 9:45 a.m.	Welcome Address by Government Statistician
9:45- 9:55 a.m	Address by Ghana UN Office Representative,
9:55 – 10:05 a.m	Address by UNSD Representative
10:05 - 10:25 a.m.	The Role of GDDS in the National Statistical System
10:25 - 10:45 a.m.	The National Summary Data Page
10:45 - 11:15 a.m.	Discussion
11:15 – 11:30 a.m.	Cocoa/Tea Break
11:30 – 11:45 a.m	Stakeholders of the National Statistical System
11:45 – 12:10 p.m.	Data Requirement in the Compilation of National Account Aggregates
12:10 - 12:30 p.m.	Discussion
12:30 – 1:10 p.m.	The Balance of Payments – Bank of Ghana
1:10 – 1:25 p.m.	Annual Release Calendar
1:25 – 1:30 p.m.	Closing Prayer
1:30 p.m.	Lunch and Departure