



**CBS STRATEGIC PLAN
WORKSHOP**

**Proceedings of the Workshop
held at the Kenya School of
Monetary Studies
On
13th March 2003**

Central Bureau of Statistics
*Ministry of Planning and
National Development*

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1. Background

There have been a number of recent developments in Kenya that make it inevitable that a Strategic Plan for CBS developed. In July 2000 Kenya adopted the Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRSP) and the Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) approach to policy formulation, planning and budgeting. A key requirement of the PRSP is that policy priorities agreed upon are regularly monitored and outcomes evaluated in order to track progress being made towards poverty reduction targets. Monitoring and evaluation, in turn, calls for timely and quality statistics.

Prior to this, several initiatives have been made aimed at supporting statistical capacity development in the country. In March 2000, the Ministerial Rationalisation Program recommended the need to strengthen CBS by considering making it a semi-autonomous Government agency. In February 2002 the Government conducted another study aimed at strengthening CBS operations both at the Headquarters and at the District offices.

At the international level, multilateral and bilateral donors have also set up several initiatives aimed at improving statistical services and strengthening capacity of national statistical systems in Africa. These initiatives include the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS 21) and the General Data Dissemination Standards (GDDS). GDDS project includes Meta data in five sectors namely: Fiscal, Public Finance, External, Monetary, and Socio-demography and plans for improvements of weak areas.

There has also been the global realization of the importance of developing effective and efficient national statistical systems that will produce good and timely statistics for measuring overall development progress, but more specifically in monitoring the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), trade, balance of payments and financial trends. These demands have imposed a huge burden on CBS, hence the need to strengthen the capacity and restructure CBS operations to be more focused in responding to both local and international statistical needs.

The World Bank undertook a mission to Kenya in March 2002 and stressed the urgent need for CBS to develop a Strategic Plan. The Plan could also be used to develop a partnership led by CBS with donors placing their funds into a common pool to support a planned and integrated CBS programme of work.

The Central Bureau of Statistics has been working on its five-year Strategic Plan over the past two and a half months. A revised draft Statistics Act has also been prepared. The workshop was part of a series of consultative meetings that have

been held to build consensus on a number of reforms initiatives currently under implementation.

2. Workshop Objectives

The main objectives of the workshop were:

- ❖ To disseminate the Strategic Plan and the Statistics Act
- ❖ Obtain views and comments from stakeholders
- ❖ Broaden the ownership of the two documents and chart the way forward

3. Opening Address

SPEECH DELIVERED BY THE MINISTER FOR PLANNING AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, HON. PROF. PETER ANYANG' NYONG'O, EGH, MP, DURING THE OPENING OF THE NATIONAL STAKEHOLDERS' WORKSHOP ON THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR CENTRAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS, 13TH MARCH, 2003, AT THE SCHOOL OF MONETARY STUDIES, NAIROBI

**Mr. Chairman,
The IMF Country Director,
The Representatives of the World Bank,
Representatives of the UN Agencies,
Representatives of Other Development Partners,
Members of Civil Society and Private Sector,
Distinguished guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you at this important Stakeholders' Workshop on Strategic Plan for the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS). Most of you are aware that this workshop is part of a series of consultative meetings that we have been holding since the 7th February 2002 to build consensus on a number of reform initiatives currently under implementation. For CBS the process of developing a five-year Strategic Plan started late last year and aims at coming up with medium to long-term plan to guide its operations.

Ladies and Gentlemen, some background is necessary before I address myself to the details of why we are here this afternoon. When the NARC government took office in January 2003, the immediate challenge was appropriate structures are put in place to enable the effective implementation of programs aimed at attaining economic recovery, job creation and empowerment of the people. My Ministry has embarked on defining a new strategic direction that takes account of NARC election promises, the poverty reduction strategy paper, the Government Action Plan, and the 9th Development Plan. We held an Economic Recovery for Job Creation Workshop held in Mombasa from 7th – 8th February 2003 and a National Stakeholders Workshop on PRSP Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting of the Millennium Development Goals in Kenya at the same venue from 10th – 12th March 2003.

