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**Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific**  
Committee on Statistics

**Second session**

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Item 6 (f) of the provisional agenda

**Items for information: The means to successful statistics**

**The means to successful statistics<sup>1</sup>**

**1. Introduction**

The Central Statistical Organization (CSO) was firstly established in 1952 as the name of Central Statistics and Economic Department (CSED) by the act No. (34-A) of 1952 Central Statistical Authority Act. CSO is standing under the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development and one and only authorized agency on statistical affairs such as, conducting various kind of surveys, disseminating statistical publications and distributing computer technologies to officials from within ministries and other related ministries.

**2. Statistical Publications by the CSO**

CSO, Myanmar is publishing the following statistical publications based on the official records and surveys conducted by CSO.

- (1) Statistical Year Book (Annually)(Available with CD and book form)
- (2) Selected Monthly Economic Indicator (Monthly) (SMEI can be seen the CSO web site [www.csostat.com](http://www.csostat.com))
- (3) Agriculture Statistics of Myanmar (Every four yearly)
- (4) Livestock and Fishery Statistics of Myanmar (Every four yearly)
- (5) Forestry Statistics of Myanmar (Every four yearly)
- (6) Statistical Profile of Children and Women (Every three yearly)
- (7) The Report of Household Income and Expenditure Survey (1997)

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<sup>1</sup> This document was contributed by the Mr. Aung Myint Than, Deputy Director, Central Statistical Organization, the Government of Myanmar. It has been reproduced without formal editing. The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the United Nations.

### **3. Surveys Conducted by CSO**

- (1) Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES)  
(It is the main survey of CSO and conduct every five yearly as a nation wide survey in 1989, 1997, 2001 and 2006)
- (2) National Mortality Survey  
(It is conducted as a nationwide survey in 1999 and 2009)
- (3) The Rural Development Survey  
(Conduct two years continuously in some townships of dry zones)
- (4) Nationwide Manufacturing Survey (NMS)  
(The Nationwide Manufacturing Survey for the private industry sector was conducted in 2003.)
- (5) The Manufacturing Census for the Private Industrial Zones.  
(It was conducted in 2006, 2008 and 2009)
- (6) Price Survey for Whole Sale and Retail Price
- (7) Informal Sector Survey  
(It was firstly introduced in 2009)
- (8) Cost of Cultivation Survey  
(It was studied on some selected crops such as paddy, groundnut, seasmon and cotton in some special regions the years between 1981 and 1987)

### **4. Future Plan for conducting Surveys**

CSO has the plan to conduct the following surveys in the physical year of 2011-2012.

- (1) Nationwide Manufacturing Survey (NMS)  
(The complete enumeration will be carried out for the all Private Industrial Zones and sample survey for out side Industrial Zones. At the present, there are 26 Industrial Zones in Myanmar and more than 7000 establishments are working in the Industrial Zones and 98% of them are owned by private.
- (2) Distributive Trade Statistics Survey (DTSS)  
(It will be the firstly introduce survey in Myanmar. It was intended to conduct some sample of wholesale centres in large cities)
- (3) Mass Media Survey (MMS)  
(The mass media assets of the private sector can be seen significantly increased year to year. The list of mass media include such as, radio, TV, telephone (line phone and hand set), settle-lite, computer internet, newspaper reading and etc)
- (4) Housing Construction Survey  
(It will be conducted only on the private sector in big cities.)

## 5. Myanmar Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) (based on ISIC Rev.4)

CSO, Myanmar has been serving as a focal agency for the preparing of MSIC (based on ISIC Rev. 4). Section C of MSIC has been already finished both English and local languages. CSO officials meet and get comments and suggestions from the representatives line ministries. At least (10) times meetings with officials from line ministries and NGOs were held in CSO and the draft of MSIC (All economic sector) has been nearly completed. The national conference of MSIC (All economic sector) will be held in Naypyitaw, Myanmar on December 2010. On the other hand, the Planning Department is striving to introduce the 1993-SNA in their GDP calculation. The data to meet the needs of 1993-SNA is mainly responsible on CSO and concerning agencies. CSO, line ministries and NGO are too much eager to implement the MSIC (based on ISIC Rev.4) and we hope to complete the MSIC (for all economic sector) with both languages within the year 2010. We would like too much appreciate to the cooperation agencies and persons providing to success the MSIC implementation.

