

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**

THE UNITED NATIONS BUILDING, RAJADAMNERN NOK AVENUE, BANGKOK 10200, THAILAND

TEL.: +66-2-2881653 FAX: +66-2-2881082 E-mail: stat.unescap@un.org www.unescap.org/stat/

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Dear Suren,

**Congratulatory Message on the Occasion of the
40th Anniversary of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP)**

SIAP is 40! For many reasons, this is indeed an occasion to celebrate and to express heartfelt congratulations!

SIAP has rendered a signal service to the training of official statisticians in the ESCAP region at every stage of its development. The past forty years have witnessed many changes in concepts, standards, methods and knowledge in the statistical world and SIAP can claim to have been a central force in preparing official statisticians to meet these advances. This unwavering commitment has brought SIAP to the stage where it now occupies a unique position as the only major training institute in the ESCAP region dedicated to improving the capabilities of official statisticians.

SIAP should be proud to have on its roster of alumni many of the key leaders and managers of national statistical offices in Asia and the Pacific. The improved statistical systems of small and large economies in the region over the years are testimony to the impact of the work of SIAP. With capacity development for national statistical systems at the heart of the statistics subprogramme of ESCAP, the tremendous efforts of SIAP to meet the increasingly diverse and complex training needs in Asia and the Pacific is laudable.

In congratulating SIAP on its achievements, the Statistics Division looks with anticipation to our continued and even more strengthened collaboration with you. We further hope that 10 years from now, we will be able to look back on and conclude that it was around this time that SIAP began to chart a new course and assumed greater responsibilities in leading the way in statistical training in the region. We value our close collaboration and look forward to enhancing coherence between your work and ours for the benefit of the statistical community and the people of the region.

We send you the wish that the next forty years may be no less successful than the first!

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'H. Fu'.

Haishan Fu
Director
Statistics Division

Ms. Davaasuren Chultemjamts
Director
Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific
JETRO-IDE Building
2-2 Wakaba 3-chome, Mihama-ku
Chiba-shi, Chiba 261-8787
Japan