

Item 2

Country Statement

Statistical Development Activities and Programme in Myanmar

Chair, Excellencies, Distinguished delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Myanmar Delegation, I wish to congratulate the Commission for organizing Fourth session of Committee on statistics.

The statistical system of Myanmar is a decentralization system. Almost all ministries have Planning and Statistics Department and the statistics needed for their ministries are being compiled independently by each ministry to serve their own planning purposes.

CSO collects data in accordance with the Central Statistical Authority Act, No.32 of 1952 and plays a key role in the National Statistical System. The CSO is engaged in collecting and compiling social and economic statistical data from three main sectors of the country, namely public, co-operation and private.

Data are compiled by three means of data collection:

1. Statistics provided by concerned agencies.
2. Statistics jointly compiled by agencies concerned and CSO.
3. Statistics obtained from surveys conducted by CSO itself.

For the public sector, relevant data are collected form administrative records of the Government Department. Most of the economic and social data are compiled by CSO in collaboration with respective government departments.

CSO used to disseminate social and economic data in printed book form. Since 1997, the dissemination of Myanmar Data on CD Rom was able to be distributed.

The followings are major publications of CSO:

1. Statistical Yearbook.
2. Selected Monthly Economic Indicators.
3. Foreign Trade Statistics.
4. Agricultural Statistics.
5. Vital Statistics Report.
6. Statistical Profile of Children and Women.
7. Live stocks and Fishery Statistics.
8. Forestry Statistics.
9. Household Income and Expenditure Survey.
10. Myanmar Data on CD Rom.

CSO is always trying to produce the social and economic data to be able to monitor the existing conditions of the country and timely and reliable data for social and economic effective planning for the development of the country.

The aims and objectives of the CSO consist of the following functions:

- To improve a comprehensive efficient and reliable statistical system for social and economic policy, effective planning and administration.
- To review and advice on all statistical operations of the Union Government whether performed for statistical administrative or other purposes.
- To coordinate and integrate statistics and statistical operations.
- To establish, prescribe and maintain the highest statistical standards.

- To organize and conduct socio-economic surveys with reference to the requirement of prepared planned basis and other purposes.

Institutional Strengthening

The government laid down the four economic policies. The fourth policy is quality of statistics and statistical system. The committee for accurate and quality statistics was formed on 12 July 2013 with the aim of laying down necessary policies for economic development of the country and crucial for compilation of reliable statistics.

The committee will undertake the eight tasks to meet the objectives:

1. To promote the credibility of statistics,
2. To supervise and give direction on survey and statistical activities for the socio-economic development of Myanmar,
3. To coordinate among Ministries to emerge a good statistical system in various sectors.
4. To advice and give direction for the integration of the NSS,
5. To supervise and provide direction for the management of the NSS- related organizations,
6. To submit a report on the consistency of the NSS with international standards in statistics (including the sectoral assessments and recommendations for improvement),
7. To coordinate and provide training for the standardization of statistical methods and definitions among the Ministries and State and regional governments, and
8. To give direction for updating of the statistical Act to meet the requirements of the current situation.

The committee has laid down the three tasks:

1. Re-engineering National Statistical System
2. Updated Statistics Act
3. Developed statistics Master Plan (National Strategy for development of Statistics)

We are trying to restructure the Central Statistical Organization starting from April 2015. The structuring of Central Statistical Organization will be upgraded to the township level.

With the technical assistance of Asia Development Bank (ADB), CSO is drafting Myanmar statistics Law and now the draft of Myanmar statistics Law has been finalized.

With the assistance of World Bank and ADB, CSO is implementing National Strategy for the development of Statistics.

Population and Housing Census 2014

The last population Censuses in Myanmar was carried out by the population department in 1973 and 1983. After a gap of 31 years, Myanmar conducted the 2014 Population and Housing census starting from 29th March to 10th April 2014 with the assistance of UNFPA. The provisional result is released in August 2014 and the main results will be released in May 2015.

Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES)

Central Statistical Organization conducted Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) once in every five year. This HIES survey was conducted with the following objectives:

- to obtain consumption pattern and Expenditures by household by urban and rural and by State and Division
- to get the norm of weight by food and non food specifically for computing consumer price index (CPI)
- to be able to estimate and present the poverty status by applying consumption approach.

The sample design for HIES is stratified three-stage random sampling and covering 32000 sample households.

Central Statistical Organization conducted Household Income and Expenditure Survey and Informal Sector Household Establishment Survey in 2012.

