Thank you, Chair

1. Various activities are steadily being implemented at the first phase of the Regional Action Plan of the Global Strategy in the Asia and Pacific region, and we appreciate the efforts of the regional office.

2. For the second phase, consideration is being made toward the formulation of the Global Action Plan, and we believe it is necessary to consider the Regional Action Plan based on this Global Action Plan. We would like the Regional Steering Committee to continue to prioritize developing cost-effective data collection methods and introducing ICT technology, which is beneficial not only in developing countries but also in developed countries.

3. The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), Japan, has been engaged in the decision making process of the Regional Steering Committee for Asia and the Pacific as a resource member.

4. In addition, we have sent experts to ASEAN member states through the ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS) to develop statistical data with a focus on food processing and distribution data for the formulating of food value chain (FVC).

Project period: January 2016 – March 2019
Project name: The Project on Improving Statistics Data on Food Processing and Distribution Related to Agricultural Crops in ASEAN Region(ISFAS)