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Item 3 (h) of the provisional agenda*

Review of issues pertinent to the subsidiary structure of the Commission, including the work of the regional institutions: statistics

Report of the Governing Council of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific on its eleventh session

Summary

The eleventh session of the Governing Council of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP) was held in Chiba, Japan, on 30 November and 1 December 2015. During the session, the Governing Council reviewed the activities and achievements of the Institute in 2015, including progress in implementing its 2015-2019 strategic plan, and its administrative and financial status.

The Council noted the progress made in implementing the programme of work for 2015 and commended the Institute for successful outcomes for the period from 1 January to 30 September 2015. Through 22 courses/workshops, a total of 724 government statisticians and ministry officials from 58 countries and their respective institutions were able to improve the quality of their statistical outputs, and they increased the use of such outputs in development planning, policy formulation and the monitoring of progress in development goals.

The Council endorsed the programme of work and financial plan proposed by SIAP for 2016-2017, noting that the programme of work was well aligned with the data, monitoring and accountability targets of Sustainable Development Goal 17. The Council noted that the indicators for monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals were still being finalized and expressed its appreciation that the plan was appropriately flexible to address capacity-building needs that might arise.

In taking note of the wide range of demand for statistical training to strengthen the capacity of member States in the region to monitor progress in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and the importance of the network of training institutions in the region, the Council supported proposals for strengthening the staffing pattern of SIAP. It recommended the filling of posts as well as developing a human resources sourcing strategy that would tap into existing training resources in countries, including in academia, through such modalities as secondment and non-reimbursable loan of personnel services.

The Council emphasized the importance of the Network for the Coordination of Statistical Training in Asia and the Pacific in strengthening partnerships and improving coordination in statistical capacity-building and reiterated the need to further strengthen the capacity of SIAP in managing coordination of statistical training in the region and facilitating the mobilization of training resources.

The Council acknowledged with deep appreciation the high level of support provided by the host Government (Japan) to the Institute through cash and in-kind contributions, and it expressed the crucial importance of maintaining such support. The Council recommended that member States, particularly those that have not recently made significant increases in their voluntary contributions, consider an increase of 15 per cent in their annual voluntary cash contribution to SIAP.

* E/ESCAP/72/L.1.

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I. Matters calling for action by the Commission or brought to its attention

A. Recommendations and decisions

1. The Council recommends that member States, particularly those that have not recently made significant increases in their voluntary contributions, consider an increase of 15 per cent in their annual cash contribution to the budget of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP).

2. In recognizing the need to further strengthen the role of SIAP in managing coordination of statistical training in the region and facilitating mobilization of training resources, the Council recommends a review of SIAP performance indicators to ensure that these outcomes are appropriately reflected in the results framework of the Institute.

3. In taking note of the wide range of demand for statistical training to strengthen the capacity of member States in the region to monitor progress in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, and the importance of the network of training institutions in the region, the Council supports the proposed strengthening of the staffing pattern of SIAP. It recommends the filling of posts, and that SIAP develop a human resources sourcing strategy that would tap into existing training resources in countries, including in academia, through modalities such as secondment and non-reimbursable loans of personnel services.

4. The Council endorses the programme of work and financial plan proposed by SIAP for 2016-2017. In doing so, it noted that the programme of work was well aligned with the data, monitoring and accountability targets of Sustainable Development Goal 17. The Council also noted that the Sustainable Development Goal indicators were still being finalized and appreciated that the plan was appropriately flexible to address capacity-building needs that might arise.

5. In recognizing the need to improve the statistical capacity of national statistical systems to monitor the Sustainable Development Goals, and the offer of new courses under the long-running programme of collaboration between SIAP and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the Council recommends that member States accord high priority to statistics in the JICA annual training needs survey.

6. The Council decides that the twelfth session will be held in Bangkok in December 2016 in conjunction with the fifth session of the Committee on Statistics.

B. Acknowledgements

7. The Governing Council acknowledges with deep appreciation the contributions and highest level of support extended to SIAP by the host Government, Japan, through cash and in-kind contributions made through its Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications and JICA.

