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Nouméa 30 April 2010

Happy 40th anniversary to SIAP from SPC

The Director-General and staff of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) are honoured to join other organisations and stakeholders in congratulating the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP) on the 40th anniversary of its work in the statistics area for the Asia Pacific region.

On behalf of SPC's 22 member countries and territories in the Pacific Island region, many of which have benefited over the years from SIAP's assistance, we convey our sincere appreciation to SIAP for making a welcome and very tangible contribution to statistical capacity building in our region. We commend SIAP for its efforts in allowing hundreds of Pacific Island statisticians to participate in the many technical courses offered over the years. These courses have made a substantial contribution to the professional development of the region's statisticians and to their capacity to provide a better service to their countries.

SPC has enjoyed an excellent partnership with SIAP and through this partnership, SIAP's statistical services now reach more Pacific Island countries.

In particular, SPC wishes to acknowledge the Executive Director of UNESCAP, Ms Heyzer, for her continued commitment to supporting the development of Pacific Island countries, and the SIAP team for a job well done.

We look forward to continuing our fruitful collaboration with SIAP and indeed with UNESCAP in the future as we work as partners to serve the people of the Pacific.

Once again, congratulations on achieving an important milestone, your 40th anniversary, and best wishes for the future.

Dr. Jimmie Rodgers
Director-General
Secretariat of the Pacific Community