

## **World Statistics Day 2025 celebration**

**Theme: "Quality Statistics and Data for Everyone"**

### **Speech of Li Fa Cheung Kai Suet- Chairperson of Statistics Board**

Dr. the Hon. Avinash Ramtohul, Minister of Information Technology,  
Communication, and Innovation,

Honorable Dhaneshwar Damry, Junior Minister of Finance,

Her Excellency, Ms Lisa Simrique Singh, UN Resident Coordinator,

Mrs Alka Bhatia, UNDP Resident Representative,

Members of the Statistics Board,

Colleagues,

Distinguished guests, all protocols observed

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning to you all,

It is with great pleasure, and a profound sense of responsibility, that I address you today, as the Chairperson of the Statistics Board, as we join together to celebrate the fourth World Statistics day.

Celebrated once every five years, this special occasion reminds us, of the indispensable role of official statistics, in shaping a better world – guiding decisions, from governments to the everyday choices of individuals.

Statistics are far more than numbers. They are the mirror of our society, the language of sound policy, and the foundation of accountability.

Whether it is shaping public health responses; guiding economic development or recovery; monitoring progress on Sustainable Development Goals, and climate change policies; or ensuring inclusive and equitable education - quality statistics stand at the heart of every effective decision.

This year's theme - “***Quality Statistics and Data for Everyone***” - is both a call to action and a celebration of our shared vision - to produce, and share data, that are of high-quality, timely, and trusted by all.

It reaffirms our commitment, to the **UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics** - relevance, impartiality, scientific vigor and transparency – which underpin the integrity of official statistics, supported by sound legal frameworks and quality assurance systems.

As we mark this auspicious day, the Statistics Board renews its dedication to strengthening the national statistical system, to ensure the production of reliable data that meet the country's needs.

We will continue to champion the power of statistics, as a force for transparency, progress, and sustainable development for all.

**Together, we can build a future, where every decision is informed by trustworthy information; every policy guided by evidence; and every citizen empowered by knowledge.**

At the global level, the World Statistics Day was celebrated two days ago on 20 October, through a 24-hour webinar marathon, showcasing innovations from across the world — from the use of new data sources, big data and artificial intelligence, to advances that help us measure today's complex realities.

Here in Mauritius, Statistics Mauritius too has much to celebrate.

The last World Statistics Day in 2020 took place amidst the Covid-19 pandemic, a period that disrupted the operations of Statistics Mauritius, at a time when high-quality timely data were most needed, to inform critical interventions for economic recovery and to address the long-term impact of the pandemic.

The need to develop and implement an e-strategy, to modernize operations and ensure business continuity during crisis, disasters and pandemic - became evident.

Today, we can only commend Statistics Mauritius, for developing its e-business strategy with UNDP support, and for launching the **MAUSTAT platform** – **a major step toward modernization.**

Allow me to highlight, just a few major achievements accomplished by Statistics Mauritius, since the last World Statistics Day:

- Development of the National Strategy for Official Statistics, 2020 – 2025
- Use of infographics and social media to improve access to statistics, thus increasing data uptake by different user groups
- Conduct of major censuses and surveys, namely the Housing and Population Census, the Census of Agriculture and the Household Budget Survey
- Update of the Consumer Price Index basket
- Update of Poverty analysis
- Update of National Accounts taking into account the offshore sector.

As we look ahead, the vision of ‘**Quality statistics and data for everyone**’ remains our guiding light. As articulated by the Director, focus will be on:

- Enhancing quality through modern standards, methods and technology;
- Improving accessibility and usability of statistics;
- Building data literacy for all, and
- Upholding the highest standards of data ethics and privacy

We note that the objectives and related strategic orientations identified in the National Strategy for the Development of Official Statistics (NSOS) 2020-2025 remain highly relevant to realizing this vision. However, some targeted adjustment - **focusing on key priorities and actions, including the use of new data sources, big data and artificial intelligence**, for the coming years – would be beneficial.

Before closing, I wish to acknowledge the many unsung heroes behind the numbers — our dedicated staff, data collectors, and partners. Your professionalism and commitment ensure the integrity of our national data.

**Today, we celebrate you.**

Let us remember: data is not just about numbers - **they are about people**. And quality statistics are not just tools – **they are a public good, essential for democracy, development, and dignity**.

Let us continue working together to make data **more inclusive, more transparent, and more powerful** – for everyone.

Thank you, and happy World Statistics Day!

21 October 2025