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Chairperson’s Letter of Transmittal

The Honorable Pravind Kumar JUGNAUTH
Prime Minister,
Minister of Home Affairs, External Communications and National Development Unit,
Minister of Finance and Economic Development,
Port Louis

Dear Sir,

Annual Report 2016

I have the pleasure in submitting the 2016 Annual Report of the Statistics Board, which was set up under Section 23 of the Statistics Act 2000, for your information. The report will be posted on the website of Statistics Mauritius.

The Annual Report outlines the work undertaken by the Board during 2016 as well as its future plans.

Yours faithfully,

Ms. Marie Jennifer JEAN LOUIS
Chairperson
Statistics Board

October 2017
Introduction

The Statistics Board of Mauritius, set up in September 2011 following amendments made to the Statistics Act 2000, has as primary objectives the approval, coordination and monitoring of statistical programmes of producers of Official Statistics to improve on the consistency and efficiency of data collection and of its comparability, dissemination and analysis. In this respect, the Board aims to strengthen the confidence and trust of the public in the producers of official statistics by assisting in the reinforcement of the professional and autonomous environment within which the statistical system operates for the data collection, analysis and reporting. Over time, in line with its mandate and functions, the Statistics Board has, with the cooperation of key stakeholders, made appreciable headway in effectively contributing to the enhancement of the national statistical system, in support of the country’s economic development aspirations. Membership of the Board consists of high-level and specifically-selected professionals coming from the public and private spheres.

On behalf of my fellow Board members and in my own name, we would like to put on records our deep appreciation and thanks to the strong foundations set by our predecessors of the first constituted Statistics Board and it is with an immense sense of pride that we now present the Board’s achievements of 2016.
Achievements

With a view to improving the quality of data produced and disseminated across the island, the Board provides guidance and support to Statistics Mauritius and other producers of official statistics. It met nine times during the year under consideration.

The various initiatives and achievements of the Board during the period include amongst others:

a) Approving the Census and Survey Plan for 2017 as well as the particulars and information to be collected in the course of the 2017 Continuous Multi-Purpose Household Survey and the 2017 Tourism Surveys;

b) Providing guidance and monitoring the progress on the implementation of recommendations of two Committees set up in 2014, namely:
   a. the Committee on Tourism Statistics, to address challenges faced by the industry in terms of competitiveness pressures, the evolution in the market structure and the growing importance of informal accommodation and domestic tourism, amongst others and;
   b. the Committee on Labour Statistics, with a view to better capturing unemployment and underemployment trends, with particular focus on population groups of interest such as youth and women, as well as employment in the small and informal segment;

c) Continually promoting better coordination mechanisms and the strengthening of working relationships among domestic institutions involved in the gathering and dissemination of official statistics. The Coordination Committee on Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS) initially set up to allow Mauritius to subscribe to SDDS of the International Monetary Fund has continued to work to enable Mauritius to adhere to the more stringent statistical standards, namely the SDDS Plus. The Coordination Committee is chaired by the Deputy Financial Secretary, with members comprising officials from the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, Statistics Mauritius, the Bank of Mauritius and the Financial Services Commission;

d) Participation in the celebration of the African Statistics Day which included a half-day workshop organised at the Labourdonnais Waterfront Hotel, Port Louis on 18 November 2016, where representatives of the private and public sectors and regional and international organisations were present;

e) Supporting the initiative around the improvement of statistics on Rodrigues. In this respect two missions from Statistics Mauritius were fielded in Rodrigues in 2015 and 2016 to evaluate the data collection processes, assess the quality of data available and determine additional data needs for the compilation of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for Rodrigues. Progress is closely monitored by the Board.

f) Creation of three Committees of the Board to work on:
   (i) Infrastructure Statistics;
   (ii) Financial Sector Statistics; and
   (iii) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The Way Forward

While supporting the execution of past initiatives, the Board has agreed on its strategic intents in the short-term and medium-to-long term.

In the short-term, the Board will continue to provide guidance and to monitor the development of new Labour market indicators, and statistics on infrastructure and financial sector to support policy decisions. The Board will help in the process of strengthening the statistical capacity skills of Statistics Mauritius staff. Assisting the Government in the promotion of Vision 2030 is also to be pursued in the short-term and concluded in the longer term.
In the medium and long-term the Board will provide guidance and support on the following:

(i) SDDS Plus

Mauritian Authorities have expressed their interest in adhering to the new IMF data dissemination standard, the SDDS Plus. An action plan with clear timelines has been worked out. The Board is monitoring progress on each of the constituent nine data categories of the SDDS Plus.

(ii) The National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS)

For all modern Statistical Offices, there is a need to have an up-to-date NSDS to cater for the demand of users and also to set up a platform for data sharing and harmonisation of concepts and definitions.