It emerged from these two workshops and subsequent consultations that an economic recovery strategy paper that defines the strategic direction be completed, a strategic plan that specifies priorities over the next three years be

developed, and implementation, monitoring, and evaluation framework are being put in place as part of consolidating the consensus built from the Mombasa workshops. The integration of the social sector in the economic recovery program has been given full attention. Indeed, consensus building on including this sector's programs, obtaining the professionals views, and those of trade unions have been our focus over the last few days.

Besides the Ministry of Planning and National Development, actions are being taken in other sectors such as the implementation the free primary education and the reforms in roads and public works and the local authorities. To inform the process of implementation, information is critical in helping the government to stay on course and to proceed with some degree of precision. There are two facets to this: first, what information do we require and is there capacity to facilitate the production analysis and dissemination of such information. This brings me to NARC's elections promises on empowerment of the people, creation of 500,000 jobs a year, and giving equal opportunity through increased access to education and health services.

The big question is how can we make the economic recovery process evidence based and what role can CBS and other data producers play.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the National Statistics Master Plan defines the vision, mission and core values of a new CBS. It details statistical priority areas in the form of an operational work-plan and capacity building program. In short it will provide "a road map" for co-ordinated development of our national statistics and mechanism for harnessing resources for statistical development in the country. It constitutes a key pillar in the national Monitoring and Evaluation framework of the PRSP and economic recovery program.

The Government acknowledges the commitment that has been demonstrated in this process particularly producers and users of statistics and the development partners working with the Bureau. Your presence at this workshop is a further manifestation of the importance you attach to statistics and information in our country's development agenda.

The implementation of programs aimed at job creation, access to free primary education, and health services, expediency in the judiciary, among others will no doubt create new data demands. The CBS will therefore be expected to play a greater role than before in responding to the new challenges and opportunities in statistics requirements. The Bureau will also be required to develop standards, promote best practices and co-ordinate the entire National Statistical System (NSS). The NSS will ensure that quality statistics are produced and disseminated for better planning, policy formulation and programme design. In order to be

able to perform these functions it will be necessary for CBS to be strengthened through legislative and institutional capacity enhancement.

International initiatives including Partnership in Statistics Development in the 21st century (PARIS 21), and IMF-General Data Dissemination System (GDDS) project are expected to supplement national efforts to improve data quality and timeliness, boost statistics capacity development and raise the profile of statistics in the country.

Ladies and Gentlemen, during the previous regime, many studies were carried out on restructuring and strengthening the Bureau. IMF and World Bank missions to Kenya made several recommendations on how to strengthen the statistical capacity of CBS. Unfortunately, most of these recommendations remained unimplemented. They simply added to the list of unimplemented and uncompleted projects that never yielded any fruits to the tax payers.

As a result the organization and operational capacity of CBS remained weak and vulnerable. There was limited co-ordination and collaboration between data producers and users. The NARC government and my Ministry in particular recognizes the importance and role of quality data in our development initiatives and in tracking implementation of development programs. We are committed to adopting an integrated approach in development of national statistics leading to the design of national statistics master plan.

When we do all these, we do so because we want to reclaim the lost glory of CBS. During 1960s, there were comparatively few problems, as sufficient financial resources were made available for statistical activities. Between 1970 and 1985, the Bureau had established a reputation as a statistical organization delivering a wide variety of out-puts. However, this position changed in the latter half of 1980s due to inadequate resources, poor management, and expanding demands for data. I note with satisfaction that steps are already being taken to reverse the trend.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the economic down-turn experienced in the last few years and significant decline in the living standard of Kenyans has highlighted the necessity to have up-to- date statistics for the design, implementation and evaluation of economic recovery policies and to measure the impact on the poor. Specifically, monitoring and evaluation of the Poverty Reduction Strategy as well as monitoring our country's achievements in the attainment of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) calls for quality data. In addition, regional integration process requires comparable and harmonized statistics for macro-economic surveillance. These include monitoring our own commitment to good governance at the level of NEPAD.

