



**COORDINATORS OF SAARCSTAT
TECHNICAL SUB-GROUPS:
FIRST MEETING**

Dhaka, Bangladesh, 16 April 2008

SAARC/TSG01/9

SAARCSTAT

**TECHNICAL SUB-GROUP ON
SAARCSTAT ACTION PLAN
BASE PAPER BY INDIA**

The Heads of National Statistical Organisations of SAARC Member States met at Kolkata, India on May 26-27, 2005 and decided to form a statistical group namely, SAARCSTAT, for cooperation in the field of statistics. As decided in the meeting, a detailed SAARCSTAT Action Plan would be prepared by a Technical Sub-Group, which will be coordinated by India.

2. The Action Plan of the SAARCSTAT needs to be prepared taking into account its following objectives:

- (i) Support regional cooperation and initiatives in statistics,
- (ii) Plan and undertake policy initiatives for comparable and timely statistics,
- (iii) Harmonise classifications, concepts, definitions,
- (iv) Adopt international good practices,
- (v) Promote improvement in the official statistics, and
- (vi) Promote human resource development.

Action Plan 2005-2015

3.1 The Action Plan may be grouped into two categories (i) Short Term Action Plan and (ii) Long Term Action Plan. Following are the broad areas need to be included in the proposed Action Plan.

A. Short Term Action Plan:

3,1,1 The following are the Plan of Actions for the period 2005-2010:

- (i) Development of SAARCSTAT Website
- (ii) .Setting up SAARCSTAT office within SAARC Secretariat by 2008
- (iii) Development and publication of a Manual on Statistical System of SAARC Member States.
- (iv) Development and publication of a Directory of Statistical Experts of SAARC Member States.
- (v) Development and publication of SAARC Statistical Yearbook
- (vi) Development of SAARC Industrial Activity Classification (SIAC) based on ISIC-rev 4 of the United Nations Statistics Division.
- (vii) Development of framework for measurement of informal sector in SAARC Region.

- (viii) Development and release of Training calendar for Official Statistics and related areas for human resource development of Member States
- (ix) Development of Framework for Inter-country comparison on National Accounts
- (x) Development of Time Series data-set for SAARC Member States and promote research
- (xi) Bringing out a list of Training Institutes for Teaching and research in Statistics.
- (xii) Taking up a project on “Concepts, Definitions and Standards of Health Statistics for the SAARC Region”.
- (xiii) Developing regional studies on emerging areas like *Trade in Services*, *Natural Resource Accounting*,

B. Long Term Action Plan:

3.1.2 The following are the Plan of Action for the period 2005-2015:

- (i) Bringing out a publication on “History and Achievements” of SAARCSTAT.
- (ii) Bringing out a publication on various methodological studies taken by Member States
- (iii) Bringing out various manuals giving statistical standards for data collection of socio-economic statistics.
- (iv) Bringing out a catalogue of publications Development of Time Series data-set for SAARC Member States and promote research
- (v) Development of Time Series data-set for SAARC Member States and promote research
- (vi) Development of Time Series data-set for SAARC Member States and promote research Setting up a regular SAARCSTAT organization
- (vii) Development of *Product Classification, Occupation Classification and Educational Classification*.

4. In order to firming up both short term and long term action plans, views of member states will be gathered and final Action Plan - year wise for five(5) years and a perspective plan for ten(10) years will be developed. The same will be placed in the next meeting of the SAARCSTAT for approval.
