

Statistical Newsletter

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From the Editor

The present edition of the newsletter features some recent events in the official statistics community at the global level but these developments will clearly have significant implications for the Asia-Pacific region.

Starting with the United Nations Statistical Commission, the apex legislative body in the field of official statistics, we present the main areas of discussions and decisions taken.

A second global issue is the new round of the International Comparison Programme, scheduled to be launched by the end of this year. The newsletter takes a look at the governance structure of the new ICP round as adopted at the recent international conference on the issue.

Thirdly, we publish the latest version of the Millennium Development Goals indicators as refined by an expert group meeting held in March.

We wish you good reading.

The Statistical Newsletter Online

The newsletter has been regularly posted on the UN ESCAP Statistics Division web site where all previous issues since April 1996 are available. A new subscription form on the web site has also been added recently to allow users to subscribe to the newsletter in print but also to receive an email notification at the time of each issue for better and more timely distribution.

Existing subscribers are most welcome to use the form to update the record of their address and to subscribe to the email notification system.

Statistical Newsletter: <http://www.unescap.org/stat/nl/newlet.htm>

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Highlights from the thirty-third session of the United Nations Statistical Commission New York, 5-8 March 2002

The yearly session of the Commission, the most important global legislative body in the field of official statistics, was held in New York from 5 to 8 March 2002.

The duration of 4 days proved perhaps too short to discuss the wide range of topics on the Commission's agenda, to the extent that it had no time to adopt its report during the session itself. All the meeting documents are available at:

<http://www.un.org/Depts/unsd/statcom/sc2002.htm> and the final report, not available yet at the time of printing, will be published at the same address in the upcoming weeks. Selected highlights of the Commission session are presented here.

Although this item was discussed on the last day of the session, the **Situation of Statistics in the Regional Commissions** is reported first as it is of direct concern to the Asian and Pacific region. The Commission emphasized the necessary recognition at regional level of the links with global statistical programmes so that regional and global programmes complement each other in pursuing the priority concerns of member countries.

The Commission considered that regional programmes of statistics should have a strong element of capacity building and should focus on particular priority areas tailored to the circumstances and needs of the countries in the region.

The Commission also considered that governance arrangements, such as the ESCAP Committee on Statistics, should cover a wide range of statistical topics and should allow for the formulation of regional views on global statistical issues.

The text of the ESCAP statement on statistics at the regional level is available on the Division web site at: http://www.unescap.org/stat/nl/stat_com_escap.pdf

Population and housing censuses: The Commission endorsed the activities proposed by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD): strengthening national capabilities to undertake census operations through targeted workshops complemented by advisory services; preparing handbooks; and reviewing the content of the *United Nations Demographic Yearbook*. The Commission also proposed several additional activities, in particular in relation to the use of new technologies.

Health statistics: The Commission welcomed a report by WHO with specific references to the levels and inequalities of health, health system performance, national health accounts, coverage of health systems interventions and the family of international

classifications for health statistics. The Commission recommended that the WHO strengthen coordination of its statistical programme with the work of national and international organizations involved before initiating the next World Health Survey (WHS).

Rio Group on Poverty Statistics: The Commission endorsed the work programme of the Rio Group and encouraged it to produce a compendium on poverty measurement after consultations with countries. It also advised that efforts should be made to include wide regional representation in order to widen the exchange of experiences and promote possibilities for international comparisons.

Siena Group for Social Statistics: Urging the Group to proceed in a focused manner, the Commission recognised the need for a more systematic development of social statistics and welcomed the proposal to hold a meeting later this year to consider a wide range of topical issues in this area.

Washington Group on Disability Measurement: The Commission welcomed the creation of the Group and endorsed its work programme. It noted the need for standard instruments and comparable indicators on disability and the relevance of its work in the areas of social integration and exclusion.

National accounts: The Commission endorsed the creation of an advisory expert group to the Inter-secretariat Working Group on National Accounts (ISWGNA) to focus primarily on new methodological issues.

The Commission also supported the proposal to reconvene the Canberra Group on Capital Stock Statistics to undertake research on intangible assets.

The importance of computing quarterly national accounts data was highlighted in the Commission's recommendation to UNSD to examine the possibility of collecting quarterly data in addition to annual data. These data should be provided by countries and published by UNSD through the Internet, taking into account the work of other international organizations so as to avoid duplication of data collection.