## 6. Items for information:

Millennium Development Goal indicators

### (a) 'Poverty'

The cause of poverty should be addressed in the context of sectoral strategies such as the environment, food security, population, migration, health, shelter, human resources development, fresh water, employment opportunities, arid land degradation, deforestation and rural development. The estimated poverty rate in urban is 23.9% and 22.4% in rural and 22.9% in the union.

### (b) 'Nutrition'

Food security means ensuring that all people at all times have access to the food they need for a healthy and active life for individuals, food security at the household level is crucial.

Myanmar is an agricultural county. The summer paddy plantation programme had been opened widely the new chapter of the Myanmar agriculture development since the year 2001. And, there are many creeks, lakes, rivers and very long coastal line. So, Myanmar people can get and eat so many fresh water fish, prawns and various marine products. The production of paddy and beans are exceed the total amount of consumption of Myanmar people.

### (c) 'Education'

All School-Age children in school project was initiated in 1996. Since 1999-2000 Academic Year, School Enrollment Week has been held yearly and observed in every township through the coordination and involvement of regional authorities, educational personnel, NGOs, School Board of Trustees, well-wishers, parents and communities. Due to this nationwide effort, the primary school intake rate in grade 1 steadily increased during the 1999/2000 Academic year to 2005/2006 Academic Year as follows:

Year	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Intake	91.00	91.50	92.05	93.07	95.05	96.56	97.60

Source: Department of Education Planning Training

The Monastic Education Schools are playing the vital role in the basic education of Myanmar. With the aim of providing the needy children and various parts of the country with education and enabling them to become culturally refined citizen, 1343 Monastic Education Schools have been opened in 248 townships, attended by a total of 11659 novices, 2232 nuns, 96284 boy-students and 86286 girl-students in the 2007-08 Academic Year. Therefore the literacy rate of Myanmar stands the top position in Asia.

#### (d) 'Gender'

There is no gender disparity in Myanmar. Women do have equal chance as men do in every social field. Myanmar's primary economic sector is agriculture. Women produce most of the food consumed by their family. Women's role in Myanmar family life is great. Gender and sustainable agricultural development depends on woman. The government and NGOs are striving to promote gender equality and empower of women. Enrollment of girls is equal to or sometimes surpasses that of boys in the primary and secondary levels. In the tertiary level, more girls enroll than boys. This is due to the fact that Myanmar families give emphasis to education as assurance of a good livelihood for their daughters. The MDGs indicators for Goal (3) to promote gender equality and empower women are shown below:

#### Ratio of Girls to Boys by Level and Ratio of Literate Females to Males of

##### 15-24 years old

1995, 2000, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009

Indicators	1995	2000	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
1. Ratio of girls to boys in - primary education *	93.86	97.15	98.88		97.77	98.49	97.43
- secondary education*	100.46	104.98	101.11		98.93	101.01	101.32
- tertiary education#	152.66	167.58	136.35				
2. Ratio of literate females to males of 15-24 years old*	-	-	93.60	92.58	95.45	95.45	95.45

Source: \* Department of Educational Planning and Training

# Respective Ministries

The table below is showing the ratio of girls to boys at Colleges and Universities under the respective ministries:

**Girls to Boys Ratio at Colleges and Universities under the Respective Ministries  
1990-91, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2004-05, 2005-06**

