



CARICOM Statistics Day 15.10.2010 and World Statistics Day 20.10.2010

The General Assembly of the United Nations has decided in its 64th session, as suggested by the Statistical Commission of the United Nations, to designate October 20th, 2010 as World Statistics Day.

The executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas at its 9th Meeting in Chile April 20 – 22, 2010 had also agreed to request the Member States to organize activities to celebrate the World Statistics Day.

The overall theme is **“CELEBRATING THE MANY ACHIEVEMENTS OF OFFICIAL STATISTICS”**.

The goal of this day is to promote statistics and the work of statisticians national and international within those who are responsible to provide data, those who make use of the data and among politicians, to make them aware of the meaning and contribution of official statistics which are based upon the core value of service, integrity and professionalism.

In 2009, just like other Caribbean Countries, Suriname (the GBS) has celebrated the first CARICOM STATISTICS DAY, following recommendations of the CARICOM and subsidiary bodies (e.g.: SCCS and Advisory Group on Statistics). The idea was and is to highlight the importance of Statistics for the CARICOM Region and the 2009 activities were also used to prepare for a concerted World Statistics Day 2010 approach. CARICOM Statistics Day is on the 15th of October whilst World Statistics Day is on the 20th of the same month. CARICOM Statistics Day is a day that is/will be celebrated every year thus Suriname (GBS) decided to focus this year on World Statistics Day. However, some attention will be given to CARICOM Statistics Day.

Although the target of World Statistics Day (further indicated with WSD) is a wide audience, our focus this year will be the youth and especially the students of the exam classes of the High schools, the statisticians and naturally Policy Makers.

The general idea is to ask their attention for statistics and statisticians and the work of the General Bureau of Statistics and other Major Data Producers in Suriname. This will happen:

1. through banners, flyers, posters and an information booklet distributed via the principals of the schools in Paramaribo en Wanica.
2. through a two-day Publicity and Advocacy Event in the District of Nickerie
3. through a meeting of the total staff of the ABS (Caricom Statistics Day, October 15th)
4. through a two-day “Statistics Fair” (20 and 21 October 2010), involving other major data producers.

1. Banners, flyers and an information booklet

The activities will start at the beginning of the school year 2010/2011 (about October 4) through:

- a. Banners: On seven strategic places, of which six in the Capital Paramaribo, banners will be placed with the announcement of WSD and of the Statistics Fair. These places are:
 - The corner of Highway / Latour
 - The corner of Van Idsingastraat / Kwattaweg
 - The corner of Kernkampweg /Gemenelandsweg
 - Dr. Sophie Redmondstraat (close to Kwakoe)
 - Mr. Rietbergplein
 - Location of the Fair
 - District Commmissioner’s Office in New Nickerie

The banners will also hold an invitation to visit the Fair. The banners will be placed early in October 2010

- b. Posters and information booklets: At the beginning of the school year the several high schools in Paramaribo and Wanica will be visited. Permission will be asked to place posters at the school (in the yard). A total number of circa 50 posters will be produced and distributed. The principals of the schools will be asked to distribute information booklets. These booklets will have information regarding statistics in general, the ABS and also included will be an invitation to take part in a competition for a census slogan and Census Jingle. In doing so we also contribute to the awareness of the Census 2011. A number of 1000 booklets will be produced and distributed.
- c. Flyers: In the week October 11 – 15, (invitation) flyers will be distributed. Although the focus is on the youth, these invitations will be distributed indiscriminately.

2. Two-Day Publicity, Promotion and Advocacy Event in Nickerie

Most activities of the GBS and other Major Data Producers are concentrated in the predominantly urban area, the Districts of Paramaribo and Wanica, which holds approximately two-thirds of the Population. For the 2010 CARICOM Statistics Day (CSD) and World Statistics Day (WSD) activities, some attention will also be devoted to the Duistrict of Nickerie, which together with Paramaribo and Wanica brings the population coverage to circa 74%. A GBS delegation comprising the Director and selected Divisional and Sectional Head will travel to Nickerie on 11 October and will have statistical sessions on 12 and 13 October 2010 for circa 800 high school students (circa 400 each day) and their supervisors. The sessions will be about:

- (a) The importance and the achievements of Good Statistics (Director)
- (b) The Consumer Price Index (Head of CPI)
- (c) Household Surveys in Paramaribo, Wanica and Nickerie (Head Household Surveys)
- (d) Establishment Surveys of the GBS (Head BES or Manager Economic Statistics)
- (e) The Eight General Population and Housing Census of 2011 (Manager Census Office)

The delegation will travel back on 14 October to be able to participate in the CSD activities of 15 October 2010.

3. Caricom Statistic Day 2010

CSD will be celebrated mainly by the staff of the GBS. For this day, we will provide Polo-shirts (with the text (and if possible an appropriate slogan) Caricom Statistics Day, October 15th) to all GBS personnel and ask those who wear a uniform to replace their uniform with the polo shirts on the 15th of October. We will have an open house between 9. a.m. and noon. There will also be a meeting with all of the GBS staff from noon to 3.00 p.m. with speeches and an informal gathering.

4. Statistics Fair

All the line ministries with statistics Units will be asked to participate in this fair. This fair is planned for two days. All statistical sections of the ABS will take part including the Census Office and WOP (i.e. Scientific Research and Planning) and they shall make the general public aware of their activities. There will be a show of publications, slide shows and (on demand) ABS-info (our Devinfo 6.0 adaptation) demonstration. The day will start at 9.00 with an opening speech of the Director of the ABS and one (or more) invited speakers, including the minister with Statistics in his/her portfolio. The fair will continue till 18.00 hour for two consecutive days. All visitors will receive a Calendar and a pen. Visitors who submit a survey form will also receive a complementary gift. On the second day (21st of October) there will be a meeting with statisticians of the bureau.

4. The Slogan and Jingle Competition

(High School) Students will be invited to take part in a Census Slogan and Jingle Competition. Slogan and Jingle may be submitted till 15 December 2010. Then a (predominantly GBS) Jury will choose the winning Slogan and Jingle. The winner will get a price of SRD 1400 (roughly 500 USD). Discussions about a possible award for the first runner up are continuing. The winner will be announced, not later than 15 January 2011 and will receive his/her prize not later than 31 January 2011.

Notes

- i- CARICOM Statistics Day 2010 utilizes the same slogan as World Statistics Day 2010
- ii- So far the WSD Posters have been displayed on the premises of the GBS (English and French), while two English and an Arab poster have been provided to the largest Muslim group in Suriname to be displayed in the Mosque.
- iii- The whole process and all activities will be accompanied by an increase in Radio and TV appearances of Key Statistics Office Staff and by Newspaper articles from Key Statistics Office Staff.