On the subject of the 1993 System of National Accounts (SNA), the Commission welcomed the publication of the Handbook on Non-profit Institutions.

International Comparison Programme: The Commission recognized that the World Bank's efforts had led to considerable progress in developing an overall approach and strategy for the implementation of a global ICP. The Commission supported the proposal to move ahead as soon as possible but in a time frame

that allowed for the production of high quality and credible data.

The Commission agreed that the financial and in-kind support secured by the World Bank's fundraising activities, although not complete, should allow adequate resources to start implementing the new round of ICP data collection by the end of 2002 for the 118 countries covered.

The importance of arrangements for regional management was also stressed along with the capacity building potential of the ICP.

The Commission extended the term of the Friends of the Chair Group until the establishment of an international governing body for the ICP (see next article).

Price statistics: Considering a report from the Intersecretariat Working Group on Price Statistics, the Commission welcomed the progress in the preparation of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) manual and stressed the importance of consultations with developing countries to take their needs into account in the manual. To this end, resources permitting, it encouraged the organization of regional workshops.

It also recognized the efforts of the technical expert group on Producer Price Indices (PPI) to finalize the draft of the PPI manual. Both manuals are reaching completion with publication intended for the end of 2002 for the CPI manual and early 2003 for the PPI manual.

Delhi Group on Informal Sector Statistics: The Commission encouraged the Delhi Group to involve more countries in its work and supported the planned activities of the Group, emphasizing that both conceptual and data collection aspects in the informal sector needed to be studied.

Voorburg Group on Services Statistics: The Commission strongly endorsed the creation of a core set of priorities and a three-year plan defining the horizon of the work programme. Core issues will be limited to: a) Producer price indices for services (focusing on advertising, computer services, engineering services, insurance and banking, and road freight); b) Classification of services activities and products; c) Information society statistics.

London Group on Environmental Accounting: The Statistical Commission endorsed the changes to the draft revised System of Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting (SEEA) handbook and emphasized the need for the revised SEEA handbook to be published as soon as possible.

Statistical capacity building: The Commission emphasized the importance of statistical capacity building and stressed that statistical capacity building and related technical cooperation activities should be embedded within the national framework of

development policies. It also emphasized the need to build the demand for statistics in order to secure sufficient national resources to develop and sustain statistical capacity. The Commission agreed that a broad spectrum of the user community, including policy and decision makers, mass media, research institutions, universities and the public at large, needs to be involved to accomplish this objective. It recognized that the PARIS21 initiative provided a useful framework in which these and other issues could be addressed. It welcomed in particular the regional approach taken by PARIS21. It also welcomed UNSD's efforts to strengthen statistical organization by conducting regional workshops on the recently published Handbook on the Operation and Organization of a Statistical Agency.

International economic and social classifications: The Commission welcomed the final drafts of the revised activity (ISIC) and product (CPC) classifications, and endorsed the work programme towards their more radical revision in 2007. It supported the proposed inclusion of countries in the revision process through questionnaires and regional meetings.

Definition and measurement of e-commerce: The Commission recognized e-commerce as an emerging phenomenon of significant potential economic and social impact that required measurement. But it deferred decision on the establishment of a city group on statistics on the information society until further discussions among interested countries have taken place.

Coordination of development indicators: The Commission welcomed the Friends of the Chair report on the coordination of development indicators, a topic on which the countries of the ESCAP region have continued to express concerns. It particularly endorsed the recommendation on establishing a standing committee for indicators, which would enable the Statistical Commission as well as regional and national statistical systems to engage in dialogue with policy makers at regional and other levels on the development of new indicators.

The Statistical Commission agreed that further work on human rights and good governance indicators as well as on statistical capacity indicators was needed.

Expressing the opinion that further harmonization and rationalization of indicators was necessary, the Commission raised concerns that the development of the Millennium Declaration indicators set was a parallel process with insufficient country involvement and was not coordinated with the current efforts of the Commission. It agreed to submit the Friends of the Chair report and to express its concerns to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

Statistics on human development: The Commission

took note of the improvements that had been made by UNDP to statistics on human development, but emphasized the need for further improvement, in particular where data gaps existed. It noted that only statistical capacity building could fill those gaps.