Let me reiterate the government's commitment to improving statistics capacity in the country and that statistics produced are policy relevant and sufficiently funded. The changing structure of the economy occasioned by economic liberation and the globalization, and lessons learnt from previous efforts to improve Kenya's statistical operations, has led to a renewed focus on new initiatives. In particular, the attention has been shifted to strengthening the management of the Central Bureau of Statistics as one of the main ways of overcoming the challenges of statistical needs in the country.

This new focus will enable the Bureau adopt to the changes created about by the process of globalization and to respond to new demands by users of data. A sound Bureau and well co-ordinated National Statistical System will guarantee access of quality statistics to all users. The system similarly, will improve data dissemination, networking, information sharing and access.

The Government is aware that prudent management of the economy is not possible without quality statistics (accurate, consistent and timely) and no country can have quality statistics unless it has a well managed, properly staffed and well funded National Statistical Office. It is therefore the intention of my ministry to ensure a Semi-Autonomous Government Agency (SAGA) that is efficient, effective and responsive to users needs.

On behalf of the Government and my Ministry, I would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to development partners for their support towards development of statistical capacity in Kenya, Private sector and Kenyans on their role in national statistical system. I would like to particularly thank the Department for International Development (DFID) of the British Government and the World Bank for funding the design of the plan. I would also like to thank the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), for facilitating components of the Strategic Plan.

I would like to express our sincere appreciation to the consultants and all individuals who played a part in the design of the plan.

With these remarks it is now my pleasure and honour to declare this workshop officially opened.

4. Presentation of Papers and Remarks by Stakeholders

4.1 Paper Presentations

In the workshop, the papers were presented in two main themes namely:

Theme 1: Demand for statistical information in support of development and policies.

Theme 2: Presentation of the Strategic Plan for the CBS.

Theme 3: Way forward for the strategic plan and the new Statistics Act.

Following are the main issues emanating from the discussions in the plenary sessions after each topic.

4.2 PRSP and Data Requirements

Under theme 1, the paper presented was on monitoring the National Economic Recovery/Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper. The paper highlighted the information requirements for monitoring and evaluation and the challenges.

4.2.1 Issues that emerged from the presentation include:-

1. A baseline analysis to be done through a household labour survey to establish the current employment status.
2. A lot of discussion has been held on the PRSP and the public is keen on having it implemented.
3. There is need to marry the Economic Recovery Paper and the PRSP.
4. There is a need to prepare a logical framework detailing the output and indicators.
5. There is need to properly cost of activities and come up with a financing framework.
6. Monitoring and evaluation framework – the indicators of what data should be collected at the community level to monitor poverty need to be revisited.
7. There is need for a credible source of data for dissemination to avoid presentation of conflicting figures.
8. The monitoring of PRSP issues should be done at the community level and there should be a feedback of information to the community.
9. Implementation should be geared toward activities planned for the community.

10. Data collection capacity at the community level needs to be strengthened to ensure quality data.
11. Data collected should be demand driven and be disaggregated at all levels.
12. The issue of development of new products such as poverty maps was stressed.