8. The Council also expresses appreciation to:

(a) Contributing members and associate members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) for their cash contributions to SIAP for 2015;

(b) The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) for the multiyear collaborative partnership under the Asia-Pacific Regional Action Plan to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics;

(c) The Governments of Australia, China, India, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Malaysia, the Philippines and the Republic of Korea for resource-sharing collaboration in the conduct of regional courses;

(d) Regional and international statistics development partners that collaborated with SIAP in conducting its courses and providing resource persons: Asian Development Bank (ADB); Economic Cooperation Organization; Eurostat; FAO; International Labour Organization (ILO); the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (Paris21); United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; United Nations Statistics Division; Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO); and the World Bank.

II. Summary of proceedings

A. Round-table discussion: statistical capacity development for monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals – models for a transformative agenda

9. A round-table discussion involving members of the Governing Council as well as session observers elicited views on possible innovative, efficient and effective models that SIAP could consider in transforming its statistical capacity development strategies and approaches.

10. The discussions noted that the ability of the Institute to respond to the demand from member countries on their statistical capacity development needs for monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals required fundamental rethinking of the Institute's mandate and role, delivery modalities, partnership arrangements and clientele. The extent of the challenge was noted in the context of the universality of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Goals, 169 targets and – possibly well over 300 – indicators.

11. During the discussions, several ways were suggested in which the mandate and role of the Institute might have to be extended for SIAP to be able to effectively respond to the needs emanating from the Sustainable Development Goals. Those included a broader involvement in statistical capacity development beyond training only, for example the development – including conducting research – of measurements and standards for indicators which do not yet exist; the facilitation of peer-to-peer learning in the context of South-South cooperation; the mobilization of donor resources for regional statistics development; and the promotion of best practices in the production, analysis and dissemination of statistics.

12. The discussions emphasized that statistical training should remain at the core of the Institute's work, but that the delivery of such training should be enhanced. Suggestions tabled in that context included making the calendar of training courses more flexible in order to be able to better track and cater to emerging and evolving demand; the development and operation of a hub/database of subject-matter statistical expertise, including with the wider membership of national statistical systems, as well as educational and research institutions which would be able to provide face-to-face tutoring, mentoring and coaching services at the request of member countries; and the further development of e-learning approaches, including making available massive open online courses that could be taken on demand.

13. In the context of the emphasis that the 2030 Agenda placed on ensuring that no one was left behind, the discussions stressed the need for SIAP to enhance its work on the availability of high-quality, accessible, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts. The Institute needed to cover areas of data production and use of statistics beyond what traditionally had been considered as official statistics, including so-called big data and other data from geospatial and administrative sources; adding data visualization techniques as a training focus was suggested as well. It was suggested that SIAP give further thought to how training of individuals could more effectively contribute to institutional and organizational capacity development.

14. Participants in the discussions encouraged SIAP to give thought to how it could further develop its role as a regional network for statistical capacity development, including training. In that context, the Council encouraged the Institute to further enhance its partnerships with national statistical training institutes; (academic) educational and research intuitions; international, regional and subregional organizations working on statistics; and professional statistical societies, such as the International Statistical Institute. Such strengthened partnerships would serve three purposes. First, it would ensure the delivery of training of uniform quality, for example through the development of basic curricula and accreditation by SIAP, throughout the region. Second, it would considerably enhance the base of expertise on which SIAP could draw, especially in delivering training in highly specialized areas of statistics. Third, it would enhance synergy, coherence and coordination in meeting the statistical training needs of the region.

15. The Council called upon SIAP to further broaden its client base by, among other means, developing ways and means to address the information and data needs of youth, in particular through social media; of local-level governments and other stakeholders; and of technical and support staff (working, for example, on information technology, accounts and budgets) who were critical to the effective and efficient operation of national statistical systems.

B. Matters arising from the tenth session of the Governing Council

16. The Governing Council had before it a note by the secretariat on matters arising from the tenth session and interim session of the Governing Council (E/ESCAP/SIAP/GC(11)/2). The Council noted with satisfaction the action taken and current status of the matters listed as reported by SIAP.

17. The representative of Japan expressed appreciation to the members and associate members for their cash contributions to SIAP, especially to those that had increased their contributions. Japan also expressed its support for the Institute's training activities related to agricultural and rural statistics with support from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan.

18. The Governing Council noted that its recommendation to members and associate members for an increase in cash contributions would facilitate discussions of national statistical offices concerning budgetary matters with their respective Governments. The Council acknowledged the consensus among Governing Council members to recommend a 15 per cent increase in cash contributions.

