



SAARCSTAT Workshop on Classification and System of National Accounts

New Delhi, India, 5-6 June 2006

SAARCSTAT/CSNA/WKSH/2

BACKGROUND PAPER

The Heads of National Statistical Organisations of SAARC Member States met at Kolkata, India on May 26-27, 2005 and formed a permanent "SAARC Group on Statistics" namely, SAARCSTAT with six-point objectives namely,

- Support regional cooperation and initiatives in statistics;
- Plan and undertake policy initiatives for comparable and timely statistics;
- Harmonise classifications, concepts, definitions;
- Adopt international good practices;
- Promote improvement in the official statistics; and
- Promote human resource development

2. Pending development of detailed Plan of Actions, it was decided to form Seven Technical Sub-groups as follows:

S.No.	Technical Sub-Groups formed	Coordinating Country
1	SAARC Statistical Yearbook	Bangladesh
2	Informal Sector	India
3	Capacity Building	India
4	SAARCSTAT Action Plan	India
5	SAARCSTAT Website	Pakistan
6	Classification	Pakistan
7	SNA93	Sri Lanka

3. Besides, the Meeting welcomed the offer of India to take up a Project on Concepts, Definitions and Standards of Health Statistics for the SAARC region.

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Annual Meet:

4. The Meeting decided that SAARCSTAT should meet once in a year. Keeping in view of the decision of the Meeting, India has now decided to hold a Workshop to discuss two most important subjects out of the seven topics of Technical Subgroups formed. These are

- Development of SAARCSTAT Classifications
- Development of a framework for inter-regional comparability of SNA
