

Outcome of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Session of the Governing Council of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific

The sixteenth session of the Governing Council of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific was held on 30 November and 1 December 2020 via videoconferencing.

During the session, the Council considered the report of the Director on achievements in 2020

The Council reviewed the draft resource mobilization strategy which aims to improve the quality and increase the quantity and diversity of the Institute's resource base. The Council welcomed the focus on partnerships and supported the importance of partnerships with the private sector especially regarding new technologies, new technical skills and access to new data sources. The Council asked for the draft strategy to be further developed with greater details to be considered by the Council in its next session in 2021.

Even under the COVID-19 pandemic, training needs were strong. The Institute organized and delivered virtual interactive training courses. The number of participants was 2,709 in 2020, almost double of that in 2019. Delivery of e-learning courses was supported by a couple of webinars. The Council acknowledged the achievements of the Institute during the pandemic conditions.

The Council further considered the Institute's proposed work programme and financial plan for 2021 and endorsed it.

The seventeenth session of the Governing Council of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific was held on 2 and 3 December 2021 via videoconferencing.

During the session, Council members expressed their views on development of e-learning training materials and methodologies by the Institute. The Council also considered its regular agenda items, including the report of the Director of the Institute on its achievements in 2021 and the proposed work programme and financial plan for 2022.

The Institute organized and delivered virtual interactive training courses. The number of participants was 3,102 in 2021, largest in history of the Institute. Delivery of e-learning courses was supported by a couple of webinars. The Council acknowledged the achievements of the Institute during the pandemic conditions.

The Council requested that additional good e-learning methodologies be developed, including the utilization of hands-on sessions in web-based training, which can be actively shared among member States; the possibility of allocating resources for translation of e-learning courses into additional United Nations official languages be explored; and that training-of-trainers programmes be organized to build the capacity of staff at national statistical offices to enable them to conduct national-level training activities.

The Council reviewed and endorsed the work programme and financial plan of the Institute.

Thank you for this opportunity to present the outcome of the sixteenth and seventeenth session of the Governing Councils of the Institute to the Committee today.