Myanmar Poverty and Living Condition Survey (MPLC)

Myanmar Poverty and Living Condition Survey (MPLC) was conducted by the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development and World Bank with the sample size of 3648 household starting from December 2014. It aims for estimating poverty indicators and related statistics. The result will be released in September 2015.

Demographic Health Survey

Ministry of Health has conducted the Demographic Health Survey with the sample of 15,000 to 17,000 household. The survey operation has started in February 2015.

National Manufacturing Survey (NMS)

There was two parts in NMS, Industries in industrial zone and outside of industrial zone areas. It includes 29 industrial zone areas and 330 townships at 72 districts in the entire country for the areas of outside of zone.

All Industries at zone areas were enumerated while all of the registered industries and 10% of non registered industries were obtained for the outside areas of zone. The purpose of NMS is to support for the development of private industrial sector.

National Manufacturing Survey was conducted in 2003 and 2006. The NMS for Industrial Zone was conducted every year. The questionnaire was filled up by self entry basis of each establishment.

Myanmar Labour Force, Child Labour and School-to Work Transition Survey

Myanmar conducted household labour Force Survey in 1990. After a gap of 24 Years, Myanmar conducted the Myanmar Labour Force, Child Labour and School-to Work Transition Survey of the sample of 24000 household with 1500 E.A with financial and technical assistance of ILO starting from January 2015.

Vital Statistics

The Vital Registration of birth and death were recorded by tri-foil forms before the year 1962. Thirteen Kinds of birth and death registration forms were used from 1962 to 2000. The Modified Vital Registration System was assisted by UNICEF 2001-2005 country program, started in 2001 and it was gradually expended to cover all State and Division in the whole country. Urban and Rural areas of all townships in Myanmar were completely introduced by Modified Vital Registration System since April 2006.

CSO has been undertaking the Modified Vital Registration System (MVRS) in collaboration with the Department of Health (DOH) by using the revised eight kinds of Vital Registration forms within the entire country.

Birth and death registration and issue of birth and death certificates are done by the Basic Health Staff of DOH who are assigned at the Rural Health Centre (RHC), Hospitals or Township Medical Officer Offices.

CSO is primarily responsible for keeping, data processing, computing and producing, publishing the records of Vital Statistics.

Although the MVRS was introduced to the whole areas of Myanmar, the reporting coverage is found to be unsatisfactory. Therefore first, the coordination committees on Birth and Death Registration were formed at the national level, state/ regional level, district level, township level, and ward and village tract level. National level committee is led by Deputy Minister from the Ministry of Immigration and Population.

Second, the forum on birth registration was held in July 2014 to enhance public engagement and participation.

Third, the birth registration was conducted on 20th to 24th October 2014 in two states and one region and it will also be conducted in two states and one region in this year.

Data Dissemination Services

CSO provides three types of data dissemination services. They are as follows:

- Regular statistical publications in book forms together with electronic versions on CD-ROM
- On-line data services for the government departments under the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development through the Ministry's Intranet. The main purposes are to share the CSO data to those departments for further analysis and planning.
- Some selected statistical information is provided through the CSO Home Page for the public and international organizations. The internet URL address of CSO Home Page is www.csostat.gov.mm. CSO is gradually expanding the web based technology and its statistical capability for sharing more data on the internet as an e-government application.

Capacity Development of Statistical Staff

The Institute of Economics is the main centre where specialized training is given in Statistics leading to B.Econ. Degree (Statistics), BPS and Diploma in Statistics.

Senior and middle level staff members of Central Statistical Organization have been trained at the Institute of Economics or abroad. CSO dispatches its staff to participate in training, workshop and seminar provided by governments, UN organizations and other agencies and organizations. The reason is that the experiences gained from the seminar, workshop and training could improve CSO staff's knowledge and skills in statistical methodology.

Moreover, CSO has conducted training on trainer course on basic and applied statistics to the staff of CSO and other 11 departments with the assistance of ADB.

Knowledge Sharing

Furthermore, CSO arranges the knowledge sharing presentation at CSO meeting hall within one month whenever the staff came back from abroad.

There is an urgent need for better and more complete information to be used in national comprehensive development planning. To meet this demand more systematic and well co-ordinated statistical system with better facilities and more trained manpower is essential. At the same time there is a need for public awareness of the value of statistics and cooperation in trying to collect them.

At present, the Government of Myanmar is closely working with the development partners. The government of Myanmar would like to invite the donor community to invest in Myanmar to strengthen statistical system.

Thank you very much.