C. Report of the Director of the Institute

19. The Governing Council had before it the report of the Director of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific to the Governing Council at its eleventh session (E/ESCAP/SIAP/GC(11)/3). The Director highlighted key results and accomplishments, summarized the Institute's financial and administrative status and drew attention to opportunities and challenges for SIAP outlined in the 2015-2019 strategic plan and the 2014-2015 strategic framework of the ESCAP subprogramme on statistics.

1. Key results and implementation strategies

20. The 2015 SIAP programme of work and financial plan were aimed at implementing the 2015-2019 strategic plan, under which the outputs and key

activities of the work programme supported the achievement of four strategic outcomes:

- (a) Improved knowledge and skills of government officials and statisticians to produce, process, analyse, disseminate and manage high-quality official statistics in support of measuring progress towards sustainable and inclusive development goals;
- (b) Strengthened the capacity of national statistical systems to provide appropriate statistical training;
- (c) Well-coordinated and innovative delivery of statistical training;
- (d) Sustained resource support for meeting training needs in the region.

21. In noting indicators on performance contained in the 2015-2019 Strategic Plan Results Framework, the Council commended SIAP for achieving the targeted results.

22. The Institute organized 22 training courses, workshops and seminars attended by 724 participants from 58 countries. Training covered basic and advanced technical subjects in social, economic, agricultural and environment statistics as well as on statistical methods and data collection. Courses also were focused on tools and methods for building statistical registers for improving the use of administrative data to produce official statistics. Overall, there were almost the same number of female participants (355) as male (369). The sex ratio (expressed as the number of females per 100 males) was 0.95.

23. New courses on statistical advocacy and statistical literacy were introduced. Workshops and seminars were focused on institutional issues, including stakeholder engagement and designing national strategies for statistical development. The programme activities were targeted on a range of skill sets, from basic skills to specialized technical skills and soft skills for managing and leading.

24. In terms of training modalities, the courses consisted of 4-month and 6-week residential courses, 14 short courses (9 regional and 5 country level), 5 e-learning courses and 1 seminar.

25. The Director noted that SIAP had prioritized further improvement of e-learning systems and training materials and embarked on a redesign of its platform. An instructional model had been adopted and corresponding templates for e-learning materials had been developed. The Director also informed the meeting that a collaborative partnership with the United Nations Statistics Division on the offering of online courses on the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) had been initiated, with a view to adopting that model to meet the high demand for capacity-building on that topic.

26. The four-month residential course addressed the capacity development priorities for producing basic data, particularly data needs related to the Millennium Development Goals. The six-week course focused on building skills in understanding frameworks for the analysis of disparities, and data preparation and application of statistical methods for analysing complex survey data.

27. The Director emphasized that the training courses and workshops provided an overview and updated information on the goals and targets and the indicators being considered, anticipating the increased demand for basic as well as new data as a means of implementation, and follow-up and review of progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. By facilitating gap assessments and the development of an action plan for individual or institutional implementation as a main output of the courses, the programmes provided indicative information on capacity-building needs of institutions.

28. The representative of Australia noted the wide range of demand for statistical training to strengthen the capacity of member States in the region to monitor progress in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, and the importance of the network of training institutions in the region for its coordination role. The Governing Council reiterated the need to further strengthen the capacity of SIAP in managing coordination of statistical training in the region and facilitating mobilization of training resources.

29. Under the Asia-Pacific Regional Action Plan to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics training component, regional workshops on communication and advocacy, statistical literacy and sampling methods for producing core data items for agricultural and rural statistics were undertaken. The representative of FAO noted that SIAP and FAO would strengthen their partnership and continue to implement the training component on agricultural statistics.

30. The Director emphasized that SIAP encouraged and prioritized demand-driven country courses since the countries concerned would define the training objectives and the expected contents of the courses. As countries also co-financed their implementation, sometimes from other statistical development projects available to them, the training was cost-effective and highly relevant. In 2015, SIAP facilitated the conduct of a series of country courses for Maldives relating to the use and analysis of its 2014 population census, which had been funded by the World Bank. SIAP conducted country courses for Afghanistan (funded by UNFPA-Afghanistan) and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (funded by ESCAP).

31. The Director noted with appreciation the continuing collaboration with statistical offices and training institutes with co-financing arrangements for regional courses (Statistics Korea, National Statistical Systems Training Academy of India, Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture, Statistical Centre of Iran, Department of Statistics of Malaysia, Statistics Indonesia (Badan Pusat Statistik) and Philippine Statistical Research and Training Institute).