Sr. no	Ministries	Girls to boys ratio				
		1990/91	2000/01	2001/02	2004/05	2005/06
1	Ministry of Education	163.16	174.84	159.74	157.73	141.08
2	Civil Service Selection & Training Board	55.45	101.65	121.49	145.28	136.07
3	Ministry of Religious Affairs	-	57.58	62.35	55.56	60.94
4	Ministry of Culture	-	203.17	195.00	169.26	170.91
5	Ministry of Health	78.88	205.43	-	130.26	236.47
6	Ministry of Forestry	-	34.83	19.66	23.44	24.64
7	Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation	-	55.43	50.37	67.76	79.03
8	Ministry of Livestock & Fishery	26.17	24.05	26.57	26.61	26.61
9	Ministry of Science & Technology	10.71	84.97	96.10	108.66	106.31
10	Ministry of Co-operatives	-	563.45	563.45	332.43	298.19
	<b>Total</b>	<b>150.64</b>	<b>167.58</b>	<b>152.87</b>	<b>151.55</b>	<b>136.35</b>

Source: 1. Myanmar Millennium Development Goals Report, 2006  
2. Respective Ministries

**(e) 'Health'**

In Myanmar, according to National Health Plan, Ministry of Health (MOH) is implementing health programs which is highly intended to promote the health status of the nation. For child health, the health projects of EPI, Nutrition, ARI and CDD have been implemented. The health statistics such as medical and health facilities, medical and health personnel, hospitals and dispensaries by state and regions, and etc have already mentioned the Statistical Yearbook published by CSO.

For vital statistics various departments and organizations such as Department of Population, Department of Health, UNFPA, UNICEF and CSO collect data by various methods. Although vital rates vary with study design, method of data collection and coverage. But, all sources agree that Infant Mortality Rate (IMR), Under-Five Mortality Rate (U5MR) and Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) are on the descending trend. Moreover, according to the National Mortality Survey conducted by CSO in 1999, IMR for urban was 55.05, 62.53 for rural, 59.77 for the union.

In the light of Rural Health Development scheme, Health sector development has being implemented throughout the nation. As the Nation's commitment to attaining MDG: Special emphasis has put to implement the Making Pregnancy Safer initiative, as a high priority component of reproductive health strategy.

The collaboration between reproductive health programmes and other related key public health programmes such as immunization nutrition (management of anemia in pregnancy, iron folic tablets, de worming in

pregnancy), Malaria (prevention and management of malaria in pregnancy) has been strengthened. The five year reproductive health strategic plan (2004-2008) was developed in progress with multi-sector support and contribution. Myanmar Reproductive Health Policy was formulated in 2002 and implemented at country level. Because of the reasons of urgency, impact and accessibility, reproductive health has become a national concern.

National AIDS Committee is formed to oversee and monitor the HIV/AIDS prevention and control activities over the whole country. The committee also gives necessary guidance to the capacity building as well as for undertaking research activities. National AIDS committee is formed not only at the central level but also at the state/region/township levels. The participation of NGOs are becoming an important role in AIDS controlling activities and conciliating to AIDS patients.

**(f) 'Environment'**

In recent years, environmental affairs had become at the forefront of international debates. Even the main cause of poverty was considered a major factor of environmental degradation. Global concern for the environment had three crucial elements such as prevention of genetic resources, maintenance of essential ecological process and sustainable use of species and ecosystems.

Myanmar formed the National Commission for Environment Affairs and had already drawn Myanmar Agenda 21. In general addressing, Myanmar has no serious problems on environmental affairs.

## **7. Informal Sector and informal employment statistics**

The role of informal sector is becoming an important role in the GDP calculation. CSO conducted the first 'Informal Sector Surveys' (ISS) in 2009. The main objectives of (ISS) are to know how many peoples are working in the informal sector, how much (in cash and in kind) they get and which kind of industries they work. The data collecting method is based on household and conduct jointly with HIES.

## **8. Gender Statistics**

Myanmar has no gender disparity. Myanmar women enjoy equal rights as men. In Myanmar society, it is the women who managed the family decision making in providing food, clothing, schooling, control of property etc. Although, the women may go out to work for the development of the society, she still has the major responsibility to look after the family welfare. These two responsibilities must be balanced for a women who wishes to lead a harmonious and happy life both at home and the society. The government also recognizes the important role of women in shaping the future socio-economic development of the country. The national programmes for promoting the survival, protection and development women and children are being undertaken.