(iii) Statistics on Quality of Life (QoL)

Statistics on QoL should be expanded to include time use and subjective well-being. In that vein, SM will conduct a Living Condition Survey (LCS) in 2018 to collect the relevant information.

(iv) Financial Sector Statistics

A committee was set up under the Statistics Board to assess the demand for statistics to monitor the financial sector. The committee looked mainly at the contribution of the Global Business Companies in the Mauritian Economy.

There is need to continue the work by expanding the set of indicators to cover the whole financial sector.

(v) Development of Register Based Population Statistics

In line with international best practices, the production of demographic and social statistics based on administrative registers should be looked into so as to reduce costs of data collection and alleviate response burden.

(vi) Trade in Services (TIS)

There is need to compile and report Trade in Services (TIS) statistics with standard definitions, to inform policy decisions during the negotiations, particularly within the SADC countries.

The Bank of Mauritius, SM together with other relevant stakeholders will work together in the measurement of trade in services.

Concluding remarks

I would like to thank the members of the Board and its Committees for their valuable contribution, support and active participation in discussions held and assistance provided in meeting our objectives.

A heartfelt appreciation goes to Statistics Mauritius to build on advice provided for improving its functioning and the provision of secretariat services and other facilities to the Board.

I reiterate my commitment to continue reinforcing the association of the Board with different stakeholders towards working together to building stronger, richer and more easily accessible official statistics in the country, thus helping to support policy formulation and inform the decisions of businesses, social partners and the public at large.

Ms. Marie Jennifer JEAN LOUIS
Chairperson
Statistics Board
The Statistics Board

Legislative framework

In July 2011, the Statistics Act 2000 was amended to provide for the general reform of the National Statistical System (NSS), alongside promoting its professional independence. The amendments aimed at reinforcing and modernizing the set-up for the compilation and dissemination of Official Statistics by *inter alia*:

- Providing for better coordination mechanism among producers of Official Statistics through the replacement of the Statistics Advisory Council by a higher-level Statistics Board;
- Enhancing the professional independence of Statistics Mauritius (SM) by reinforcing the duties and powers of the Director of Statistics; and
- Broadening the scope of the Statistics Act to cover all producers of Official Statistics.

Functions of the Board

The Statistics Board was established in September 2011 under Section 23 of the Statistics Act 2000 (amended). The Board is an independent body and, in the discharge of its functions and the exercise of its powers under the Act, it is not subject to the direction or control of any other person or authority. Its members are high-level professionals specifically selected to improve the professional environment within which the NSS is operating and to ensure that the profile of Official Statistics is commensurate with their role in national development.

According to the amended Act, the Board shall

(i) approve, coordinate and monitor statistical programmes of producers of Official Statistics in order to achieve consistency and efficiency, facilitate integration and promote comparability of data from different sources, avoid duplication, minimise respondent burden and improve design of data collection and analysis;

(ii) advise any producer of statistics on the policy, procedures and regulations relating to the development of Official Statistics;

(iii) promote and safeguard the quality of Official Statistics, particularly in relation to their relevance, impartiality, accuracy and timeliness and their coherence;

(iv) promote adherence to good practice including accessibility and implementation of international recommendations and standards, in particular, the UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, the African Charter on Statistics and other internationally accepted principles relating to statistics;

(v) promote and protect the integrity of Official Statistics, including professional independence; and

(vi) do every act or thing that is required to be done by the Board under the Act.

The Board also approves the collection of statistical information relating to matters set out in the Act, other than the Population Census, as well as the information to be collected and the frequency of the data collection.

Membership of the Board

As per the Act, the Board shall consist of

(i) a Chairperson, suitably qualified and experienced in the field of statistics, economics, social sciences, finance, management or related fields, appointed
by the President, acting in accordance with the advice of the Prime Minister tendered after the Prime Minister has consulted the Leader of the Opposition, on such terms and conditions as may be determined by the Prime Minister;

(ii) the Financial Secretary or his representative;

(iii) a Deputy Governor of the Bank of Mauritius or his representative;

(iv) a representative of the private sector, appointed by the Minister on the advice of the Joint Economic Council;

(v) a qualified and suitable person having international experience on Official Statistics, appointed by the Minister responsible for statistics;

(vi) the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Mauritius or his representative; and

(vii) the Director of Statistics Mauritius.

The Board can also co-opt other persons for assistance in relation to any of its matters and set up committees to which it can delegate some of its functions.
Profile of Board Members/Representatives
(effective April 2015)

CHAIRPERSON

Ms. Jean-Louis is an experienced finance and banking executive with senior roles in financial analysis, project management, risk management, corporate services and team leadership. She has an enriching career with more than 20 years’ experience gained locally and internationally in public practice and the commerce environment.