32. Partnerships resulted in pooling of substantive expertise as well as increased cost effectiveness, through the joint organization and conduct of training courses. Collaboration with ILO and WIEGO on statistics on informality and in disseminating new standards for labour statistics, and with Paris21 on national strategies for the development of statistics provided successful models for effective partnerships.

2. Management and administration

(a) Human resources

33. The Director reported that, as of 30 September 2015, the Institute was operating with four professional staff and four support staff. The Director noted that the Institute would modify its staffing pattern with a view to

strengthening its programme management and development capabilities and implementing new content and models for capacity development on Sustainable Development Goal data and indicators. That step would include the addition of a senior programme management post (P5) and a statistician (P4). SIAP staff received training on Umoja, the new United Nations management system implemented at ESCAP in June 2015, and on results-based management.

34. The representative of Japan emphasized that the person who would fill the senior programme management post should concurrently serve as a lecturer, as the training capability of SIAP must be strengthened to address increasing training needs by increasing the number of SIAP lecturers. The Council noted that SIAP should fill vacant posts quickly and develop a human resource strategy that would tap into existing training resources in countries, including in academia, through modalities such as secondment.

35. The Governing Council recognized: (a) the wide range of demand for statistical training to strengthen the capacity of member States in the region to monitor progress in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals; and (b) the importance of the network of training institutions in the region.

36. The Governing Council noted that SIAP had engaged the expert services of 58 resource persons from various agencies and 7 consultants for 10 training courses, mainly in specialized and advanced areas.

37. The representative of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) mentioned the partnership between its Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and local governments in Fukuoka, Japan, including secondment to the secretariat and financial contributions from the local governments. The representative stressed the importance of cooperation with local governments.

(b) Financial resources as of 30 September 2015

38. The Director summarized the financial status of SIAP as of 30 September 2015,¹ explaining that SIAP had a fund balance of \$3,272,826 — calculated from total income (voluntary cash contributions of member States to SIAP plus contributions from technical cooperation projects plus interest) of \$708,374, less expenditure of \$1,308,767 plus the fund balance as of 1 January 2015 of \$3,873,219.

39. Total cash contributions received from ESCAP member States, as of 30 September, amounted to \$407,339.²

40. The representative of Tonga noted that voluntary cash contributions of the small island developing States were high relative to their small populations.

41. In 2015, in addition to 2014 unspent balance and interest earned in the amount of \$543,634, SIAP received \$299,814 for the training component of the Asia-Pacific Regional Action Plan to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics.

42. The Director noted that in-kind contributions, namely training facilities and supplies, costs of travel, accommodation and living expenses of

¹ Annexes II and III provide an updated financial statement as of 30 December 2015.

² Annex IV furnishes information on voluntary cash contributions as of 30 December 2015.

participants and resource persons, and costs of staff time, accounted for a large share of programme costs. During the reporting period, the host Government, 5 national statistical offices of ESCAP member States, 10 regional and international agencies, including ESCAP divisions and subregional offices and United Nations agencies, and 2 universities contributed in-kind to the delivery of the work programme of SIAP.

3. Opportunities and challenges

43. SIAP recognized that achieving high-quality results in the light of new areas for statistical development and the expanded role of targeted training as a means of implementation and the follow-up and review process of the Sustainable Development Goal agenda had been the most pressing challenge for SIAP towards meeting its institutional goals.

44. In the 2015-2019 strategic plan, the main challenges for SIAP were identified over the next five years. It was emphasized that SIAP needed to address those challenges by focusing on the capacity development needed for sustainable development data. In the plan, the following main challenges for SIAP over the next five years were identified:

(a) Addressing the increase in demand for training. Balancing the continuing need for training on basic statistics with the demand for training in new topics, wider reach and diversity of training needs;

(b) Facilitating clear articulation by member States and associate members of their training needs. Targeted and appropriately designed training to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of training in the light of increased demand;

(c) Maintaining highly qualified and technologically competent core staff. Providing leadership in developing, coordinating and providing regional training required maintaining a staffing pattern and acquiring staff with areas of expertise and competencies that matched the priority areas;

(d) Developing a viable model for e-learning and blended learning courses. Setting criteria to select appropriate instructional design and modalities for optimum utilization and impact of web-based training;

(e) Making collaborative mechanisms work. To institutionalize partnerships, facilitate sharing of training resources and mobilize financial resources, collaboration was essential;

(f) Measuring the quality of programmes and training resources. Quality redounds to excellence and needs to be effectively and convincingly measured, with particular challenges in evaluating the impact of web-based courses;

(g) Attaining financial sustainability. Assured funding to ensure the continuity and stability needed for short- and long-term commitments.

