[04.03]

Status of Preparation for the 2011 ICP

Asian Development Bank

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Status of Preparation for the 2011 ICP

1. Organizational Aspects: nominating the ICP Regional Coordinator and establishing the regional coordinating office

   The Economics and Research Department of the Asian Development Bank will be the regional coordinating office.

   A Regional Advisory Board will be constituted to provide guidance on setting regional goals; reviewing progress of the regional program and resolving technical issues. The 2005 ICP Board members are being considered.

   Regional Coordinator: Chellam Palanyandy.

2. Country participation: invitations to countries, information on new participating countries.

   Twenty one ADB member economies would be invited to participate: Bangladesh; Bhutan; Brunei Darussalam; Cambodia; People's Republic of China; Fiji Islands; Hong Kong, China; India; Indonesia; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Malaysia; Maldives; Mongolia; Nepal; Pakistan; Philippines; Singapore; Sri Lanka; Taipei, China; Thailand; and Viet Nam.

   Non-ADB member economy: Macao, China; it has requested to participate in the 2011 ICP at their own expense.

   All the above economies participated in the 2005 ICP. The Islamic Republic of Iran has not been included in the Asia Pacific region for the 2011 ICP.

   Participation of Myanmar is under consideration.

3. MOUs: with the World Bank and with participating countries

   MOU with World Bank: ADB had submitted its comments on the initial draft MOU on 2nd December 2009 and on the final draft on 2 February 2010.

   MOU with participating countries: ADB procedure requires the Ministry of Finance of participating countries' to sign a "Letter of No Objection" indicating willingness to participate in the 2011 ICP. There after, as in the ICP 2005, ADB will institute a Framework of Partnership with the National Statistics Offices (as national implementing
agencies). These processes would be initiated once the MOU between World Bank and ADB has been formalized/signed.

4. **Funding: budget, available funding, funding gap, and fund-raising efforts**

   An indicative budget estimate was submitted to the World Bank in November 2009.

   The estimated budget for implementing the 2011 ICP is USD 3.2 million. Only 50% from internal sources have been approved. The remaining 50% need to be sourced externally.

5. **Regional activities: meetings, workshops, technical assistance to countries, etc**

   A preliminary work program in line with the Global work plan was submitted to the World Bank in November 2009, indicating scheduled activities, duration and timing of the activities.

   The Asia Pacific regional core list from the 2005 ICP was submitted in November 2009.

   ADB's comments on the global core list were submitted to the Global Office in January 2010. Country comments have not been solicited as yet.

   All the economies listed in item 2 above (except Macao, China) have been briefed on the 2011 ICP in December 2009 during ADB's project workshop on *2009 PPP Update*.

   In mid-March 2010 a "technical launch" of the 2011 ICP is planned as part of the *2009 PPP Update* workshop to introduce the 2011 global core list; methodological changes from 2005 to 2011; the research agenda on comparison resistant products/services and; sub-regional core list.

   A formal launch is proposed for end April/early May to introduce the ICP program to Regional Advisory Board members, Heads of National Statistical Offices, and National Coordinators.

6. **Any specific issues regarding country participation, capacity, etc**

   None for the moment