The Fourth Session of the ESCAP Committee on Statistics will deliberate on strategic priorities for statistics development in Asia and the Pacific, allowing for the evolution of the post-2015 agenda.

The Committee will also discuss regional and global initiatives on statistics development, including gender statistics. The Committee is expected to endorse a core set of gender indicators for Asia and the Pacific and adopting it as a guide to improve gender statistics. The core set of gender indicators presented to the Committee was formulated upon consultation with ESCAP members and associate members, in accordance with the regional 20th year review of the Beijing Platform for Action and other relevant global development discourses.

In this connection, the RCM Thematic Working Group on Gender Equality and Empowerment Women, Working Group on Gender Statistics is organizing a side event highlighting the essential nature of sex-disaggregated data and other gender-related data in the formulation of social and economic policies.

The side event is to take the format of a panel discussion, with opportunities for the panelists to interact with the audience. The panel will consist of 4 speakers to highlight perspectives of data users and producers. They will speak to the vital role gender statistics plays in identifying and designing effective social and economic policies that promote gender equality.

In their interventions, the panelists will highlight the value of collecting and analyzing data, particularly sex-disaggregated data, in formulating policies to advance gender equality, ideally by sharing experiences from their own work or that of their organizations in overcoming challenges to integrate a gender perspective in collecting and analyzing gender-responsive statistics. In this regard, gender equality is considered an integral part of sustainable human development in consistent with the principles of the post-2015 development agenda.

The side event will contain a Q&A session.

**Panelists**

1. Ms Cecilia Ng, Director of Penang Women’s Development Cooperation, Malaysia
2. Mr Epeli Waqavonovono, Government Statistician, Fiji Bureau of Statistics (FBOS)
3. Ms Lisa Grace Bersales, National Statistician and Civil Registrar General, Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA)
4. Ms Ganga Devi Dabadi, Deputy Director General, Nepal Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS)

**Moderator**

Mr Tite Habiyakare, Senior Statistician, ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

The event will be held in English only. All interested individuals are encouraged to attend.