45. The Governing Council recognized that a key mechanism for addressing the challenges and meeting the goals were the Network for the Coordination of Statistical Training in Asia and the Pacific. The Council noted that the work that was being done, such as skills and capacity-building assessments and programme development under the Global Working Group on Big Data for Official Statistics, potentially expanded the network to a wider range of partners and opportunities for better targeting of capacity development activities on “big data”.

D. Work programme and financial plan for 2016-2017

46. The Governing Council had before it the document entitled “Work programme and financial plan of the Institute for 2016-2017” (E/ESCAP/SIAP/GC(11)/4). The 2015-2019 strategic plan would be implemented through the work programme. Under the strategic plan, the outputs and key activities of the work programme would support the achievement of three outcomes: (a) improved knowledge and skills of government officials and statisticians to produce, analyse and manage high-quality official statistics in support of measuring progress towards sustainable and inclusive development goals; (b) strengthened capacity of national statistical systems to provide appropriate statistical training; and (c) strengthened capacity of national statistical systems to advocate and obtain support for statistics development.

1. 2016-2017 work plan

47. The Director noted that the two-year work plan was an integral part of the ESCAP statistics subprogramme, as contained in the strategic framework for the biennium 2015-2016. The focus was on increasing the readiness of national statistical systems to deliver on their mandates to support the data requirements of Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals guided by the Goal 17 target on data, monitoring and accountability. The work plan for 2015-2016 included the implementation activities of the training component of the Asia-Pacific Regional Action Plan to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics as endorsed by the Regional Steering Committee and approved by the Global Steering Committee in late 2015.

48. The proposed training courses, workshops and seminars and training development activities and indicative timetable were presented according to the outcomes and outputs set in the 2015-2019 strategic plan. The main programme of work was focused on capacity-building as follows:

(a) To strengthen and improve the collection and use of basic social, economic, agricultural and environment statistics in support of Sustainable Development Goal data and monitoring requirements;

(b) To improve institutional capacity to apply frameworks, methods and tools for formulating development strategies in modernizing statistical business processes;

(c) To increase knowledge and skills for using administrative data in the production of official statistics;

(d) To better utilize ICT and related skills for harnessing the benefits of the data revolution in enriching and complementing traditional data sources for producing official statistics;

(e) Environmental-economic accounts and environment statistics (regional course on 2012 SEEA);

(f) Monitoring the post-2015 development goals (subregional workshops on monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals);

(g) Advanced statistical methodologies and use of ICT (regional technical seminar on challenges and issues in the use of big data);

(h) Research-based training course on improving statistical methodologies;

(i) Effective and innovative leadership and management of statistics for development (management seminar for heads of national statistical offices, regional workshop on statistical quality management and fundamental principles of official statistics).

49. The Director emphasized that SIAP would apply four strategies: more focus in the design and targeting of the courses; effective coordination by leveraging existing and new global partnerships, the network and subregional intergovernmental statistical entities; more efficiency by taking a systematic approach to expanding utilization of expertise across the region and globally; and greater adaptability by keeping attuned, through assessments and monitoring of the capacity of national statistical systems, for adequate response to fast-paced development surrounding sustainable development data.

50. The representative of Japan informed the meeting that the annual needs survey that JICA had conducted in August 2015 resulted in many requests from member States for SIAP/JICA training courses for 2016. The results were sufficient to ensure that three training courses would be implemented in 2016. Japan stressed the importance of the annual needs survey and encouraged member States to give priority to the SIAP/JICA training courses in the survey to be conducted in 2016.

51. The representative of the Philippines expressed appreciation for including a training course on vital statistics in the proposed work programme because countries committed to the regional action framework for civil registration and vital statistics would need technical assistance in meeting the goals defined in the framework. The Philippines also expressed interest in working with SIAP on piloting an agricultural statistics formal education programme.

52. The representative of Thailand noted that the country's population/housing census would be closely related to the monitoring of achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and that Thailand would need support from SIAP for planning the next census. The representative of FAO informed the meeting that FAO was planning to conduct training courses on agricultural censuses in the second quarter of 2016.