Ms. Jean-Louis currently heads the Finance division of AfrAsia Bank; a local bank headquartered in the Mauritius International Financial Centre and has been instrumental to the laying of the bank’s foundation for a sound financial management framework incorporating finance, taxation and treasury back office. As a key management executive, she sits on various of the Bank’s Management Committees.

Ms. Jean-Louis holds a Master degree in Applied Finance, is a Fellow Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales (ICAEW) and a Chartered Tax Advisor.

Ms. Marie Jennifer JEAN LOUIS
MEMBERS

Mr. Patrick Y. S. YIP WANG WING
(Representative of the Financial Secretary)

Mr. Patrick Yip is currently Deputy Financial Secretary at the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, responsible to the Financial Secretary for the economic, budgetary and management matters of the Ministry.

Mr. Yip is presently a member of several Public Sector Boards of Directors: Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) and State Insurance Company of Mauritius Group (SICOM). He has also served on a number of Statutory Boards namely Stock Exchange Commission (SEC) and the State Investment Corporation (SIC).

After studying in Dijon, France, for a Maitrise en Econométrie and a Diplome d’Etudes Appprofondies in Politique et Analyse Economique, he joined the Civil Service in 1986 as an Economist, becoming the Director for Fiscal Policies in 2001.

Mr. Jitendra Nathsingh BISSESSUR
(Representative of the Second Deputy Governor of the Bank of Mauritius)

Mr. Jitendra Bissessur is currently the Assistant Director of the Research and Economic Analysis Department at the Bank of Mauritius. The Department is also responsible for the collection, compilation and dissemination of monetary, financial and external sector statistics.

He has served as the Head of the Statistics Division from 2007 to 2010; Head of the Financial Markets Analysis Division from 2011 to 2013; and Head of the Economic Research Division from 2014 to early 2015. Mr Bissessur was a member of the Monetary Policy Committee of the Bank of Mauritius in 2012. He worked as an economist in the African Department of the International Monetary Fund in 2013-14 under the Special Appointee programme.

He holds a BA (Hons) in Mathematical Statistics and a MSc in Applied Economics.
Dr. Naushad Ali MAMODE KHAN  
(Representative of Vice-Chancellor of the University of Mauritius)

Dr. Naushad Mamode Khan is presently Senior Lecturer in the Department of Economics and Statistics at the University of Mauritius.

He holds a PhD in Statistics from the University of Mauritius and his thesis was based on developing Regression Models for Longitudinal Discrete Data. His research interests are Computational Statistics, Time Series and Longitudinal Data Analysis, Biometric Security and Multivariate Discrete Time Series Modelling, Using Copulas. His recent research papers have been mostly focused on the modelling of non-stationary BINAR(1) and BINMA(1) series and appear in reputed impact-factored Statistics Journals such as Journal of Statistical Computation and Simulation, Communication in Statistics-Simulation and Computation, Communication in Statistics-Theory and Methods, Journal of Statistical Theory and Practice and among others.

Ms. Dheemun Devi MANRAJ  
(Professional with international experience on Official Statistics)

Ms. Manraj is currently working as National Accounts Expert at the Ministry of Development Planning and Statistics in Doha, Qatar.

She has a long-standing experience in the field of national accounts, prices, industrial and Government Finance Statistics. During her career, she has worked as Government Statistician and Deputy Director at the then Central Statistical Office of Mauritius, as Regional Advisor for the IMF East AFRITAC in Tanzania, and as Multi Sector Resident Advisor in Uzbekistan.

Ms. Manraj holds a Graduate Diploma in Statistics from the Royal Statistical Society (RSS), U.K, and is a Chartered Statistician at the same institution.
MEMBERS

Mr. Raj MAKOOND
(Representative of the Private Sector)

Mr. Raj Makoond is presently the Chief Executive Officer of Business Mauritius, the coordinating body of the Mauritius private sector. Prior to joining Business Mauritius, he was Director of the Joint Economic Council, Deputy Secretary-General of the Mauritius Chamber of Commerce & Industry and Senior Economist at the Ministry of Economic Planning & Development.

He co-chairs with the Board of Investment a wide range of initiatives on Business Facilitation and Ease of Doing Business in Mauritius and also co-chairs the Skills Working Group with the Ministry of Labour and the Ministry of Education the Graduate Training for Employment Scheme (GTES) to address the issue of skills mismatch.

