

**Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific**
Committee on Statistics**Fifth session**

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Item 4 (b) of the provisional agenda **

The framework for action, partner coordination and stakeholder responsibilities: Partners for Statistics Development in Asia-Pacific**Report on the activities of the Partners for Statistics Development in Asia-Pacific****Note by the secretariat******Summary*

The Partners for Statistics Development in Asia-Pacific was established in December 2010 to strengthen collaboration among statistics development partners operating in Asia and the Pacific. Since the last report of the Partners, to the Committee on Statistics at its fourth session, it has met on two occasions.

The work of the Partners has predominantly been focused on information-sharing and alignment of activities and discussions with work to improve data for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

I. Introduction

1. The Partners for Statistics Development in Asia-Pacific is a regional network of international, regional and subregional organizations and bilateral donors. It was established following a recommendation by the Statistical Commission to strengthen collaboration among development partners operating in Asia and the Pacific. At its 7th meeting, in March 2015, the Partners re-elected the Asian Development Bank and the United Nations Population Fund as Co-Chairs of the Partners for the period 2015-2016. The Statistics Division of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific provides secretariat services for the Partners.

2. The 8th and 9th meetings of the Partners have been held since the fourth session of the Committee on Statistics, in Bangkok on 30 September 2015 and in New York on 10 March 2016 respectively. The 10th meeting of the Partners is scheduled to be held in Bangkok in conjunction with the fifth session of the Committee.

* Reissued for technical reasons on 22 November 2016.

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*** The present note was submitted late owing to the need for consultation with the relevant partners.

II. Activities of the Partners, 2015-2016

3. The work of the Partners during the period has mainly been focused on information-sharing to improve coordination of capacity-building activities. More specifically, the Partners discussed how to improve ongoing coordination of capacity-building for statistics development for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in the light of the increased data requirements for monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals. This discussion involved the sharing of partners' priorities and strategies for statistical capacity-building in the Asia-Pacific region.

4. As a result of the previous activities of the Partners, many partners are now active members in various regional initiatives, such as the Steering Group for the Regional Programme on Economic Statistics, the Regional Steering Group for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific, and the Network for the Coordination of Statistical Training in Asia and the Pacific. Furthermore, the Asia-Pacific Regional Action Plan to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics highlights the fruitful collaboration among partners.

5. During the 2015-2016 period, partners have co-organized or supported multiple important meetings, workshops and events, such as the Asia-Pacific Economic Statistics Week, the expert consultation workshop on "Sex-disaggregated data for the Sustainable Development Goals indicators in Asia and the Pacific: What and how?", the Subregional Workshop on Environment Statistics for South-East Asian Countries, the Regional Meeting on Disability Measurement and Statistics in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme, and the first Regional Meeting on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics for the Pacific Islands.

6. In consideration of the emerging needs to monitor progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, during the 8th meeting the Co-Chairs proposed that the Partners should jointly develop a compilation of past experiences of statistical capacity-building activities in relation to the Millennium Development Goals. The compilation would highlight good experiences from efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and showcase the type of support that partners had been able to provide in the past. It was decided not to pursue a formal compilation, but to share information and materials prepared by individual agencies related to the topic among members.

III. Conclusion

7. The Committee may wish to discuss the role of the Partners, as an operating mechanism for collaboration on capacity-building, in effectively facilitating collective action at the regional level in support of the collective vision and framework for action for advancing official statistics for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

8. The Committee may further wish to discuss the work of the Partners and provide guidance on collaborative activities that it could undertake.