

PRESS RELEASE FOR CARIBBEAN STATISTICS DAY

Guyana, like the rest of CARICOM, would be observing CARIBBEAN STATISTICS DAY on the 15th October, 2009. This day of observance was chosen by the Standing Committee of Caribbean Statisticians at its 33rd Meeting held in Barbados in October 2008, and has now been accepted and endorsed by the Caricom Secretariat for regional observance.

The observance of the first CARIBBEAN STATISTICS DAY would precede the expected declaration by the UN Statistical Commission at its next meeting in February 2010, of the annual observance of a World Statistics Day, commencing 2010, at a date to be finalized and announced at the said meeting.

By observing the 15th October, 2009 as CARIBBEAN STATISTICS DAY, Guyana and the other Caricom countries would be joining a group of one hundred and one countries and areas that have raised the profile of official statistics by having commemoration activities for a day, a week or a month.

The main objectives of the national observance are to:

1. Raise awareness at the national level of the importance of statistics in our daily lives.
2. Acknowledge the service provided by the statistical system in Guyana.
3. Strengthen the trust of the public in official statistics.
4. Seek the public's continued support of the data collection entities in Guyana
5. Emphasize the coordinative role played by the Caricom Secretariat in the harmonization of regional work programmes, skills training and development of staff at national statistics offices.

As the Central Statistics Office of Guyana, the Bureau of Statistics, together with other stakeholders which include important data collection entities and users of national statistics, has developed a programme of activities to observe CARIBBEAN STATISTICS DAY. Foremost among such activities is the planned release to the public, byway of the media, information relating to the stated objectives of the commemoration. We would encourage educators to be part of the awareness drive by having discussions at their institutions on the importance of statistics in our daily lives.

The Bureau of Statistics and its partners in statistics take this opportunity to thank the general public for its continued contribution to the development of statistics in Guyana and to the Caricom Secretariat for its continued supportive role for the regional development of all areas of statistics.

Bureau of Statistics
October 5, 2009.