Mr. Makoond co-chaired (2009-2011) the Steering Committee on the implementation of the Additional Stimulus Package (ASP) put into place in response to the global financial crisis. He co-chaired the Restructuring Working Group (2012-2014), a mechanism set up by the Ministry of Finance to support companies in the context of the Euro zone crisis. Mr. Makoond chaired the Textile Emergency Support Team (TEST) between 2003 and 2005, set up in the context of the dismantling of the Multi Fibre Agreement. He chaired the Computer Proficiency Programme (CPP) (2005), a mass IT national training programme in the context of making Mauritius a cyber island.

Mr. Makoond holds a BA Honours in Economics and an MSc in Tourism Planning.

Ms. Yasmin CASSIMALLY
(Ag. Director of Statistics)

Ms. Yasmin Cassimally is currently the Ag. Director of Statistics Mauritius. She has a long standing experience at Statistics Mauritius in the field of official statistics, particularly with regard to prices, poverty, demography, gender, and housing and population census.

Ms. Cassimally is the Chairperson of the SDDS Technical Committee and a member of the Petroleum Pricing Committee.

She holds a Graduate Diploma in Statistics from the Royal Statistical Society (RSS) of UK and is Chartered Statistician of the RSS.
Mr. Padassery Kuriakose KURIACHEN
(co-opted member, Ag. Chief Executive of Financial Services Commission)

Mr. P. K. Kuriachen is the Acting Chief Executive of the Financial Services Commission (FSC), Mauritius. He joined the Commission in 2013 and is on secondment to FSC Mauritius from the Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI).

Prior to joining SEBI in 1993, he worked in the banking sector for some 19 years. He was previously on secondment at the Commission from 2008 to 2010, whereby he headed the Capital Markets Cluster.

He holds a Diploma in Business Management, MCom, CAIIB and CFA.
Meetings of the Board

The Act stipulates that the Board shall meet at least once every quarter. The Board met nine times in 2016. The dates of the meetings and attendance of members are given in Table 1.

During 2016, the Board, amongst others

(i) approved the 2017 Census and Survey Plan of SM, and the related questionnaires;

(ii) coordinated activities related to the sustainability of the adherence to the Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS) of the IMF and upgrading to SDDS Plus;

(iii) provided guidance for the implementation of the recommendations contained in the two reports submitted by the Committee on Labour Statistics and Committee on Tourism Statistics.

Funding of Board

The expenditure of the Board in 2016 was around MUR 2.2 million, comprising mostly fees to members and Committees of Board.

Board Secretariat

SM provided secretariat services and other facilities to the Board through Mr. M. Dawoonauth, Senior Statistician and Ms. R. Soborun, Statistician.
## Table 1: Statistics Board - Meetings and attendance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Board members</th>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Date of Meetings and Attendance</th>
<th>Meetings attended</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Note: X = absent; ✓ = present

1 New member of Board
2 Co-opted member of Board since June 2015
ACTIVITIES OF THE BOARD
Activities of the Board

(A) Approval of census and survey plan for 2017 and related questionnaires

Section 10 of the Act stipulates that, on the recommendation of the Board, the Director can collect statistical information relating to any matters set out in the Act, except the Population Census. In addition, the frequency of the data collection and the particulars and information to be collected are subject to the approval of the Board.

In 2016, the Board approved the 2017 census and survey plan. It also gave its approval to the particulars and information collected at the:

• 2017 Continuous Multi-Purpose Household Survey
• 2017 Tourism Surveys, namely the Survey of Inbound Visitors, the Survey on Outbound Tourism and the Survey of Domestic Tourism.
• 2017 Household Budget Survey (5 questionnaires)

The questionnaires of other regular surveys that were approved in the past were not subject to Board’s approval again, as no changes have been brought therein.

The census and survey plan for 2017 is given in Table 2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Surveys</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Continuous Multi-Purpose Household Survey</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Survey of Employment and Earnings in large establishments</td>
<td>Annual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Survey of Employment, Earnings and Hours of Work in large establishments</td>
<td>Quarterly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Capital Expenditure Survey</td>
<td>Annual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Receipt and Expenditure Survey</td>
<td>Quarterly and Annual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Sugar Industry Statistics</td>
<td>Annual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Sugar Industry Energy and Water Survey</td>
<td>Annual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Survey of Inbound Visitors</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Survey of Domestic Tourism</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Household Budget Survey</td>
<td>Every 5 years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(B) Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS) Plus of the International Monetary Fund (IMF)