The Commission noted that for some countries the data in the HDR differ from those of national publications. In that regard, it was noted that the Human Development Report Office (HDRO), as a user of statistics, should make use of data supplied directly by the national statistical offices or from primary data collectors such as UNESCO and the World Bank so as not to add to the reporting burden.

The Commission invited countries to take up any data problem directly with agencies supplying data to the

HDRO.

Handbook of Statistical Organization: The Commission welcomed the finalization of the *UNSD Handbook of Statistical Organization, Third Edition: The Operation and Organization of a Statistical Agency*. It also welcomed the expression of interest by some countries to translate the handbook into all the official languages of the United Nations.

Finally, considering the programme of expert group meetings and workshops planned by UNSD for the 2002-2003 biennium, the Commission endorsed the following priorities: Millennium indicators; Implementation of the SEEA; Comprehensive review of data quality and timeliness; Scope of social statistics activities; Statistical capacity building.

International Conference and Expert Group Meetings on the International Comparison Programme (ICP), Washington, 11-15 March 2002

The International Conference and Expert Group Meetings on ICP were convened to discuss the methodologies to be used and to decide on the governance structure for the next round of ICP to be launched by end of 2002 (see page 5 for the proposed schematic structure).

The ICP's main objective is the production of purchasing power parities (PPPs), which are widely used to make inter-country comparisons with the effect of different price levels eliminated. The ICP, which started in the 1960s, has proceeded through several rounds and for some while has been organized on a regional basis. In the Asia-Pacific region, the last round had 1993 as reference year, but the results have been of rather disappointing quality due to inherent methodological problems and to practical difficulties in terms of data collection and processing.

During the International Conference, several papers presenting proposals and new approaches for the collection of prices for the ICP were presented. Some proposals will be implemented for the next round of ICP but some methodological issues relating to aggregation and linking of data from different

countries remain and will be decided upon within the next few months.

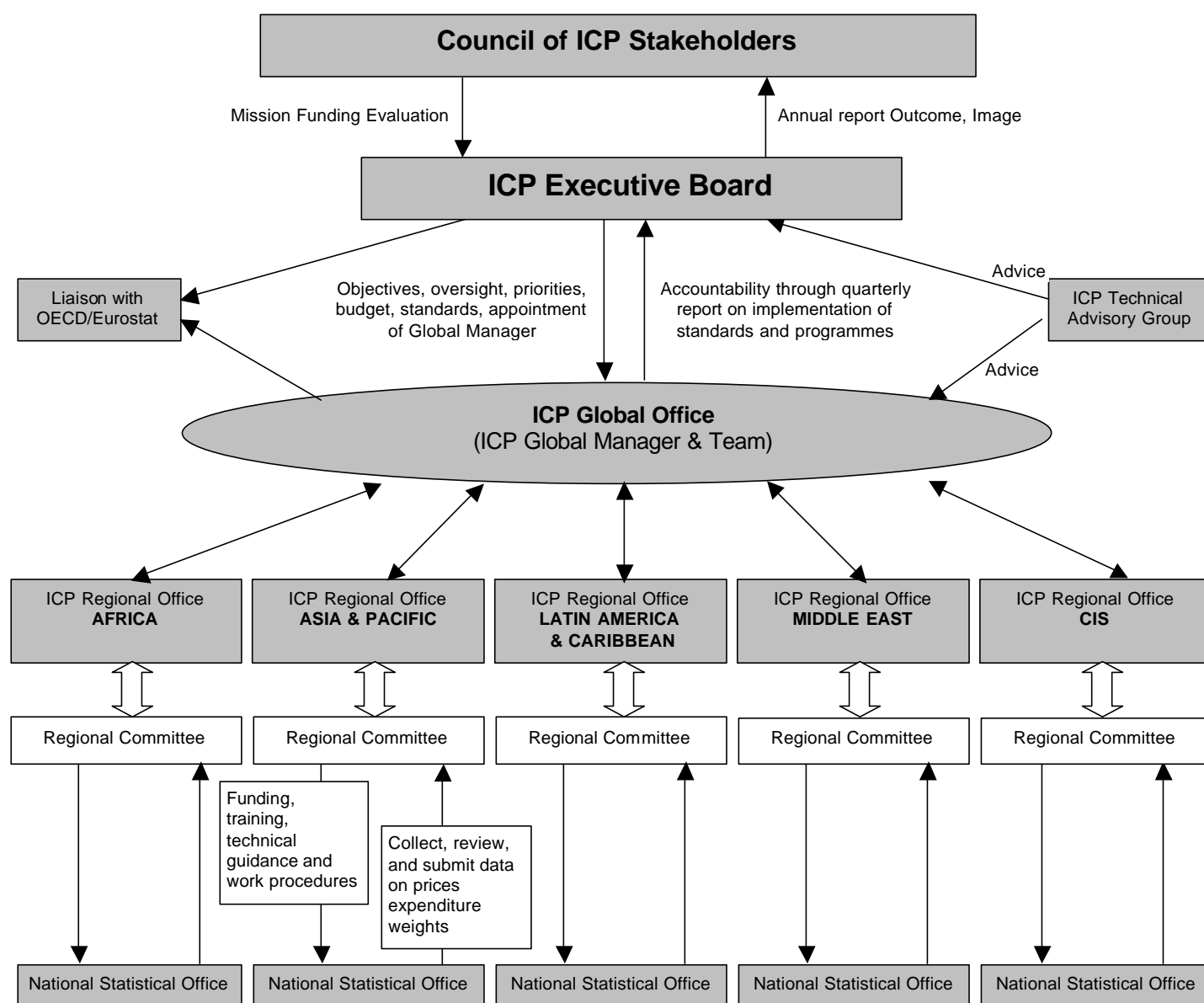
Since the ICP is a regular statistical activity for OECD and European countries, discussions on the governance structure concerned mostly the rest of the world including developing countries.

