



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

Dhaka, Bangladesh, 16 April 2008

SAARC/TSG01/11

**Government of Pakistan
Federal Bureau of Statistics**

**PROGRESS ON THE SAARC ASSIGNMENT
"CLASSIFICATION OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND LABOUR STATISTICS"**

On 28-09-2005, concerned offices of SAARC member countries e.g. Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka were requested through e-mail to supply latest status of classification employed in their countries to present data on Trade, Industry and Labour. In response, Ministry of Labour & Employment and Central Statistical Organization, Government of India supplied their books separately on their National Classification of Occupation and National Industrial Classification respectively while latest status of classification on Trade statistics is still awaited from India. Besides, other member countries i.e. Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka have not responded so far in spite of requests through e-mails dated 02-01-2006 and 19-01-2006. However, all the member countries of SAARC are being requested once again to expedite the supply of status of requisite classification in order to strategize the implementation of international standards for exchange of data in uniform and harmonized format.

As regards the status of classification presently employed in Federal Bureau of Statistics (FBS), latest status of classification on Trade, Industry and Labour statistics is given as under:

a. TRADE

In pursuance of the recommendations of the United Nation's Statistical Division, FBS have started the compilation of Trade statistics through Custom records on 'Harmonized Commodity Description & Coding System (HSO2) from July, 2002.

Digit wise formation of HSO2 is given as under:

- HS Code at 2-digit level represents 'Chapters'
- HS Code at 4-digit level represents 'Heading Numbers'
- HS Code at 6-digit level represents 'Sub-Heading Numbers'
- HS Code at 8-digit level represents 'National Sub-Heading Numbers'

Presently, primary source documents of Trade statistics (Imports and Exports) are being provided to FBS by Central Board of Revenue (CBR) for compilation of Trade

statistics of Pakistan. As a general practice, CBR introduces some new National Sub-Headings each year. Hence, in accordance with new introduction by CBR, FBS updates its Master File of HS Code.

In view of the above, Director (Trade), FBS, Karachi has been asked to obtain the updated Book containing Harmonized Classification on Trade statistics from Custom House and supply this Book with their comments for comparability of classification at international level.

b. INDUSTRY

Pakistan Standard Industrial Classification (PSIC), 1970 has been revised/updated in accordance with International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC), Revision-3. Meanwhile, United National Statistical Division (UNSD) has prepared new ISIC (Revision-4) and recommended all the member countries to revise their Classification according to ISIC Revision-4 to facilitate the data comparability at international level.

It has been observed that codes assigned to different economic activities given in ISIC (Revision-4) are quite different. Therefore, all the member countries of SAARC including Pakistan and India would have to change the Industrial classification to correspond with the Revised classification by UNSD in their ISIC-4 at 4-digit level.

The revision of Industrial Classification as per ISIC (Revision-4) needs detailed discussion and suggestions by concerned experts of the SAARC member states for preparation and subsequent adoption of the classification at international level.

c. LABOUR

Pakistan Standard Classification of Occupation (PSCO) was revised in 1994 in the light of International Standard Classification of Occupation (ISCO), 1988. The present 5-digits PSCO, which is under use of FBS, is in line with current and future requirements of users. While, National Classification of Occupation (NCO) of India has been prepared at 6-digit level and the existing PSCO is more or less compatible with each other. However, in PSCO-1994 there are some occupations, which are not classified at 6-digit level as given in NCO, 2004 but these can be extracted on the basis of respective major groups.