In 2013, Mauritian Authorities expressed their interest to adhere to SDDS Plus but no commitment has yet been taken. In this context, the Board is continuously monitoring the activities and providing necessary guidance to producers of Official Statistics to ensure adherence to SDDS Plus in the medium term. The activities linked to this are monitored on a regular basis by the SDDS Coordination Committee chaired by the Deputy Financial Secretary. The SDDS Plus includes all requirements of SDDS and in addition the country adhering to the standard needs to meet the requirements of 9 additional data categories. An action plan with timelines has been prepared.
The work in progress on SDDS Plus for the additional 9 data categories as at December 2016 is given in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data Categories of SDDS Plus</th>
<th>Work in progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Sectoral Financial Balance sheet</strong>&lt;br&gt;Publish Quarterly Financial Assets and Liabilities by institutional sectors (Financial and Non-Financial Corporations, Household, General Government and Rest of the World) on a quarterly basis</td>
<td>IMF provided Technical Assistance (TA) to SM in April 2016. The compilation of the sectoral balance sheet depends on the IMF Monetary and Financial Statistics Survey (MFS) done by BOM/FSC. In addition data from Public Finance and SEM will be used.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2. General Government Operations</strong>&lt;br&gt;Publish Quarterly Statement of Government Operations according to Government Statistics Manual (GFS2001)</td>
<td>Survey among Extra Budgetary Units (EBUs) and Local Authorities has been completed for Quarter 1 2016. The survey for Q2 and Q3 has been launched.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3. General government, total gross debt</strong>&lt;br&gt;Publish Quarterly total debt by instrument, currency and residence of creditor</td>
<td>Data for Government is available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4. Other financial corporations survey (OFCS)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Publish Quarterly Assets and Liabilities of Financial Corporations</td>
<td>The IMF MFS survey for Q1, Q2 and Q3 2016 has been completed. The survey for Q4 2016 has been launched.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5. Financial Soundness Indicators</strong>&lt;br&gt;Publish the following on a quarterly basis:&lt;br&gt;- Regulatory Tier 1 capital to risk-weighted assets&lt;br&gt;- Regulatory Tier 1 capital to assets&lt;br&gt;- Nonperforming loans net of provisions to capital&lt;br&gt;- Nonperforming loans to total gross loans&lt;br&gt;- Return on assets&lt;br&gt;- Liquid assets to short-term liabilities&lt;br&gt;- Residential real estate prices</td>
<td>The first six components have been completed by BoM. Regarding the Residential Real Estate prices, SM has compiled the Residential Property Price Index (RPPI) based on data from the Valuation Roll. The results will be assessed by an IMF TA mission in March 2017.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6. Debt Securities</strong>&lt;br&gt;Publish Quarterly Stock of Securities by Currency</td>
<td>Data for the Government sector and for the banking sector are already published on the website of MOFED and BOM respectively. Work in progress with regard to data on the Financial Services Sector.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7. Coordinated Portfolio Investment Survey (CPIS)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Collect and submit data on an annual basis and submit to IMF</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8. Coordinated Direct Investment Survey (CDIS)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Collect and submit data on an annual basis and submit to IMF</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>9. Currency Composition of Foreign Exchange Reserves (COFER)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Collect and submit data on a quarterly basis and submit to IMF</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(C) Implementation of recommendations of Committee on Labour Statistics

The objective of the Committee was to assess the labour statistics produced by SM and come up with recommendations with a view to improving these statistics for the benefit of all users.

The main recommendations and status as at December 2016 are given in table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommendations</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recommendation 1: SM to improve the results of CMPHS</td>
<td>Technical Assistance from ILO received in June 2016. Some recommendations of ILO such as establishment of a Data Management Unit at SM, giving in-house training in CSPro, moving from paper based interview to CAPI, etc are being implemented, others would need further assistance from ILO.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommendation 2: SM to conduct a Labour Force sample Survey in 2016</td>
<td>Not recommended by ILO Consultant. Result from a LFS will not be much different from the CMPHS ones.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommendation 3: SM to request for ILO’s Technical Assistance to advise on the conduct of the Labour Force Sample Survey</td>
<td>Technical Assistance from ILO received in June 2016. Some recommendations are being implemented and some would need further assistance from ILO.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommendation 4: SM to align definitions used with international recommendations</td>
<td>Partly done (absence from work without pay and contributing family worker). Full implementation of 19th ICLS resolutions will be done with the assistance from the ILO expert. Another ILO mission focused on training ICLS expected in August 2017.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommendation 5: SM to improve statistics on foreign labour</td>
<td>Need Technical Assistance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommendation 6: SM to compile statistics for the list of indicators recommended by the committee</td>
<td>Following ILO mission at SM in June 2016, the ILO Consultant concluded that most of the key indicators on labour market requested by the users and the Committee on labour statistics may be computed and disseminated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommendation 7: SM to make optimum use of statistics from different sources and strengthen working collaboration with other departments</td>
<td>Data from administrative sources such as Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Social Security, Ministry of Industry are used by SM.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommendation 8: SM to make optimum use of all data sources, both within and outside SM, for the reconciliation and production of comprehensive and coherent best estimates</td>
<td>Data from administrative sources and from other units of SM (Labour Unit and Public Finance) are used to reconcile and produce comprehensive and coherent estimates.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommendation 9: SM to satisfy users’ interests and needs</td>
<td>Requirements of users have been gathered by SM during users’ interests meetings.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the implementation of the recommendations a High Level Technical Working Group was set up in 2016. The TOR of the working group was as follows:

- take stock of data needs and availability of each organisation;
- come up with a list of Labour Market Indicators (LMIs) needed to inform policy decision,
- determine the level of disaggregation, coverage, periodicity and timeliness for each LMI, and
- recommend the most appropriate data source for compiling the LMI and propose changes, if any, to the current data collections.
(D) Implementation of recommendations of Committee on Tourism Statistics

The objective of the Committee was to come up with recommendations on how to improve the System of Tourism Statistics to make it more relevant to users’ needs in the light of the challenges facing the sector.

The main recommendations and status as at December 2016 are given in table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommendation</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recommendation 1: Tourism statistics should capture the whole hospitality sector and include establishments of all sizes from both the hotel and non-hotel sector as well as related informal activities.</td>
<td>Tourism Authority is expected to move/its licence application/renewal online. This will help in generating the required statistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommendation 2: Statistics on flights and cruise ships should be produced</td>
<td>Data quality assessment for air seat capacity for year 2015 has been completed. Work in progress to address discrepancies, mainly on transit passengers between the data sources.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Recommendation 3: Statistics on tourist arrivals should be disseminated in such a way as to allow users to better assess results of market diversification strategies and broadened tourist product portfolios | (a) Tourist arrivals covering a wider range of countries are published.  
(b) Tourist arrivals by air and by main port of last embarkation for selected markets are published.  
(c) More detailed info on purpose of travel is being collected in the SIOT 2016. |
| Recommendation 4: The methodology of compiling tourism earnings should be reviewed | Questions included in SIOT 2016 to collect information on earnings which may not transit through banks. |
| Recommendation 5: There should be more coherence between statistics based on tourism surveys and data from the Passport and Immigration Office (PIO) | Done |
| Recommendation 6: Timeliness and data presentation should be improved         | Done |

(E) Setting of Committees

In 2016, the Board set up three Committees namely:

- Committee on Infrastructure Statistics;
- Committee on Financial Sector Statistics; and
- Committee on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

(i) Committee on Infrastructure Statistics

The aim of the Committee was to recommend a list of indicators on Infrastructure for informing policy decisions.

Terms of Reference

The Committee will:

(i) Determine the needs for statistics on Infrastructure taking into consideration national priorities, regional and international commitments;

(ii) Translate the needs into a list of indicators, including coverage, timeliness and periodicity;

(iii) Identify the data sources for each indicator, and make proposals to fill the data gaps, if any;
Submit a report summarizing the main findings of the above exercises including recommendations on a list of indicators on infrastructure to be developed and disseminated.

The Committee was chaired by Mr Deepuk Bahadoor, Deputy Director of SM and the list of members of this Committee is found on page 23.

(ii) Committee on Financial Sector Statistics

The objective of the Government is to reinforce the Financial Sector as one of the pillars of the economy. There is need to expand the set of existing indicators to better support evidence-based policy formulation and monitoring. Both the contribution of the Financial Sector to the Balance of Payments and GDP, and its linkages with the global financial services are to be strengthened.

Terms of Reference

The Committee will:

(i) Set out the additional data needs in relation to the financial sector and to various macroeconomic indicators identified;

(ii) Take stock of data available for the financial sector, and determine to what extent they can be used for satisfying the data needs as mentioned above;

(iii) Identify data/indicator gaps and make relevant recommendations thereon; and

(iv) Recommend a list of statistics/indicators to be regularly published for the financial sector together with their data sources.

The Committee on Financial Sector Statistics was chaired by Mr Raj Makoond, Chief Executive Officer of Business Mauritius. The composition of this Committee is given at page 24.

(iii) Committee on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

In September 2015, 193 Member States, including Mauritius, adopted the UN’s SDGs to end all forms of poverty, fight inequalities and tackle climate change by 2030. The Agenda comprises 17 Goals, 169 Targets and 229 Indicators. This entails collection of data from various sources to compile timely and reliable indicators for tracking progress towards the Goals.

Terms of Reference

The Committee will:

(i) Examine the adaptability of the SDG indicators put forward by the UN to the local context and come up with a list of indicators taking into consideration national priorities and policies;

(ii) Advise on the level of disaggregation (e.g. region, sex and age group) and the data sources for each indicator;

(iii) Advise on additional expertise needed; and

(iv) Recommend the institutional arrangements/coordination mechanism to put in place for efficient data sharing procedures among national data producers and stakeholders.