4.3 Strategic Plan and the Statistics Act

Under theme 2, the consultants presented papers on:

- i) Process, vision, mission, core values, new profile for the BS strategy.
- ii) Work and capacity building programs.
- iii) Implementation, monitoring and evaluation

4.3.1 Issues that emerged from the presentation include:

1. The Statistics Act should include issues of archiving of data.
2. The idea of a one-stop shop was good but the information should be easily accessible in any part of the country (the case of ASAL districts was cited).
3. The CBS should play a pro-active role in availing data to users e.g. disseminating census data to local authorities and districts.
4. There is need for CBS to provide technical capacity to institutions to be able to interpret the data in order to use it effectively.
5. In the design of the sampling frame attention should be paid to the global trend where the urban/rural ratio is expected to pass the 50:50 mark.
6. Clarification should be made on how the proposed new Bureau intends to co-ordinate donors' activities. The Uganda experience where there is quarterly meetings on statistics and the approach being adopted by UN agencies were given as examples.
7. The CBS workplan should be achieved within a specific timeframe.
8. The plan should be able to look at the risks (both external and internal) for implementation.
9. There is need to have a five years rolling plan.
10. There is need to have an offsite database back-up to take care of disaster situations.
11. Domestic and distribution services survey should be included in the workplan.
12. Proposal was made to improve and strengthen the data capture of births and deaths instead of having censuses.
13. In the revised Act there is need to include crime statistics and data on corruption since security and governance are currently high priority for the government.

14. The committee of producers and users of data in the proposed Bureau needs to collaborate with committees of other data producers and users already established in the line ministries to take care of their needs.
15. There is need to have indicators on domestic tourism.
16. Rights of users should be addressed in the proposed new Act.
17. The mission statement should include disaggregation of data by gender. The gender issues should come out more strongly.
18. The new Act should be able to serve for a long time, hence the need to have it properly debated.

5. The Way Forward

- ❖ The director called upon those who had any comments on the Statistics Act to submit them immediately to enable finalization of the document
- ❖ Comments received during the workshop will be incorporated in the final version of the Strategic Plan by end of the month.
- ❖ The refined Statistics Act will be used as a basis to prepare a Cabinet Memorandum to brief the cabinet members and seek their approval.
- ❖ The draft Act will then be presented to parliament.
- ❖ A round table meeting with the budgetary department of the Ministry of Finance and the development partners to fund the priority activities/programs will be organized when final reports are completed.

In closing the workshop, the Permanent Secretary thanked the participants for the commitment and importance they attach to statistics. He assured the participants:

- ◆ That the Ministry is committed to ensuring that a robust Central Bureau of Statistics, that is, properly funded is in place;
- ◆ That the Ministry will ensure that CBS becomes Semi-Autonomous Government Agency;
- ◆ That the Strategic Plan and the new Statistics Act are effected.

6. Annexes

6.1 Workshop Programme

12.30 p.m.	Arrival and Registration of Participants
1.00 p.m.	Lunch
2.00 p.m.	<p><u>Opening Ceremony</u> Chairman: Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Planning and National Development</p> <p>Official Opening: Minister of Planning and National Development</p>
2.30 p.m.	<p>Theme 1: <u>Demand for Statistical Information in Support of Development and Policies</u></p> <p>Chairperson: Dr. Andrew Mullei Speaker: Ms. Monica Aoko -PRSP Secretariat</p> <p>Topic: Monitoring the National Economic Recovery/Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) – What are the Information Requirements for Monitoring and Evaluation and the Challenges.</p>
3.00 p.m.	Discussions
3.15 – 3.30	T E A B R E A K
3.30 – 4.15	<p>Theme 2: Presentation of the Strategic Plan for the CBS</p> <p>Chairperson: Mr. David Nalo, Director, CBS Speaker: Prof: Ben Kiregyera (Consultant) Topic: Process, Vision, Mission, Core Values, New Profile for the CBS Strategies.</p>
4.15 –4.45	<p>Speaker: Mr. Phillip Gachuki (Consultant) Topic: Work and Capacity Building Programs</p>
4.45 – 5.15	<p>Speaker: Prof. Ben Kiregyera (Consultant) Topic: Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation</p>
5.15 – 6.15	Discussions
6.15 – 6.30	<p>Agree on Next Steps Presenter: Mr. D. S. O. Nalo, Director CBS</p>
6.30 p.m.	Closing of the Workshop: Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Planning and National Development

5.2 List of Participants

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