

Mr. Chair,

Speaking from the Chair of Fiji, I also speak on behalf of the 12 Pacific Island UN member countries national statistical offices.

**Mr. Chair** - we welcome the excellent and comprehensive *Report of the World Bank on improving Household Surveys in the post-2015 Development era – issues and recommendations for a shared agenda*.

Given the increased demand for a broader range of statistics in the post-2015 Development era as we discussed yesterday, to allow particularly developing countries to derive much needed indicators to monitor and report on progress on regular basis, we support the report's key recommendations:

- To formalize new global institutional arrangements to provide technical support to countries,
- To foster coordination of household surveys across agencies and member countries, and to
- Define, promote and adhere to minimum standards and best practice.

**Mr. Chair** – given the high individual costs of running established HH surveys, such a HIES, DHS, MICS, LSMS, or LFS, each of which contributes solid statistics to derive some development indicators under the current MDG and future SDG policy frameworks, it may be timely for a new global technical standing group as proposed in recommendations 59.c and 59.d, to **consider development of a multi-development indicator household survey**, that would combine capture of all population-based development indicators in one survey. **This would have 2 very tangible benefits.**

- It will considerably reduce operational costs, as illustrated in the prototype development of such a survey in our part of the world (see paragraph 28 of the report);
- And perhaps more importantly, savings incurred would permit countries to run such surveys every 2 years, instead of running multiple and more expensive surveys in 5 years intervals – which would provide more “real-time” and regular information on critical economic and socio-demographic development scenarios.

Mr. Chair – we hear a lot of talk about developing “*fit-for-purpose*” solutions for specific development challenges.

Mr. Chair – given the **fourfold increase** of known development indicators required for monitoring the SDG agenda (as compared to the MDGs), we may wish to consider developing “*fit-for-purpose*” **measurements** to do justice to this new challenge.

Thank you Mr. Chair