

Tuesday 16 October, 2018

**Name of Speaker:** Aliimuamua Malaefono.Tauā-Faasalaina

**Title:** Government Statistician and Registrar General

**Country:** Samoa, Samoa Bureau of Statistics

**Agenda Item 2:**

**Review of overall progress with respect to the document “Advancing official statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: a collective vision and framework for action by the Asia-Pacific statistical community”**

The “collective vision” document emphasizes the need for integrated statistics for integrated decisions. This need is especially evident for environment and natural resource statistics. Statistics on water, land, energy, wastes, climate change, disaster risk, ecosystems and oceans require not only integration across disciplines, but also across sectors.

With the support of UN Statistics Division, the Australian Bureau of Statistics and ESCAP, the Samoa Bureau of Statistics and its stakeholders were able to produce some of the first SEEA accounts for water in the region. These are now being updated and we have gained the expertise and confidence to undertake further challenges of piloting energy and waste accounts.

Samoa is an active partner in the international community for developing and implementing environmental-economic accounting. We are a member of the UN Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting. We have also had the privilege of sharing our expertise at international events such as the SIAP training on climate change statistics and the regional expert workshop on water accounts in Manila.

We continue to pursue further opportunities for capacity building, stakeholder engagement and technical assistance.

ESCAP has expressed its confidence in Samoa’s strong stakeholder relationships by offering to collaborate with our government on a pilot study for ocean accounts. We will discuss our progress further at the side event on Friday.

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