53. The Council noted that the programme of work was well aligned with the data, monitoring and accountability targets of Sustainable Development Goal 17. The Council also noted that the Sustainable Development Goal indicators were still being finalized and expressed appreciation that the plan was appropriately flexible to address capacity-building needs that may arise.

2. 2016-2017 financial plan

54. In presenting the financial plan for the proposed programme of work, the Director drew the attention of the Council to estimated costs and their sources and potential resource gaps. The Director explained that the budget sources in the proposed plan included SIAP institutional funds (not including the regular personnel costs of SIAP), special project funds, including those available from the Asia-Pacific Regional Action Plan to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics training component implemented by SIAP, the United Nations Development Account and other projects managed by ESCAP and expected in-kind contributions from partners. In-kind contributions from partners included cost-sharing arrangements with country partner institutions, such as national statistical training institutes and statistical offices, and with statistical development partners.

55. The representative of Japan informed the session that it had secured cash contributions and an in-kind budget for the facilities and personnel for fiscal year 2015. That representative also informed the session that it would continue to systematically improve the training environment, including updating audio equipment and strengthening computer security for SIAP.

56. The representative of Tonga stated that the Pacific island countries were willing to increase voluntary cash contributions to SIAP, but noted that the amount of their contributions should be viewed in relation to the size of their populations. The representative noted that data collection for indicators of Sustainable Development Goals would be a challenge for small countries and requested SIAP to consider providing Pacific countries with more training opportunities.

E. Other matters

57. The secretariat of the Governing Council informed the meeting that an election of new Governing Council members would be held during the seventy-second session of the Commission in May 2016, and official notification from ESCAP to member States would follow.

F. Dates and venue for the twelfth session of the Governing Council

58. The Governing Council had before it the proposed dates and venue for the twelfth session of the Governing Council (E/ESCAP/SIAP/GC(11)/5).

59. The Council decided to hold its twelfth session in Bangkok in December 2016 in conjunction with the fifth session of the Committee on Statistics.

G. Adoption of the report of the eleventh session of the Governing Council to the Commission

60. On 1 December 2015, the Governing Council endorsed the matters calling for action or to be brought to the attention of the Commission (see section D). It was agreed that, as Secretary of the Council, the Director of SIAP would prepare the full report of the Governing Council on its eleventh session for the seventy-second session of the Commission.

III. Organization of the session

A. Opening of the session

61. The eleventh session of the Governing Council of SIAP was held in Chiba, Japan, on 30 November and 1 December 2015.

62. The representative of Australia, Chair of the tenth session of the Governing Council, Mr. Jonathan Palmer officially opened the eleventh session.

63. An opening statement was delivered by the Director of SIAP.

B. Attendance

64. The session was attended by representatives of the host Government (Japan) and seven of the eight elected members of the Governing Council: Australia; China; Indonesia; Philippines; Republic of Korea; Russian Federation; and Thailand. India did not send a representative to the session.

65. Representatives of the following members and associate members attended the session as observers: Brunei Darussalam; Fiji; Hong Kong, China; Iran (Islamic Republic of); Kazakhstan; Kiribati; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Marshall Islands; Nepal; Pakistan; Samoa; Timor-Leste; Tonga; Turkey; Tuvalu; and Viet Nam.

66. Representatives of the following organizations attended the session as observers: FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific; ILO; UN-Habitat; and ADB.

C. Election of officers

67. The Governing Council elected the following officers by acclamation:

Chair: Mr. Jonathan Palmer (Australia)

Vice-Chair: Mr. Takao Itou (Japan)

D. Adoption of the agenda

68. The Governing Council adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening of the session:
 - (a) Opening statements;
 - (b) Round table discussion: statistical capacity development for monitoring the sustainable development goals – models for transformative agenda for SIAP;
 - (c) Election of officers;
 - (d) Adoption of the agenda.
2. Matters arising from the tenth session of the Governing Council.
3. Report of the Director of the Institute.
4. Work programme and financial plan for 2016-2017.
5. Other matters.
6. Dates and venue of the twelfth session of the Governing Council.
7. Adoption of the report of the eleventh session of the Governing Council to the Commission.