The participants agreed that the governance structure should include the following elements:

- i. Council of Stakeholders
- ii. Executive Board
- iii. Technical Advisory Group
- iv. Global Office
- v. Regional Offices
- vi. Regional Committees
- vii. National Implementing Agencies

The functions and relationships of the various components were discussed but need further elaboration, especially at the regional level.

ESCAP Statistics Division expects to be closely involved in the next round of ICP as regional coordinator.



Can there be alternative indicators of enrolment: A critical review of frequently used indicators

Universal primary education is one of the essential aspirations of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) with the target that by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling. Progress towards each of the MDGs is measured by a series of quantifiable indicators and in the case of primary education the chosen indicators are:

- Net enrolment ratio in primary education
- Proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach grade 5
- Literacy rate of 15-24 years olds.

An article received by the Statistical Newsletter from Dr. Arun C. Mehta, National Institute of Educational Planning & Administration (NIEPA) of India, presents

a critical review of the various indicators used to measure the progress of India towards its goal to achieve universal primary education by 2007 and that of universal elementary education by 2010.

The author examines traditional indicators such as the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER), Net Enrolment Ratio (NER), and age-specific enrolment ratios. NER and age-specific ratios are considered more accurate but more difficult to compute due to the unavailability of age-grade matrix information for many locations.

However, child enrolment does not guarantee regular school attendance. In that respect the attendance rate offers an important indicator to be monitored. The attendance rate can also be calculated at different education levels, on a monthly basis and for boys and

girls separately, to highlight possible reasons for low school attendance. In India, the attendance rate is generally not available as it is not part of the regular collection of statistics, and the author explores the difficulties in building such an indicator based on household surveys or from registers. Another drawback is that the attendance rate does not offer information about the quality of classroom transactions and cannot be used as a comparison tool between different educational management systems. The completion rate then appears as a better alternative indicator of performance. Information on the completion rate can be generated in a variety of ways, mostly using existing school registers. The completion rate should be generated separately for boys and girls and at a school disaggregated level. The completion rates may be Gross or Net in nature and will automatically take care of the overage and underage children and also the repeaters. The completion rate should be complemented with the transition rate to measure the number of children graduating from one level of the education system and

enrolling to the next.

Although graduation requirements vary from state to state, the Minimum Levels of Learning from the National Council of Educational Research and Training influence them all. Based on these graduation requirements, the graduation rate presents an attempt to introduce a qualitative dimension to the measurement.

