

United Nations  Nations Unies

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STAT 110 (2)

08 March 2010

Dear Colleagues,

World Statistics Day, 20-10-2010

I am pleased to inform you that, at its 41st session, the United Nations Statistical Commission endorsed 20 October 2010 (20-10-2010) as the date of the first World Statistics Day, to be observed by national, sub-regional, regional and international statistical offices or entities. The overarching theme will be "Celebrating the Many Achievements of Official Statistics" with the emphasis on the core values of service, integrity and professionalism. Countries are encouraged to develop their own national theme as appropriate.

The Commission further requested the United Nations Statistics Division to provide appropriate guidance and coordination to countries in the observance of World Statistics Day and publicity to the events being organized. In this context, I am pleased to announce that the World Statistics Day website has been launched and can be accessed at

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/wsd>

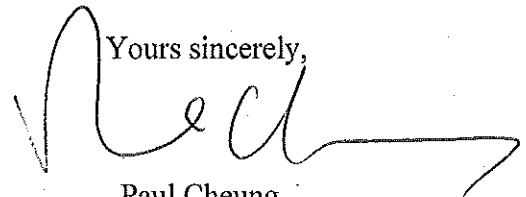
This website will facilitate the national statistical offices around the world to share information on their planned national activities. Please send us any promotional material and information regarding the activities that are being planned in your country to celebrate this day. You will be also able to find the logo of WSD on this website for your use.

I would be grateful if your office could also prepare a document on the history of official statistics in your country or agency. This document will be posted on the website.

Please send all promotional material and information to Mr. Alain Gaugris (gaugris@un.org) for posting on this website.

I look forward to working with you to make our first World Statistics Day a success.

Yours sincerely,



Paul Cheung
Director
Statistics Division/DESA