

REMARKS BY THE ACTING STATISTICIAN

Ms Ketso Makhumalo

AT THE SIXTH AFRICA GENDER STATISTICS FORUM

AVANI, GABORONE, BOTSWANA

8 -12 JULY 2024

Director of ceremonies

Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Youth, Gender, Sports and Culture,
Ms Bridget John

The Representative of the United Nations Economic Commission for
Africa, Mr William Muhwava

Acting Executive Director, STATAFRIC-AUC, Ms Botho Kebabonye
Bayendi

Acting Head of Gender for SADC, Ms Phemelo Maiketso

Representative of the South African Multi Country Office, Ms Aleta
Miller

UN Women Zimbabwe Country Office, Ms Fatou Lo

UN Women Chief of Research and Data, Papa Seck

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen

1. It is a great pleasure to welcome you to the Gaborone, Botswana for the sixth Africa Gender Statistics Forum. As Botswana we feel honored to host a forum on such an important topic and magnitude.
2. The diversity of participation at this forum is a demonstration that Africa and the world take issue of gender and its related statistics with the seriousness that it deserves.
3. Modern planner and user needs disaggregated statistics to inform evidence based plans. It is equally imperative that our

policies, plans and interventions are sensitive to the intricacies that underpin gender differentials. This has put more pressure on statistical organizations to produce data and reports disaggregated by gender.

4. Botswana has just concluded and disseminated results of the 2022 Population and Housing Census. Our emphasis has been to bring out the gender dimension in most of the analyses to ensure that the reporting remains relevant to users. In addition to the Population and Housing Census, Statistics Botswana conducts household surveys which equally disaggregate data by sex and gender.
5. This forum brings together users, producers and experts in policy analysis and gender statistics across Africa to share the latest innovations and best practices related to gender statistics and engage in policy dialogues. The forum will create an opportunity to link gender statistics financing for accelerated progress towards the upcoming 4th International Conference on financing for development in 2025 as well as to follow up to the Addis Ababa action agenda.
6. The forum also aims to make better use of limited resources and time, through sharing best practices and developing common strategies to rationalise, harmonise and improve the measurement and use of gender statistics in Africa.

7. The forum will cover various areas of gender statistics including financing gender statistics; gender trade statistics; Africa gender index; gender and education statistics in Africa; and building a common agenda for gender statistics in Africa.
8. Director of ceremonies ladies and gentlemen, data collection is an inherently expensive endeavor. The expenses associated with collection of data have often times hampered the collection and analysis of real time data on gender.
9. I note, with satisfaction, that countries will hold short bilateral working sessions with UN Women Resource Mobilisation and partnership specialist to support their fund raising initiatives. This exercise will ensure that countries have near adequate resources for collection of gender statistics.
10. Statistics Botswana (SB) is collaborating with the National Statistical System (NSS) to help collect, finance, and analyze data according to best practices, including gender statistics. Statistics Botswana provides technical guidance for collection and analysis of such information. The gender disaggregation of statistics is also emphasized in administrative data.
11. With those few remarks, you are welcome to Botswana and Gaborone, relax and enjoy the rest of the week.

12. Thank you