

Item ④

ESCAP/アジア太平洋地域における住民登録及び人口動態統計に関する
閣僚級会合に係る閣僚級会合「Get everyone in the picture」

(平成 26 年 11 月 24 日(月)～28 日(金) 於：バンコク)

高級実務者セッション (仮議題 4)・ステートメント

(Introduction)

In Japan, statistical data are used as a prerequisite for every action, from policy formulation for development assistance by the government and social security, to business of private companies. Therefore, we have focused on developing statistics including civil registration and vital statistics for a long time, and have accumulated a large amount of statistical data. Today, I would like to introduce the efforts Japan has made so far, and discuss the regional action framework on this agenda.

touching upon

CRVS in Asia and the Pacific

(The mechanisms of civil registration and vital statistics)

Currently, Japan uses a civil registration system in which the basic resident registration system and family registration operate inter-connectedly.

Information including the individual's full name, date of birth, sex, and address are recorded in the basic resident registration system, which also serves as the basis for various administrative services such as national health insurance, national pension, and child allowance. The family registration, on the other hand, is an official document that certifies the family relationships of Japanese citizens, which lists information about key life events including birth, death, and marriage.

Vital statistics survey collects the total events of live births, deaths,

marriages, divorces, and foetal deaths notified in accordance with law every year. At first, municipal heads fill in the vital statistics survey form based on the notifications from residents, and send them to the health center that has jurisdiction over the area. The forms are then sent from the heads of health centers to prefectural governors, and then they are aggregated by the Minister of Health, Labor and Welfare. The aggregated data are analyzed in various ways: for example, a detailed analysis of total fertility rate is carried out and published every year, including annual trends, data by each prefecture, and comparison with other countries, along with other in-depth information.

(About the regional action framework)

The key principles of the regional action framework clearly resonate with what Japan has been working on so far.

Japan's civil registration and vital statistics started in the 1870s, when the government adopted laws and institutions including the "Family Registration Law" which serves as the basis of the current system.

Since then, Japan has made strenuous efforts, step by step, to develop a system compatible with social changes and to improve its convenience and consistency. In this process, we have removed sections describing person's identity ^{of status} to ensure equal enjoyment of human rights, and amended laws in order to link family registration to the basic resident registration system.

Notifications that constitute the basis of statistical data are first submitted to the local government. While the national government produces official statistics, local governments also create detailed statistical

data in the respective areas of jurisdiction. Local government policies and local businesses are developed on the basis of these statistical data.

Moreover, as previously mentioned, vital statistics are analyzed in various ways, and Japan puts great importance on developing statistical data keeping up with the latest trends.

(Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific, SIAP)

We believe that developing basic statistical capacity of staff members in statistical departments is the key to establishing sound social demographic statistics including vital statistics. To this end, Japan is providing utmost cooperation to statistical training programs organized by SIAP, a subsidiary body of ESCAP.

We suggest that each country take full advantage of training opportunities at SIAP, which has rich statistical knowledge and the know-how of training, and put efforts into enhancing the capacity of staff statisticians.

(Post-2015 Development Agenda)

2015 is the deadline for achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Although many of MDGs have been already achieved in the Asia Pacific region, there are still many challenges to be resolved. To make the post-2015 development agenda effective and workable, accurate assessment of challenges and progress measurement are of crucial importance, and statistics serve as one of the important tools to achieve this purpose.

Japan has been an active contributor to international cooperation based on the principle of human security. We believe in the importance of

developing sound statistics in each country in the Asia Pacific region based on this regional action framework, and would like to share our statistical methods developed over the past century and make appropriate contributions.

Thank you for your attention.

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