The Committee is chaired by Ms S. F Cheung Tung Shing, Deputy Director of SM. The composition of the Committee is found on page 25.

(F) Statistics on Rodrigues

In September 2014, the Statistics Board requested SM to look into the possibility of improving the quality of available statistics for Rodrigues and also start the compilation of additional indicators relevant for policy makers.

In this context, two missions were fielded in Rodrigues, one in 2015 and another one in 2016. A working group was set up at the Agricultural Services Department to ensure that relevant tasks are undertaken to produce reliable estimates of annual agricultural production. It was agreed that necessary guidance/assistance on methodological issues would be provided by SM as and when required.

The Statistics Unit (SU) in Rodrigues started a ‘Receipts and Expenditure Survey’ among large establishments in manufacturing and services sectors and collected data for 2014 and 2015.
On this basis, estimates of value added of the different sectors of the Rodrigues economy have been produced.

(G) Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Mauritius

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that sets out the framework for cooperation between Statistics Mauritius (SM) and University of Mauritius (UOM) was signed on 27 October 2017. This MOU relates, among others, to the sharing/redistribution of information under conditions of confidentiality to UOM researchers/students and training of SM staff.

(H) Celebration of the 2016 African Statistics Day (ASD) themed ‘Strengthening economic statistics for regional integration, structural transformation and sustainable development’

To mark this event, SM organized a half-day workshop on 18 November 2016 at Labourdonnais Waterfront Hotel, Port Louis. Representatives of Ministries/Departments and the private sector as well as those of regional and international organisations (UNDP, Afritac South, World Bank, etc.) participated in the workshop. Presentations were given on ‘Strengthening Economic Statistics in Southern Africa by Afritac South, ‘Structural Transformation of the Mauritian Economy, Ocean Economy and Statistics for Sustainable Economic Development’ by SM, and ‘Economic Statistics for Regional Integration’ by the Bank of Mauritius.
The Way Forward

In addition to the continuation of past initiatives, the Board would like to provide the necessary support on the following:

(i) **SDDS Plus**

Mauritian Authorities have expressed their interest in adhering to the new IMF Data Dissemination Standard, the SDDS Plus but no firm commitment has been taken yet. The Committee will monitor progress on each of its constituent nine data categories.

(ii) **The National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS)**

For all modern Statistical Offices, there is a need to have an up-to-date NSDS to cater for the demand of users and also to set up a platform for data sharing and harmonisation of concepts and definitions. Statistics Mauritius has initiated this exercise with support from the Board.

(iii) **Statistics on Quality of life**

In 2012, the Committee on QoL, set up by the Statistics Board, put forward recommendations for the development of QoL statistics relevant to Mauritius, the main ones being:

a. Construct a database of QoL and Sustainable Development indicators based on existing data. This has already been completed and is regularly updated.

b. Set up the System of Economic Environment Accounting (SEEA). Work has already started and is in progress.

c. Measurement of QoL statistics relevant to Mauritius. This has not been completed. Statistics Mauritius will be conducting a Living Condition Survey in 2018 where information on time use and quality of life will be collected.

(iv) **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**

Work on SDGs started in 2016 with the setting up of a Committee under the Statistics Board. Based on available data, 127 indicators (out of 229 put forward by the UN) have been compiled and published on SM website in April 2017. Work is in progress for the remaining indicators.

(v) **Financial Sector Statistics**

The aim of government is to reinforce the Financial Sector as one of the pillars of the economy.

In this context, a Committee was set up under the Statistics Board to assess the demand for statistics to monitor the financial sector. The Committee looked mainly at the contribution of the Global Business Companies in the Mauritian Economy. Other components of the Financial Sector need to be looked into.

(vi) **Development of Register Based Population Statistics**

The possibility of producing demographic and social statistics based on administrative registers & data will be looked into.

(vii) **Trade in Services (TIS)**

Statistics on Trade in Services will be compiled to inform policy decisions.
### ANNEX