The author concludes by stressing the difficulty in building reliable data series. Although data collection at the district level has improved, it may prove difficult to compute such indicators based mostly on school registers. The only alternative left to gather information on the educational variables are household surveys like the National Family Health Survey and those of the National Sample Survey Organization, even if they are not conducted on a regular basis.

The full text of Dr. Mehta's article is available on UN ESCAP Statistics Division web site at:
http://www.unescap.org/nl/arun_c_mehta.pdf

48 social and economic indicators to monitor the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

In September 2000, 147 heads of state and government met in New York on the occasion of the 55th United Nations General Assembly and unanimously adopted the Millennium Declaration.

In its resolution, the General Assembly requested a review on a regular basis of the progress in implementing the provisions of the Declaration and in order to evaluate achievements, adopted a set of 48 social and economic indicators covering each of the 8 specific goals identified.

Detailed information concerning the Millennium Indicators, including indicator values available for each country, can be found at <http://millenniumindicators.un.org>

The list of indicators presented here brings some refinements to the original list of indicators by taking into account the observations from the Technical Group Meeting on the International Indicators for Monitoring Implementation of the Millennium Declaration, which was held in New York from 19 to 22 March 2002.

As further technical meetings on the MDG indicators are due to take place, some further adjustments in the definitions of indicators will probably occur, especially for indicators under goals 7 and 8. For easy reference, the original indicator text is given in footnotes at the bottom of the table. The lead agency responsible for the data compilation for each indicator is specified between parentheses.

Goal 1 - Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

Target 1.	Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than 1 dollar a day.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Proportion of population below \$1 (PPP) per day (World Bank estimates) <i>(For monitoring at the national level, to be augmented by an indicator measured against national poverty line)</i> 2. Poverty gap ratio (incidence x depth of poverty) (World Bank estimates) 3. Share of poorest quintile in national consumption (World Bank estimates)
Target 2.	Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Prevalence of underweight children under five years of age (UNICEF, WHO) 5. Proportion of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption (FAO estimates)

Goal 2 - Achieve universal primary education		
Target 3	Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling.	6. Net enrolment ratio in primary education (UNESCO estimates) 7. Proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach grade 5 (UNESCO estimates) 8. Literacy rate of 15-24-years-olds (UNESCO estimates)
Goal 3 - Promote gender equality and empower women		
Target 4.	Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and to all levels of education no later than 2015	9. Ratios of girls to boys in primary, secondary and tertiary education (UNESCO) 10. Ratio of literate females to males of 15-to-24-years olds (UNESCO estimates) 11. Share of women in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector (ILO) 12. Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament (IPU)
Goal 4 - Reduce child mortality		
Target 5.	Reduce by two thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate	13. Under-five mortality rate (UNICEF) 14. Infant mortality rate (UNICEF) 15. Proportion of 1-year-old children immunized against measles (UNICEF)
Goal 5 - Improve maternal health		
Target 6.	Reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio	16. Maternal mortality ratio (WHO estimates) 17. Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel (UNICEF, WHO)
Goal 6 - Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases		
Target 7.	Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS	18. HIV prevalence among 15-to-24-year-old pregnant women (UNAIDS, WHO) 19. Contraceptive prevalence rate (UN Population Division) <i>(To be augmented with an indicator of knowledge and misconceptions regarding HIV/AIDS by 15-24 year-olds)</i> 20. Number of children orphaned by HIV/AIDS (UNICEF, UNAIDS, WHO) <i>(To be measured by the ratio of proportion of orphans to non-orphans aged 10-14 who are attending school)</i>
Target 8.	Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases.	21. Prevalence and death rates associated with malaria (WHO) 22. Proportion of population in malaria risk areas using effective malaria prevention and treatment measures (UNICEF) <i>(Prevention to be measured by the percentage of under 5-year-olds sleeping under insecticide treated bednets; treatment to be measured by the percentage of under 5-year-olds who are appropriately treated)</i> 23. Prevalence and death rates associated with tuberculosis (WHO) 24. Proportion of tuberculosis cases detected and cured under directly observed treatment short course (DOTS) (WHO)
Goal 7 - Ensure environmental sustainability		
Target 9.	Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environment resources.	25. Proportion of land area covered by forest (FAO) 26. Ratio of area protected to maintain biological diversity to surface area ^{a/} (UNEP-IUCN) 27. Energy use (metric ton oil equivalent) per \$1 GDP (PPP) ^{b/} (UNSD, IAEA, World Bank) 28. Carbon dioxide emissions (per capita) and consumption of ozone-depleting CFCs (ODP tons) ^{c/} (UNEP-Ozone Secretariat) <i>(ODP: Ozone Depletion Potential)</i>

