

**Conference on Climate Change, Development and Official Statistics
in the Asia-Pacific Region
(Seoul, Republic of Korea, 11-12 December 2008)**

ANNOTATED AGENDA

THURSDAY, 11 DECEMBER 2008

08:00-09:00 Registration

09:00-10:00 OPENING CEREMONY

The Conference will be opened by **Jae Hyung Lee**, President of SRI Korea. **Dae Ki Kim**, Commissioner of the Korea National Statistical Office will welcome participants. Introductory speeches will be given by **Byung Wook Lee**, Vice Minister of Environment of the Republic of Korea and **Paul Cheung**, Director of the United Nations Statistics Division.

10:00-10:30 Coffee break

10:30- 12:00 SESSION I: SETTING THE SCOPE

What are the main driving forces and impacts of climate change in the Asia-Pacific region and its countries? What are the different mitigation and adaptation response strategies? What is the demand for statistics created by the scientific and policy framework of climate change and the role of official statistics in satisfying this demand?

Speakers:

Byoung Gook Lee (Climate Change Policy and Planning, Prime Minister's Office, Republic of Korea)

Jinhua Zhang (United Nations Environment Programme, Regional Resource Centre for Asia and the Pacific)

Olav Ljones (Statistics Norway)

Discussion

12:00-13:30 Lunch break

13:30-15:30 SESSION II: ANALYSIS OF THE SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

In order to assess the impacts of climate change and the consequent adaptation and mitigation measures information from a multitude of sources on the population, human/economic activities and the environment have to be analysed in an integrated fashion. Statistical offices have a major role in the integration of different data sets to provide official statistics that might describe the vulnerability or adaptive capacity of a country to impacts of climate change. Official statistics play an important role by providing the source data, indicators, and integrated statistical systems such as environmental accounts.

Speakers:

Raymundo J. Talento (National Statistical Coordination Board, Philippines)

Matt Wootton (Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, New Zealand)

Mohan Singh (Central Statistical Organization of India)

Discussion

15:30-16:00 Coffee break

16:00-17:30 SESSION II (Continued)

Speakers:

Matthias Bruckner (United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Division for Sustainable Development)

Helmut Mayer (Federal Statistical Office of Germany)

Julie Hass (European Commission – Eurostat)

Discussion

18:00-20:00 Welcoming dinner

FRIDAY, 12 DECEMBER 2008

09:00-10:30 SESSION III: THE ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE, ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION

How can official statistics contribute to the assessment of the impacts, costs and benefits of, and tradeoffs between adaptation and mitigation policies, measures and instruments? Can we monitor their effectiveness and impacts?

Carbon Emission Trading will be one of the more important responses to climate change in many countries. What is the role of official statistics in supporting the carbon market? What are the analytical tools and related official statistics?

Speakers:

Thomas Olsen (Statistics Denmark)

Thorsten Bye (Statistics Norway)

Discussion

10:30-11:00 Coffee break

11:00- 13:00 SESSION IV: NATIONAL GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORIES, EMISSION CALCULATIONS AND THE ROLE OF NATIONAL STATISTICAL OFFICES

Reliable estimates of Greenhouse Gas emissions are fundamental for policy and decision making with regard to mitigations measures, mechanisms and the monitoring of their effectiveness. Emissions (and removals) of greenhouse gases are calculated/estimated on the basis of activity data with the help of emission factors. As these calculations require a large amount of official statistics, and their reliability depend on the quality of these statistics, the NSOs have to be involved in the process to: (i) understand better the special needs for statistics: and (ii) make the other players better understand the role of statistical standards and classifications and the advantage and added value of their use. International and different country practices from within and outside the region will be presented in this session focusing on data requirements and methods that link emission inventories and the economy.

Speakers:

Seong Ho Han (Statistics Research Institute, Korea National Statistical Office, Republic of Korea)

Sonia Petrie (Ministry of Environment, New Zealand)

Takeshi Enoki (Greenhouse Gas Inventory Office, Japan)

Riitta Pipatti (Statistics Finland)

Discussion

13:00-14:30 Lunch break

14:30-17:00 SESSION V: CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS; THE WAY FORWARD

The Conference on Climate Change and Official Statistics (Oslo, Norway, 14-16 April 2008) concluded with a draft agenda for future action for the official statistical community. This session will reflect on these recommendations in the light of the discussions in sessions II-IV. The discussion will focus on how to refine, improve and prioritize the agenda for future action that will be the basis of a review by the United Nations Statistical Commission at its 40th Session in February 2009.

Speaker:

Peter Harper (Australian Bureau of Statistics)

Discussant:

Julie Hass (European Commission – Eurostat)

Discussion and conclusions

17:00 CLOSING OF THE CONFERENCE