

**REMARKS BY**

**The Government Statistician  
on the Occasion of  
The Signing of the Record Of Discussions  
Between  
The Republic Of Korea  
and  
The Government of Ghana  
on the Project for Enhancement of the Capacity Of  
The Ghana Statistical Service (GSS)**

**AT THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC PLANNING CONFERENCE  
ROOM, ACCRA ON FRIDAY, 6<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2011 AT 10 AM**

The Ghana Statistical Service, has for several years now, with the support of the Government of Ghana and some Development Partners, worked systematically towards strengthening the statistical base for the national policy framework and the nation's development agenda. These efforts have led to a number of initiatives, the most significant being the launch in November 2008, of the Ghana Statistics Development Plan (GSDP) and the Ghana Statistical Service Corporate Plan (programmed from 2009 to 2013)

These strategic plans have offered us the necessary opportunity to address some perennial weaknesses in the statistical system nationwide. Given the changing economic landscape of the country, there is the need to ensure that those who need statistical information such as government, businesses, investors (both current and prospective), and the public at large, are assured of timely and relevant information. The goal of the strategic plans is therefore to make basic data routinely available, and to respond promptly to new and emerging statistical needs.

In the next three years the Ghana Statistical Service, together with its partner data producing agencies—Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), as well as Metropolitan, Municipal, and District Assemblies (MMDAs)—will be working towards strengthening the statistical infrastructure, building institutional capacities, conducting critical data collection activities, and setting up the mechanisms to disseminate widely the information within the national statistical system. All of these require institutional reform.

One of the areas we have had appreciable improvements in is economic statistics. In this regard, I am pleased to announce that we will be launching next week the quarterly national accounts, when we release the CPI and inflation figures.

The Support we shall be receiving from the Government of the Republic of Korea is in line with the strategies outlined in the Statistical Service Corporate Plan, which seeks to strengthen the capacity of GSS to produce policy-oriented statistics and indicators through improvement in institutional framework, statistical infrastructure and strategic management.

It fits very well into our programmed objectives, and complements the assistance we are receiving from other development partners for the GSDP. With the special emphasis on building institutional capacity, the training and exchange programme will develop the capacity of GSS to

administer training and technical direction in the production of statistics within the wider statistical system at the national, regional and district levels. The training programme is expected to cover our core areas of programming:

- (1) Survey methods and practices
- (2) Economic, industrial and production statistics
- (3) Social, vital statistics and population projection
- (4) Information and IT applications in statistics production and dissemination.

We wish to express our deepest appreciation to KOICA and the Government of the Republic of Korea for this timely support. We trust that the transfer of knowledge and skills during the life of the project will be mutually beneficial.

Thank You.