

## MESSAGE FOR SIAP'S WEBSITE

**Subject: 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of SIAP**

It is a great pleasure for me to express on behalf of Eurostat our best wishes on the occasion of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of SIAP.

The achievement of this important event is certainly a precious opportunity for us to acknowledge and appreciate the significant contribution provided by SIAP over these years in promoting development in Asia and the Pacific through statistical training.

This is a period of increasing challenges for official statistics, which require prompt and innovative adaptations to the changing environment in which statistics are produced, with the objective of effectively facing these challenges, Eurostat is deeply committed in promoting and implementing a new vision modernising statistical production over the next decade. In this light, today statistical capacity building is fundamental and essential for any development policy based on sustainability.

SIAP has successfully supported developing countries in Asia and the Pacific to strengthen their statistical capacities in assessing progress towards development goals and facilitating policy-making. For this reason, its activities are of great interest for the international statistical cooperation that Eurostat carries out with the developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region, particularly in South-East Asia and Central Asia, which is inspired to principles similar to those governing the mandate of SIAP and which has a special emphasis on regional integration support programmes using the experience of the European Statistical System.

We sincerely wish every success to SIAP in continuing to play its fundamental role in statistical capacity building and look forward to exploring possible partnerships in several areas of common interest.



Walter Radermacher  
Director General of Eurostat