

**Congratulation Message on the Occasion
of the 40th Anniversary of SIAP**

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On the occasion of the 40th Anniversary of SIAP, I wish to offer my warmest congratulations to SIAP and to wish you many successes in the future. It has been many years since I attended my first course in 1978-1979 very soon after I joined Thai National Statistical Office. It was a most beneficial experience. Not only was I able to acquire useful technical skills, getting to know many new friends from the same career, I also learnt much about Japanese culture and society. During my first few months in Japan, everything was so interesting and exciting. It was a wonderful experience for me and yet built my inspiration towards pushing forward Thai National Statistical office to keep pace with the countries with higher level of statistical development . There are many other participants who shared similar experiences.

Over the years, SIAP has helped the region to develop in terms of statistical capacity by training many staff of national statistical offices. It is widely accepted that the region has prospered during these 40 years. Thus, it is really imperative for SIAP to move in tandem with the development of the region and to train a new generation of official statisticians. I look forward to working with SIAP in this regard, and to help improve the statistical capacity of Asia and the Pacific in the future.

Again, I wish SIAP a happy 40th anniversary.