#### A. Committee on Infrastructure Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Designation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Mr D. BAHADOOR</td>
<td>Statistics Mauritius</td>
<td>Deputy Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Mr S. JEEWON</td>
<td>Traffic Management &amp; Road Safety Unit (TMRSU)</td>
<td>Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Ms. P.L.S.K. TOOFANY</td>
<td>Min of Tourism and External Communication, Tourism Division</td>
<td>Tourism Planner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Mr M. LUCHOOMUN</td>
<td>Mauritius Ports Authority</td>
<td>Marketing Executive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Ms S. SOOKRAZ</td>
<td>Central Electricity Board</td>
<td>Environmental Affairs Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Ms. S. APPANAH</td>
<td>Ministry of Finance and Economic Development</td>
<td>Lead Analyst</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Mr D. VYTHILINGA</td>
<td>National Computer Board</td>
<td>Business Analyst</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Mr V. HUREE</td>
<td>Airports of Mauritius Company Ltd (AML)</td>
<td>Head Technical Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Mr A. BEETUN</td>
<td>Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities</td>
<td>Ag. Chief Planner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Mr R. THOPLAN</td>
<td>University of Mauritius</td>
<td>Lecturer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Ms K. RUGHOOBEAR</td>
<td>Min of Tourism and External Communication, External Communication Division</td>
<td>Office Management Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Mr S. SUNDHOO</td>
<td>Min of Local Government</td>
<td>Assistant Inspector</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Mr M. KARIMBOCUS</td>
<td>Air Traffic management, Dept of Civil Aviation</td>
<td>Chief Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Secretariat</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>14 Mr Anirood Bundhoo</td>
<td>Statistics Mauritius</td>
<td>Statistician</td>
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## ANNEX

### B. Committee on Financial Sector Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organisation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Mr Raj MAKOOND (Chairperson)</td>
<td>Business Mauritius</td>
<td>Chief Executive Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Ms Yasmin CASSIMALLY</td>
<td>Statistics Mauritius</td>
<td>Ag. Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Mr Jitendra N BISSESSUR</td>
<td>Bank of Mauritius</td>
<td>Assistant Director, Research &amp; Economic Analysis Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Mr Deerajen RAMASAWMY</td>
<td>Financial Services Commission</td>
<td>Head, Financial Stability, Economic Research &amp; Statistics,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Mr Harvesh SEEGOOLAM</td>
<td>Financial Services Promotion Agency</td>
<td>Chief Executive Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Mr Ramanaidoo SOKAPPADU</td>
<td>Ministry of Finance and Economic Development</td>
<td>Assistant Director, Financial Sector and Manpower Development</td>
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**Secretariat**

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>10 Ms Gangamah Appadu</td>
<td>Statistics Mauritius</td>
<td>Principal Statistician</td>
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</table>
### Annex C. Committee on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Ms S.F. CHEUNG TUNG SHING (Chairperson)</td>
<td>Statistics Mauritius</td>
<td>Ag. Deputy Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Ms. K. UPADHYAYE</td>
<td>Strategic Policy and Planning Department</td>
<td>Lead Strategic Policy and Planning Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Ms. S. RAMPROSAND</td>
<td>Ministry of Finance and Economic Development</td>
<td>Analyst/Senior Analyst</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Mr. D. KAWOL</td>
<td>Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity, and Reforms Institutions</td>
<td>Deputy Permanent Secretary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Mr. R. APPASAMY</td>
<td>Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations, Employment and Training</td>
<td>Principal Labour and Relation Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Ms. M. OUTIM</td>
<td>Ministry of Environment, Sustainable Development, Beach and Disaster Management</td>
<td>Environment Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Mr. Y. CADER</td>
<td>Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Consumer Protection</td>
<td>Assistant to Head</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Ms. V. MOOTOOSAMY</td>
<td>Ministry of Health and Quality of Life</td>
<td>Health Statistician</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Mr. Nitin C. RAMSAHAYE</td>
<td>Ministry of Housing and Lands</td>
<td>Senior Town and Country Planning Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. Mr. K. CHIKHORI</td>
<td>Ministry of Agro Industry and Food Security</td>
<td>Senior Agricultural Policy and Programme Development Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>12. Mr. N. SEEOOOCHURN</td>
<td>Ministry of Social Integration and Economic Empowerment</td>
<td>Assistant Permanent Secretary</td>
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<tr>
<td>14. Mr. J.P. LUCHMUN</td>
<td>Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries, Shipping and Outer Islands</td>
<td>Scientific Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Ms. B. CANDASSAMY</td>
<td>Ministry of Public Infrastructure and Land Transport</td>
<td>Lead Architect, Architect Section</td>
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<tr>
<td>16. Mr. A. BEETUN</td>
<td>Ministry of Energy &amp; Public Utilities</td>
<td>Ag. Chief Planner</td>
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<td>17. Ms. D. HARNARAN</td>
<td>Traffic Management and Road Safety Unit</td>
<td>Senior Transport Planning Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>18. Mr. G. BEEGOO</td>
<td>Bank of Mauritius</td>
<td>Analyst</td>
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<tr>
<td>19. Mr. M. BHURUTH</td>
<td>University of Mauritius</td>
<td>Dean</td>
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<tr>
<td>20. Ms Chandranee Rughoobur</td>
<td>Statistics Mauritius</td>
<td>Statistician</td>
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