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UNITED NATIONS **NATIONS UNIES**

WORLD STATISTICS DAY
20 October 2025

Remarks
Mr. Shantanu Mukherjee
Acting Director, Statistics Division
Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Dear Chief Statisticians, Dear Colleagues,

I warmly invite you to join the global celebration of **World Statistics Day** on **20 October 2025.**

Celebrated every five years, this day recognizes the vital role of official statistics in informing decisions at all levels — from governments to individuals.

This year's theme, **"Quality statistics and data for everyone**,**"** reflects our shared commitment to producing and sharing high-quality, timely, and trusted data.

At the heart of this mission are the **national statistical offices**.

You are the backbone of our statistical systems — upholding professional standards, ensuring data quality, and delivering evidence that informs national and global action.

You translate complex realities into meaningful numbers, provide continuity amid change, and safeguard the integrity of data.

Since the endorsement of the **Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics** by the United Nations General Assembly in 2014, our community has made great strides in upholding relevance, impartiality, scientific rigour, and transparency.

These principles, along with legal frameworks and quality assurance systems, underpin the integrity of official statistics.

Alongside you, we, too, will be observing World Statistics Day.

At the global level, the commemoration will feature a 24-hour webinar marathon, moving across time zones, showcasing the work of national, regional, and international statistical systems.

During the marathon, we will spotlight innovations across the statistical landscape — from the integration of new data sources and AI, to advances in methods that help us measure today's complex realities, including inequality, climate change, and the digital economy.

We will also hear about efforts to expand data access and usability, ensuring no one is left behind.

Dear Colleagues,

Official statistics are a public good — essential, but not without cost.

I thank governments and partners for their support and call for **continued investment** in the statistical infrastructure.

As we modernize, we must also build robust **data governance frameworks** to enable greater use of administrative and alternative data sources.

At the same time, traditional tools like censuses and surveys remain indispensable, where we continue to need active engagement from the people we serve.

Two major global frameworks, both adopted earlier this year by the Statistical Commission, reflect our continuing journey:

- The **2025 System of National Accounts**, updated to reflect the realities of globalization and digitalization, ensuring comparability and relevance in economic statistics.

- The **2030 World Population and Housing Census Programme**, which will yield essential disaggregated data for policy, planning, and monitoring of well-being.

I thank all national statistical offices, regional and international partners, and users for contributing to World Statistics Day.

Let us use this occasion to reaffirm our collective mission: delivering high-quality statistics to serve everyone, everywhere.