The posts of deputy director and higher are considered to be senior official positions in the public sector. Out of 6748 persons in senior official positions, there are 2055 female senior officers. In 2004-2005, the percentage of female senior officers is 30.29% in the public sector.

In 2004-2005, the total labour force of Myanmar is 27.09 million. The women workforce is 10.34 million. The indicators for 2001-2002 to 2004-2005 are as follows:

### Labour Force by Sex

(in million)

Sr.	Sex	Year			
		2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005
1	Male	15.41	15.84	16.29	16.75
2	Female	9.52	9.79	10.06	10.34
	Total	24.93	25.63	26.35	27.09

### Size of the Women Workforce in Private Sector (Urban)

In the private sector (Urban), the sizes of the women work force from 2002 to 2005 are mentioned in the below table:

#### Women in Private Sector (Urban)

Sr.	Year	Workers	
		Persons	Percentage
1.	2002	237,483	34%
2.	2003	230,126	35%
3.	2004	207,793	33%
4.	2005	215,336	35%

### Size of Women Workforce in Industrial Zones

The number of women workers and percentage who worked in Industrial Zones from 2003 to 2006 are as follows:

#### Women Workers in Industrial Zones

Sr.	Year	Workers	
		Persons	Percentage
1.	2003	101,288	60%
2.	2004	94,967	57%
3.	2005	96,234	55%
4.	2006	101,453	56%

Myanmar has no serious problem on gender disparity at all. Many groups of women participate in NGOs such as Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association (MMCWA), the Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association (MWEA), Myanmar Maternal Association

(MMA), Myanmar Red Cross (MRC), Myanmar Nurses Association (MNA) etc. Women play a key role in those associations.

## **9. The Assistances which Provide to CSO**

(a) The CSO, above mentioned, collects and compile the statistics in every field but it is still weak in survey data analysis and practical use of statistical software. We also weak in drawing of survey design and questionnaire design for some surveys such as Informal Sector Survey (ISS), Survey of Housing Construction in the Private Sector, Mass media Survey, Transport Statistics Survey, Distributive Trade Statistics Survey, Live Stock Survey etc. Even, we need how to draw a master sample frame for those surveys. Our survey reports are mentioning with out-put tables which are obtained from survey results. So, they are showing the descriptive statistics only. The calculation of precision what we can call practical computation of standard error and standard deviation for the results coming out the surveys.

(b) The Nationwide Manufacturing Survey (NMS) in the private sector is a key survey of CSO at the present. Analysis on NMS data is still weakening and we are facing some calculation problems on many indicators. Now, we are striving to apply the Myanmar Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) (based on ISIC Rev.4 of UNSD) for coming NMS and it would be needed many technical and financial assistants together with methodology.

(c) Methodology for producing of vital statistics indicators from incomplete vital registration because Myanmar still having suffering from under registration and non registration of birth and death especially in rural areas. Especially for the death registration is more severed absents. The evaluation method and practical computing techniques for completeness of vital registration will be very useful for the improvement of our vital registration system undertakings. Technical and practical computing of life table by various means and methods from the inferior registration is really needed.

(d) CSO, Myanmar is like an institution which is distributing computer technologies to relating officials from many ministries. CSO produced more than 2500 computerists from government sectors by the computer developing project by the UNDP. Although, the cut of assistances such as technical, material and financial by UNDP and changing situations, CSO could not open the computer training courses after 1994. CSO staffs are expecting to attend advanced computer training courses. It is also necessary for the sake of understanding and practical applying of the statistical software such as SPSS, STATA and other statistical development softwares with interpretation of the survey results.

(e) CSO is serving as a focal agency for the implementation of MSIC (All economic sector based on ISIC Rev.4) and the draft of MSIC has been already finished. Section C of MSIC (ISIC Rev.4) has been completed both mother language and English. Myanmar is striving to introduce the 1993-SNA for GDP calculation. Application of MSIC (ISIC Rev.4) and 1993-SNA will also have to be learned and improved.

(f) In connection with complication of PPP and poverty condition of the country, the method and technology will have to be learned.