

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific

Governing Council

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Item 6 of the provisional agenda*

Programme of work to formulate the 2020-2024 strategic plan of the Institute

Formulation of the 2020-2024 SIAP Strategic Plan**

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I. Introduction

1. The strategic plan is an instrument that steers an organization as it navigates the roadmap to achieving the results it has set for itself for a given period of time. As a 'living' instrument, the plan requires review and updating especially in the light of changes that challenge the assumptions under which the plans were made.

2. The Governing Council endorsed the current strategic plan guiding the work of the Institute at its tenth session in November 2014. Since then, SIAP has had to respond to major developments and changes in official statistics priorities and prominence given to statistics in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to track progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals.

3. SIAP needs to ensure that its work programme is attuned to the training requirements of region-wide initiatives on capacity building. It must also ensure that it is in a position to deliver on its mandate as the ESCAP regional training centre while balancing the demands on its services and the resource constraints under which it operates. The midpoint of the current plan (2015-2019) is an opportune time for its review to take into account the Regional Road Map for Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific and to initiate the process for formulating the next 5-year strategic plan for 2020-2024.

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II. Work programme for formulating the 2020-2024 strategic plan

4. The work programme will aim to have the 2020-2024 strategic plan of the Institute ready for final review and endorsement by the Governing Council at its 15th session in 2019. The key outputs and activities that need to be undertaken to meet this target are listed below.

5. To guide the entire process, SIAP proposes the creation of a “friends of the chair” group (FOC) by the Governing Council to be established by the end of the first quarter of 2018. The FOC will review the progress of the implementation of the 2015-2019 strategic plan, identify the barriers as well as success factors to their implementation, and provide an analysis of the barriers and suggest approaches for breaking these down and moving forward. The FOC will provide advice in setting goals and identifying strategic priorities through 2020 to 2024 in the context of the Regional Road Map for Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific. SIAP will provide secretariat and research support to the FOC.

6. On creation of the FOC, the group will prepare a work plan for its key activities for the years 2018-2019. The review of the progress of the SIAP strategic plans 2015-2019 will be undertaken by the FOC during the second and third quarter of 2018. The FOC will present a report of the findings of the review to the Governing Council at its 14th session. The FOC will also present recommendations on key elements to be considered in setting goals and identifying strategic priorities in the strategic plan 2020-2024. The Governing Council will be expected to express its views on the matters presented in the report and provide guidance on the recommendations of the FOC. The Governing Council will also provide guidance on the work plan of the FOC for 2019.

7. FOC will also review the financial resources of SIAP and recommend modalities to generate additional resources to meet increasing training needs in the context of monitoring global Sustainable Developing Goals and national indicators. This is required so that SIAP meet the training needs of member states effectively.

8. SIAP will prepare a draft strategic plan based on the recommendations at the 14th session of the Governing Council during 2019. In preparing the draft strategic plan, SIAP will hold consultations with NSOs and other stakeholders in the NSSs, with regional and international statistics development partners and with ESCAP. SIAP and the FOC will determine the nature of activities needed to facilitate an effective consultative process. The FOC will review the status of plan preparation periodically and will meet in person to finalise the plan and report to be presented at the 15th session of the Governing Council.

III. Action requested from the Council

9. The Governing Council may wish to review the proposed functions of the FOC and recommend the composition and membership of the group. The Governing Council may also wish to advise on operational issues such as holding of meetings by the group.

10. Further, the Governing Council may wish to review and endorse the work programme for formulating the 2020-2024 strategic plan of the Institute.