Target 10.	Halve by 2015 the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water.	29. Proportion of population with sustainable access to an improved water source, urban and rural ^{d/} (WHO, UNICEF)
Target 11.	By 2020 to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers.	30. Proportion of people with access to improved sanitation (WHO, UNICEF) 31. Proportion of households with access to secure tenure (owned or rented) ^{e/} (HABITAT and UNSD)
Goal 8 - Develop a global partnership for development		
Target 12.	Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system. Includes a commitment to good governance, development, and poverty reduction - both nationally and internationally.	<i>Some of the indicators listed below will be monitored separately for the least developed countries (LDCs), Africa, landlocked countries and small island developing States</i>
Target 13.	Address the special needs of the least developed countries. Includes: tariff and quota free access for least developed countries' exports; enhanced programme of debt relief for HIPC and cancellation of official bilateral debt; and more generous ODA for countries committed to poverty reduction.	32. Net ODA, total and to LDCs, as percentage of OECD/DAC donors' gross national income ^{f/} (OECD) 33. Proportion of total bilateral, sector-allocable ODA of OECD/DAC countries to basic social services (basic education, primary health care, nutrition, safe water and sanitation) ^{g/} (OECD) 34. Proportion of bilateral ODA of OECD/DAC donors that is untied ^{h/} (OECD)
Target 14.	Address the special needs of landlocked countries and small island developing States (through the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly)	35. ODA received in small island developing States as proportion of their GNIs ^{i/} (OECD) 36. ODA received in landlocked countries as proportion of their GNIs ^{j/} (OECD)
Target 15.	Deal comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries through national and international measures in order to make debt sustainable in the long term.	37. Proportion of total developed country imports from developing countries (by value and excluding arms) and from LDCs, admitted free of duties ^{k/} (WTO, UNCTAD, World Bank, IMF) 38. Average tariffs imposed by developed countries on agricultural products and textiles and clothing from developing countries ^{l/} (WTO, UNCTAD, World Bank, IMF) 39. Agricultural support estimate for OECD countries as percentage of their GDP ^{m/} (OECD) 40. Proportion of ODA provided to help build trade capacity (OECD and WTO are collecting data that will be available from 2001 onwards) 41. Debt relief committed under HIPC initiative, US\$ ^{n/} (IMF) 42. Debt service as a percentage of exports of goods and services (World Bank) 43. Proportion of ODA provided as debt relief (Cannot be reliably compiled; may be eliminated) 44. Total number of countries that have reached their HIPC decision points and number that have reached their completion points (cumulative) ^{o/} (IMF)
Target 16.	In cooperation with developing countries, develop and implement strategies for decent and productive work for youth.	45. Unemployment rate of 15-to-24 years-olds, each sex and total ^{p/} (ILO)
Target 17.	In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries	46. Proportion of population with access to affordable essential drugs on a sustainable basis (WHO)

Target 18.	In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications	47. Telephone lines and cellular subscribers per 100 population ^{q/} (ITU) 48. Personal computers per 100 population and internet users per 100 population ^{r/} (ITU estimates)
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- a/ Land area protected to maintain biological diversity
b/ GDP per unit of energy use (as proxy for energy efficiency)
c/ Carbon dioxide emissions (per capita) [Plus two figures of global atmospheric pollution: ozone depletion and the accumulation of global warming gases]
d/ Proportion of population with sustainable access to an improved water source.
e/ Proportion of people with access to secure tenure
f/ Net ODA as percentage of OECD/DAC donors' gross national product (targets of 0.7% in total and 0.15% for LDCs)
g/ Proportion of ODA to basic social services (basic education, primary health care, nutrition, safe water and sanitation)
h/ Proportion of ODA that is untied

