

Master

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)
閣僚級セッション (仮議題 6)・ステートメント

Item ⑥

(Introduction)

The world faces the 2015 deadline of the Millennium Development Goals. It is significant and timely to hold this conference to share among the Asia-Pacific region knowledge of statistical development, a key element to assess the MDGs as well as formulate its succeeding development goals.

Japan has been working on developing statistics including civil registration and vital statistics over the years. Let me introduce some of our efforts and experiences in this regard.

(Civil Registration)

Japan's civil registration system has more than a century-old history since the enforcement of the Family Registration Law in 1872, the foundation of the current system. 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.

Municipalities undertake works related to family registration and basic resident registration system. Still the central government may give

necessary advice or recommendations to ensure proper and smooth registration and avoid different treatment among regions. Our recent efforts include the networking of the registration system through utilizing ICT.

(Vital statistics)

Our modern vital statistics system was established in 1899. The system requests a separate survey form to be submitted for each vital life event.

Vital statistics consist of official records of births, deaths, marriages, divorces, and fetal deaths notified in accordance with relevant laws every year. 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.

(Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific, SIAP)

Japan is providing assistance for statistical capacity building in the region through SIAP, a subsidiary body of ESCAP. The total beneficiaries of the SIAP training programs reaches more than 14,000 staff statisticians and the achievements are highly appreciated not only inside the region but around the world. Japan will continue its support to SIAP to further help each country develop its statistical capacity.

(Post-2015 development agenda)

While the Asia-Pacific region has achieved many of the MDGs, the unfinished business still remains before us. To make the post-2015 development agenda effective and workable, accurate assessment of challenges and progress measurement are of crucial importance. Statistics serve as one of the tools to achieve this purpose. In this regard, it is imperative to develop sound statistics in the Asia Pacific region based on the regional action framework.

Japan has been an active contributor to international cooperation on, among others, disaster risk reduction (DRR), universal health coverage (UHC) and women's empowerment based on the principle of human security. We welcome the progress of DRR in the region, especially the adoption of the resolution on disaster-related statistics at the 70th Session of ESCAP and initiatives taken by experts of the member states. In this regard, I wish to highlight that the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction is to be held in Sendai, Japan next March, where disaster-related statistics will be also discussed.

Last but not least, Japan will continue to make active contribution to further prosperity and resilience in the Asia-Pacific region through sharing our disaster-related statistics and others technologies, developed over the past century.

Thank you for your attention.

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