

DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION

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Venue: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

MEDIA ADVISORY.

Commemoration of the African Statistics Day and launch of the 2020 Yearbook on African Trade Statistics.

What: The African Statistics Day is celebrated every year on the 18th of November to intensify the development of statistics in Africa. The day will be marked under the 2020 theme- "Modernizing National Statistical Systems to Support Sustainable Peace and Development in Africa."

When: 18 November 2020, 1000 hours EAT.

Where: A virtual event. To participate register here-
<https://zoom.us/j/91593593571?pwd=aTZudmRYL0dGN3NXcXVhMytJWG5iUT09>

Who: Led by the African Union Commission Department for Economic Affairs, the commemoration will bring together all Directors General of National Statistics Offices of AU Member States or their representatives, representatives of regional economic communities, civil society, the private sector, other stakeholders and representatives of organizations, partners.

Background

As every year, the African statistical community will again celebrate November 18, 2020, African Statistics Day. This day will allow actors of the African statistical system to take a very critical look at the development and harmonization of statistics in Africa. This year's theme is "Modernizing National Statistical Systems to Support Sustainable Peace and Development in Africa", as is the African Union 2020 theme "Silencing the arms: creating conditions conducive to Africa's development.

The African Union Institute for Statistics (STATAFRIC) which is the African Union's specialized agency for the development and harmonization of statistics on the continent, with its mandate to regularize statistical activity on the continent, wants to mark with a particular cachet the celebration of Statistics Day for the year 2020. STATAFRIC will organize a series of events during this day to discuss the challenges of the implementation of the strategy of harmonization of statistics, the financing of

statistical activity on the continent and also the use of statistics in planning and monitoring and evaluation in Africa.

During the event, the third edition of the African Trade Statistics Yearbook, will be launched. Harmonized and high-quality trade statistics data are very important to support trade negotiations. There is a need to get comprehensive, detailed and reliable statistics on merchandise trade in African Union especially with the launch of the African Continental Free Trade Area. Moreover, detailed Intra and Extra African Union trade statistics are needed to evaluate the effectiveness of the measures taken by African leaders to boost Intra African trade, which have a high impact for the economic development of the continent.

For more details, visit [African Statistics Day](#).

For further information please contact:

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