

Agenda Item 3. Review of issues pertinent to the subsidiary structure of the Commission, including the work of the ESCAP regional institutions:

(h) Statistics

Document: Report of the Committee on Statistics on its third session (E/ESCAP/69/13)

My delegation would like to reaffirm that during the third session of Committee on Statistics in the last December, we fully discussed various challengeable issues, and reflecting such deliberations, the report was prepared and agreed by the Committee on Statistics. I highly appreciate this report as a consolidation of opinions of members and also strongly hope that actions would be undertaken steadily to implement decisions and recommendations in this report.

Document: Report of the Governing Council of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific on its eighth session (E/ESCAP/69/14)

1. The development and improvement of official statistics, which are essential for economic and social development of each country/region, have been important issues, in order to address new challenges such as sustainable development goals and environmental issues. The role of SIAP to develop and improve the capability of statisticians is more important than ever.
2. Japan, as the host government to SIAP, highly appreciates the contribution to SIAP by the ESCAP members and associate member states and International Organizations. It is the result of the efforts of all the people concerned including the Director of SIAP and the ESCAP Secretariat, and also the evidence on in-depth understanding of the contributing countries and related International organizations for SIAP's value. In addition, the activities of SIAP are highly appreciated in the report of the Committee on Statistics on its third session.
3. My delegation has also cooperated with SIAP as much as possible. In spite of the continued serious financial condition, Japan has secured cash contribution to SIAP for fiscal year 2013, which is the same level for the last fiscal year. Regarding in-kind contributions from Japan, we improved the SIAP training facilities by providing a new wireless LAN system in fiscal year 2012. And fiscal year 2013, we are planning to provide advanced audio and visual equipment. We would like to continue to systematically improve the appropriate training environment for SIAP.

4. The expansion and the diversification of financial resources are essential for stabilizing and sustaining SIAP training programmes. From this point of view, we appreciate the countries which have become new cash contributing members and have increased and resumed its cash contribution to SIAP in accordance with the spirit of the recommendations made at the SIAP Governing Council.

5. As the host government, we are making the best efforts to support the SIAP. Japan hopes that the ESCAP members and associate member States will also make efforts to fulfill cash and in-kind contributions in need in order to stabilize and sustain SIAP training programmes. At the same time, we hope that the International Organizations will provide further support to SIAP programmes.

(Statement by the Delegation of JAPAN)