Annex I**List of documents**

| <i>Document symbol</i> | <i>Title</i> | <i>Agenda item</i> |
|-----------------------------|---|--------------------|
| E/ESCAP/SIAP/GC(11)/1/Rev.1 | Annotated provisional agenda | 1c |
| E/ESCAP/SIAP/GC(11)/2 | Matters arising from the tenth session of the Governing Council | 2 |
| E/ESCAP/SIAP/GC(11)/3 | Report of the Director of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific to the Governing Council at its eleventh session | 3 |
| E/ESCAP/SIAP/GC(11)/4 | Work programme and financial plan of the Institute for 2016-2017 | 4 |
| E/ESCAP/SIAP/GC(11)/5 | Proposed dates and venue for the twelfth session of the Governing Council | 6 |
| E/ESCAP/SIAP/GC(11)/6 | Draft report | 7 |
| E/ESCAP/SIAP/GC(11)/INF/1 | Information for participants | |
| E/ESCAP/SIAP/GC(11)/INF/2 | Provisional list of participants | 1c |
| E/ESCAP/SIAP/GC(11)/INF/3 | Provisional schedule of the meeting | 1a |

Annex II

Financial statement of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific for the year ended 31 December 2015

(United States dollars)

| | |
|--|------------------|
| <i>Income</i> | |
| Contributions | 2 664 955 |
| Interest Income | 1 221 |
| Total income | 2 666 176 |
| <i>Less: Expenditures</i> | |
| | 1 865 813 |
| Net Income over Expenditures | 800 363 |
| Fund Balance as at 1 January 2015 | 3 873 219 |
| Refunds to Donors | - |
| Fund Balance as at 31 December 2015 | 4 673 582 |

Annex III

Financial statement of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific for the year ended 31 December 2015, by project component
(United States dollars)

| | <i>Joint Contributions - Capacity Development project</i> | <i>Asia Pacific Regional Action Plan to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics (FAO)</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|--|---|---|------------------|
| <i>Income</i> | | | |
| Contributions | 2 365 141 ^a | 299 814 | 2 664 955 |
| Interest income | 970 | 251 | 1 221 |
| Total income | 2 366 111 | 300 065 | 2 666 176 |
| <i>Less: Expenditures</i> | | | |
| | 1 610 795 | 255 018 | 1 865 813 |
| Net income over expenditures | 755 316 | 45 047 | 800 363 |
| Fund balance as at 1 January 2015 | 3 329 585 | 543 634 | 3 873 219 |
| Refunds to donors | - | - | - |
| Fund balance as at 31 December 2015 | 4 084 901 | 588 681 | 4 673 582 |

^a Please refer to the following page for the details of the contributions.

Annex IV

Cash Contributions to the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific for Institutional Support Account received for the year ended 31 December 2015

(United States dollars)

| <i>Country/area</i> | <i>Year ended 31 December 2015</i> | <i>Year ended 31 December 2014</i> |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| Australia | 200 000 ^a | - |
| Azerbaijan | - | - |
| Bangladesh | 5 000 | 5 000 |
| Bhutan | - | - |
| Brunei Darussalam | 15 000 | - |
| Cambodia | 3 000 | - |
| China | 70 000 | 60 000 |
| Fiji Island | 9 024 | 9 881 |
| Hong Kong, China | 60 000 ^a | 30 000 |
| India | - | - |
| Indonesia | 30 000 | 30 000 |
| Iran (Islamic Republic of) | 15 000 | 23 824 |
| Japan | 1 750 300 | 1 655 200 |
| Kazakhstan | 5 000 | 5 000 |
| Kiribati | 5 000 | - |
| Macao, China | 20 000 | 20 000 |
| Malaysia | 20 000 | 20 000 |
| Maldives | - | - |
| Mongolia | 7 478 | 10 000 |
| Myanmar | 1 000 | 3 000 |
| Pakistan | 14 839 | 15 006 |
| Papua New Guinea | - | - |
| Philippines | - | 18 375 |
| Republic of Korea | 52 500 | 50 000 |
| Russian Federation | 15 000 | - |
| Samoa | 2 000 | - |
| Singapore | 15 000 | - |
| Sri Lanka | 10 000 | 10 000 |
| Thailand | 20 000 | 20 000 |
| Timor-Leste | - | 5 000 |
| Tonga | - | 10 000 |
| Turkey | - | - |
| Tuvalu | - | - |
| Vanuatu | 5 000 | - |
| Viet Nam | 15 000 | 12 000 |
| TOTAL | 2 365 414 | 2 012 286 |

^a The contributions of \$30,000 from Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region; and USD 200,000 from Australian Bureau of Statistics was received and recorded as deferred income since year 2014.