

MESSAGE

By Dr. Romulo A. Virola
NSCB Secretary General

**For the 40th Anniversary of the
Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific**

On behalf of the Philippine Statistical System (PSS), the National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB) congratulates the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP) under the strong leadership of Director Davaasuren Chultemjamts as it marks its 40th year as the center for statistical training for the developing countries in Asia and the Pacific region.

The 40 years of SIAP attest to its pivotal role in the development of human resources and statistical capability of statistical systems in the region. During these years, the SIAP, through its Tokyo-Metropolitan Area (TMA)-based courses, outreach programmes, research-based training courses, and distance-training programmes, has helped significantly in strengthening the capability of its member countries' statistical human resource to collect, analyze and disseminate timely and high quality statistics that can be utilized for economic and social development planning.

We take this opportunity to thank the SIAP for its consistent support in statistical capacity development of the PSS. In return, we give the assurance that the PSS agencies will continuously collaborate with SIAP in its endeavors.

Congratulations again and more power to SIAP!