

Neuchâtel, 18 to 20 October 2010

Press release

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Swiss Days of Official Statistics from 18 to 20 October in Neuchâtel

"Official Statistics in Transition"

Representatives of statistical offices in international organisations, the federal administration, cantons, cities, science and business will meet from 18 to 20 October to attend the Swiss Days of Official Statistics, which will be held at the "Haute Ecole Arc" in Neuchâtel. The main theme is "Official Statistics in Transition". The event is closely related to the 150th anniversary of the Federal Statistical Office (FSO), which will be marked with a jubilee celebration attended by Federal Councillor Didier Burkhalter and numerous personalities from the political and statistical world. The event also coincides with the first UN World Statistics Day on 20 October 2010.

The Days of Official Statistics are organised by the Swiss Statistical Society (SSS), the Federal Statistical Office (FSO) and the Swiss Conference of Regional Statistical Offices (CORSTAT). They provide a platform for nearly 200 participants from Switzerland and abroad to exchange of views.

The development, current status and future prospects of official statistics will be addressed in keynote speeches and workshops on 18 and 19 October. On 18 October, Federal Chancellor Corina Casanova will deliver a keynote speech on the theme of "No Policymaking without Statistics – Statistics in the Service of Democracy". Jürg Marti, Director of the Federal Statistical Office, will discuss the future prospects of official statistics under the title "Switzerland's Statistical System: Where Are We Headed?". The detailed programme is available at www.statoo.ch/jss10.

Furthermore, on 20 October 2010, numerous events will be held to celebrate the first UN World Statistics Day in the member states. A forum to measure progress will be held as part of the Swiss Days of Official Statistics. This will be an opportunity to take up the three issues of the Stiglitz report (economy, quality of life, environment). The forum will take stock of what official statistical offices are doing to measure progress in these three areas. Martine Durand (OECD) and Vincent Tronet (Eurostat) will speak from an international perspective about the requirements resulting from the report. Finally, Swiss statistics experts will present

Switzerland's status. A panel discussion on the requirements from the perspective of users will conclude the forum.

Information:

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