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Suriname Formally Begins Participation in the IMF's General Data Dissemination System

Suriname has begun participating in the International Monetary Fund's General Data Dissemination System (GDDS), marking a major step forward in the development of the country's statistical system. Comprehensive information on its statistical production and dissemination practices was published on the IMF's Dissemination Standards Bulletin Board (<http://dsbb.imf.org/Applications/web/gdds/gddshome/>) starting on June 10, 2004.

Mr. Iwan A. Sno, Director of Suriname's General Bureau of Statistics and the GDDS Coordinator for Suriname, said, "The GDDS represents Mainstream Statistical Practices in the majority of the world. Suriname is proud to announce its participation in the GDDS, as well as the commitment of an important part of its National Statistical System (i.e., General Bureau of Statistics, Central Bank, and Ministry of Finance) to conduct statistical activities in accordance with international guidelines for the production and dissemination of official statistics, and hence to strive for continuous improvement of the quality of its official statistics."

"Suriname had reached a milestone that should allow the country to take full advantage of the GDDS as a framework for the development of its national system for the production and dissemination of economic, financial, and socio-demographic data," Mrs. Carol S. Carson, Director of the IMF's Statistics Department, said.

The GDDS, established by the IMF in 1997, provides a framework to assist IMF member countries to develop their statistical systems with the objective of producing comprehensive and accurate statistics for policy making and analysis. It addresses the quality and the dissemination of data. In addition, the IMF's website shows Suriname's plans for improvement in its statistics and the related technical assistance needs. This information provides the international community with a useful framework to develop and coordinate technical cooperation projects in Suriname.