

*Annex 4
Mongolia*

Progress in implementing the Asia-Pacific Regional Action Plan to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics

The agricultural sector is the backbone of most of countries, including the developing ones. We should like to place a lot of importance on the fact that we are discussing the activities, undertaken and to be carried out further in the light of the implementation of the Regional Action Plan to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics.

Proposals:

- It appears that at least 20 countries are to be involved in formulating and implementing a national programme to improve the agricultural and rural statistics under Regional Action Plan. At present, 15 countries have been selected. Most of them are those and the island countries, where the crop farming and fruit farming are dominated. However, the representation of those with the continental climate where the animal husbandry play an important role in their economies are not included. We propose that these countries should be considered for the selection of the remaining 5 countries.
- Implementing the project to improve agricultural and rural statistics for food security in support of the Global Strategy, ADB has assisted the selected four countries in developing their respective national action plans and provided technical assistance to them to improve their respective agricultural data collection systems. The food security (food supply at the national level, and food availability and quality at the household level) is becoming a pressing issue for the countries that import the majority of their staple foods and are vulnerable to disasters. Nonetheless, at present there are not any common or integrated standards, methods, indicators, and requirements for the measurement of food security. Hence, we propose that allowing for the geographical and regional specificity, economic status, and dominant agricultural sectors, the project should continue with the focus on developing integrated guidelines and standards and conducting necessary training to address food security issues.