

United Nations  Nations Unies

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Fortieth Anniversary of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific

It gives me great pleasure to offer you my warmest congratulations on the fortieth anniversary of the Statistical Institute for Asian and the Pacific.

The occasion is one truly to be proud of as SIAP has played a significant role in promoting understanding and advancement of official statistics. The Institute and its dedicated staff serve as a model of how a regional center can make an effective contribution to building up a global statistical community by developing professional skills and establishing a vibrant network of government statisticians in the region and beyond. Forty years ago, the creation of this Institute reflected collective belief of 20 countries in Asia and the Pacific of the fundamental importance of official statistics and that it is an essential basis for development. This belief has now been extended to all countries in the region and fully reflected in the work of SIAP.

I would like to congratulate and express deep appreciation to the Government of Japan for its visionary thinking in supporting statistical capacity building thus contributing towards sustainable socioeconomic development in the region.

Having participated in SIAP activities in recent years, it is particularly gratifying to know that the Institute stands today at the forefront of our common goal of building sustainable national statistical capacity to produce reliable and timely statistics and indicators measuring countries' progress. SIAP is our strong partner and UNSD is firmly committed to support your ongoing efforts in improving statistical capacity and capability in the region. I look forward to future opportunities to collaborate with SIAP. One such opportunity will be the observance of the first World Statistics Day on 20 October 2010 when the world will celebrate the many contributions and achievements of official statistics.

I sincerely wish the management of SIAP and particularly its Director, Ms. Davaasuren Chultemjants and the entire staff every success in your future endeavors.

Yours sincerely,



Paul Cheung
Director
Statistics Division/DESA