- i/ Proportion of ODA for environment in small island developing States
j/ Proportion of ODA for transport sector in landlocked countries
k/ Proportion of exports (by value and excluding arms) admitted free of duties and quotas
l/ Average tariffs and quotas on agricultural products and textiles and clothing
m/ Domestic and export agricultural subsidies in OECD countries
n/ Proportion of official bilateral HIPC debt cancelled
o/ Number of countries reaching HIPC decision and completion points
p/ Unemployment rate of 15-to-24-year-olds
q/ Telephone lines per 1,000 people
r/ Personal computers per 1,000 people

Missions of ESCAP Statistics Division Staff

Mr. Andrew J. Flatt, Director, Statistics Division undertook a mission to:

New York (2-9 March): To represent ESCAP at the 33rd session of the United Nations Statistical Commission, New York, 5-8 March 2002

Washington (10-17 March): Along with **Mr. Joel Jere**, Statistician, Statistics Development Section, to participate to the Conference and Expert Group Meetings on the International Comparison Programme (ICP), Washington, 11-15 March 2002

Mr Joel Jere, Statistician, undertook a mission to:

Chiang Mai (13 – 19 January): Together with **Ms Heidi Arboleda**, Regional Adviser on National Accounts, to attend the Workshop on Establishment/ Enterprise Surveys, Chiang Mai, 14-18 January 2002.

Mr. Eric Hermouet, Associate Statistician, undertook a mission to

Sri Lanka (25 February-2 March): To provide training and explore technical possibilities to improve the Department of Census and Statistics web site

Ms. Heidi Arboleda, Regional Adviser on National Accounts, undertook missions to:

Brunei Darussalam (4-17 February): To provide advisory services on national accounts in particular on the estimation methodology for advance and preliminary annual GDP, compilation of deflator

and rebasing, quarterly GDP and other matters related to national accounts

Chiba (20 February-8 March): To serve as a guest lecturer on national accounts for the Third Group Training Course in Modules on Core Official Statistics, Chiba, 9 October 2001- 22 March 2002

Macao (12-22 March): To provide advisory services on the compilation of quarterly national accounts to Macao Statistics and Census Service (DSEC)

Mr. Nuri M. Ozsever, Specialist on Population Data Processing and Database Management with the UNFPA/CST in Bangkok, visited:

Lao PDR (11-16 February): To discuss and review current status as well as future activities of various survey/researches undertaken by the University (NUOL) and Committee for Planning and Cooperation.

Visitors to the Statistics Division

1. **Mr. Nicholas Howen**, Regional Representative, Asia- Pacific, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Bangkok
2. **Ms. Paulette Woolf**, Chief, Management Audit, Audit and Management Consulting Division, Office of Internal Oversight Services, United Nations, New York

3. **Mr. Joo-Hwan Kim**, Associate Professor, Department of Statistics, Dongguk University, Republic of Korea
4. **Mr. Alexander V. Rodin**, Third Secretary, Assistant Permanent Representative to UNESCAP, Russian Embassy, Bangkok
5. **Ms. B. Tserenkhand**, Deputy, National Statistical Office of Mongolia, Bureau of Population Census and Survey, Ulaanbaatar
6. **Ms Jirawan Boonperm**, Director of Economic Statistics Division, National Statistical Office, Thailand

Staff Movements

Ms Lene Mikkelsen: Joined ESCAP Statistics Division at the end of February 2002 as Chief of the Statistics Development Section. She was previously based in Geneva with the Statistics Division of ECE, where she was Team Leader of the Publication, social development and environment statistics team for a number of years before she became Acting Secretary of the Conference of European Statisticians and Team Leader of Demographic and Social Statistics.

Mr Eric Hermouet: Joined the Division in January 2002 as associate statistician on a temporary assignment. His background in information technology and Internet development will serve the Statistics Division in those fields.

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News items, articles and viewpoints on statistical matters from readers who wish to contribute to the *Statistical Newsletter* are most welcome. The Editor reserves the right to edit and publish manuscripts in accordance with the editorial requirements of this publication. All correspondence should be addressed to:

Editor, Statistical Newsletter
Statistics Division
ESCAP
United Nations Building
Rajadamnern Avenue
Bangkok 10200, Thailand

Tel: (66-2) 288-1234
Fax: (66-2) 288-1082 (direct line)
(66-2) 288-1000 (general)
E-mail: stat.unescap@un.org
URL: <http://www.unescap.org/stat/>