

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,

The report covers well the information on the 2011 round of ICP and, and we congratulate the 199 participating countries for cooperating in the world's largest international statistical initiative.

The main reason for ICP is the estimation of **Purchasing Power Parity (PPP)**, and in doing so, valuable lessons were learnt by all involved in the ICP from the 2005 and 2011 rounds, and reflecting on these lessons in the next round (whenever this may happen), will make the program even stronger.

Regarding work in the Pacific - Funded by Australia and linked to the Asia-Pacific ICP through Australia, New Zealand and Fiji, the inclusion of the Pacific Island Countries and Territories in the 2011 round was a positive step.

Mr. Chair, we collectively hope this exercise was not just a one-off, but will continue, as it challenged many NSOs to produce better statistics. And through their participation, many NSOs achieved tangible improvements in their core statistical compilations.

Assisted by SPC, and other technical partners such as PFTAC/IMF, the ADB, and both Australia and New Zealand's national statistical agencies, a growing number of Pacific island NSOs are now:

- conducting regular Household income and expenditure survey to enable a robust compilation of Private Final Consumption Expenditure with a view to compiling GDP(E), and to re-base their CPI to a more recent year;
- Use latest up-to-date expenditure classification, *the Pacific Classification of Individual Consumption according to Purpose* (PACCOICOP which is based on UNs COICOP) for classifying household expenditures;
- Use latest up-to-date economic activity classification, the Pacific Standard Industrial Classification (PACSIC which is based on UNs ISIC) for classifying establishments according to the economic activity they perform;
- Setting up *Business Registers* so that frames can be sourced for business surveys to compile GDP(P);
- Compile international trade statistics using international best practice, and
- are able to Construct a Supply and Use table.

Thank you Mr. Chair