

Policy Brief on National Statistical System

Introduction

1. "Quality of statistics and statistical system" is the fourth economic policy in Myanmar. In order to implement this policy, it is need to do the statistical process such as the presenting all socio-economic indicators and statistics, collecting, compiling, processing, estimating, analyzing and disseminating data etc. It is need to be in line with the evidence base situation and need to strong these statistical processes by cooperating and coordinating with government statistical institute, research team, experts and private organizations.

2. To accurate and quality of statistics is very important to come out the evidence base policy and plan for data users and policy makers, and to monitor and evaluate the implementation process. It is also very important to have basic concept and methodology of statistics, good quality of statistics and systematic methodology in collecting the statistics.

3. National Statistical System (NSS) is need to have good quality in order to create good economic environment, set the evidence base policy and plan for policy makers, planning makers, private owners and socio-economic researchers.

4. Central Statistical Organization under the Ministry of Planning and Finance is drawing the Policy Brief on National Statistical System guidance with theCommittee on Data accuracy and Quality of Statistics in order to come out Myanmar National Statistical System that can produce the socio-economic statistics and indicators for accurate and quality of statistics and to support the necessary data for NSS from government departments, cooperation, private organizations and all stakeholders.

Definition of National Statistical System

5. **Myanmar National Statistical System** means a system consisting of all departments, ministries, and institutions in the government of Myanmar engaged in the production of official statistics, whether sourced from primary data in statistical data collections or administrative records, or other statistical compilations. Otherwise, it is the totality of statistics produced and published by National Government.

Statistical Policy

- 6. The statistical policy was described as follow:
 - a. To build a coherent National Statistical System in Myanmar that produces comprehensive, accurate and high-quality socio-economic statistics;
 - b. To gather data on the activities of government, cooperatives, and the private sector in order to achieve comprehensive coverage of official statistics
 - c. To facilitate a smooth and effective statistical production process that adequately serves all public and private data users;
 - d. To enhance the cooperation and coordination between statistical departments and organizations;
 - e. To build trust between government, the public and the international community by providing accurate and high-quality statistics;
 - f. To promote wide and effective implementation of the new Myanmar Statistical Law, and to ensure implementation of the National Strategy for Development of Statistics (NSDS), in order to achieve reliable and timely compilation and dissemination of official statistics.

Basic Principles for National Statistical System

7. In order to ensure the quality of Official Statistics and to obtain the people's trust, statistical activities must be performed in accordance with the following principles:

- (a) The quality of statistical data in the Myanmar National Statistical System must be based strictly on professional and scientific considerations, existing national laws and the United Nations Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics to ensure accuracy and credibility of statistics;
- (b) Data as faithfully as possible must be close to real conditions;
- (c) As far as is possible, duplication in the collection of information required for statistical purposes must be avoided;
- (d) Transparency on the statistical production methodologies and data dissemination must be observed in order to achieve the credibility of and public trust in official statistics;

- (e) The confidentiality of individual data for statistical purposes must be strictly protected;
- (f) Subject to the need to protect data confidentiality, official statistics must be freely disseminated in an impartial manner to any data user as a public resource and a right of the citizens, as well as to support decision-makers; and,
- (g) Administrative records shall be used as basic data for official statistics.

International Statistical System

- 8. There are two international statistical systems.
 - (a) Decentralized Statistical System
 - (b) Centralized Statistical System

9. Myanmar Statistical System is decentralized statistical system. Both decentralized statistical system and centralized statistical system has strangeness and weakness. Therefore, it is need to do more coordinate with government statistical institute, research team, experts and private organizations, and to be in line with evidence base situation for collect, compile and process the data and for overcome the weakness of decentralized statistical system. It is also need to use the mixed system in order to balance with strangeness and weakness of these two statistical systems.

10. Myanmar Statistics Law is being drawn in order to strengthen the wellcoordinated operation of decentralized statistical system currently use in Myanmar and to emerge the qualified Myanmar National Statistical System.

UN Guidelines for the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics

11. As Myanmar is a member state of United Nations, it is need to follow the UN Guidelines for the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics to emerge the qualified national statistical system. These **basic principles** are as follows;

(a) Official statistics provide an indispensable element in the information system of a democratic society, serving the Government, the economy and the public with data about the economic, demographic, social and environmental situation. To this end, official statistics that meet the test of practical utility are to be compiled and made available on an impartial basis by official statistical agencies to honour citizens' entitlement to public information.

- (b) To retain trust in official statistics, the statistical agencies need to decide according to strictly professional considerations, including scientific principles and professional ethics, on the methods and procedures for the collection, processing, storage and presentation of statistical data.
- (c) To facilitate a correct interpretation of the data, the statistical agencies are to present information according to scientific standards on the sources, methods and procedures of the statistics.
- (d) The statistical agencies are entitled to comment on erroneous interpretation and misuse of statistics.
- (e) Data for statistical purposes may be drawn from all types of sources, be they statistical surveys or administrative records. Statistical agencies are to choose the source with regard to quality, timeliness, costs and the burden on respondents.
- (f) Individual data collected by statistical agencies for statistical compilation, whether they refer to natural or legal persons, are to be strictly confidential and used exclusively for statistical purposes.
- (g) The laws, regulations and measures under which the statistical systems operate are to be made public.
- (h) Coordination among statistical agencies within countries is essential to achieve consistency and efficiency in the statistical system.
- (i) The use by statistical agencies in each country of international concepts, classifications and methods promotes the consistency and efficiency of statistical systems at all official levels.
- (j) Bilateral and multilateral cooperation in statistics contributes to the improvement of systems of official statistics in all countries.

ASEAN Community Statistical System (ACSS) Code of Practice

12. As Myanmar is ASEAN member state, it is need to accept and follow the ASEAN Community Statistical System (ACSS) Code of Practice. These Code of Practice which adopted by the ACSS Committee in 2012 are as follow;

- (a) The Vision of The ASEAN Community Statistical System is by 2015 be a forward looking and reliable provider of relevant, timely and comparable statistics in support of the ASEAN Community and the Mission of the ASEAN Community Statistical System is to provide relevant, timely and comparable ASEAN statistics in support of evidence based policy and decision making and enhance the statistical capacity of the Member States and ASEAN Secretariat.
- (b) Recognizing the partnership between and among the national statistical authorities of the ASEAN Member States and the ASEAN Secretariat in the development, production, dissemination and communication of ASEAN statistics. It is need to do to commit to adhere to the ASEAN Community Statistical System (ACSS) Code of Practice.

13. The ASEAN Framework of Cooperation in Statistics 2010-2015 adopted in October 2010 calls for a common code of practice as an important means of ensuring trust, accountability and highest professional standards in the development, production, dissemination and communication of ASEAN statistics.

14. The ACSS Code of Practice shall set out the guidelines and standards in conducting the development, production, dissemination, and communication of statistical products and services. It contains the fundamental norms that will help ensure trust in the statistical products and services of the national statistical authorities of the ASEAN Member States (AMS) and of the ASEANstats and maximum service to the users of statistics. It also improves the levels of user satisfaction, transparency and accessibility.

15. The ACSS Code of Practice shall guide the national statistical authorities of the AMS and ASEAN-Stats in the development, production, dissemination and communication of ASEAN statistics as follows:

- (a) Provides a set of guidelines on good practices;
- (b) Helps to develop a better understanding of the training, supervision and support required;
- (c) Improves confidence of the users of statistics through the information contained on the conduct and practices; and
- (d) Raises awareness among data users on the scope and limitations.

16. The ACSS Code of Practice is consistent with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics adopted by United Nations Statistical Commission in 1994. The Principles also reflect the values stipulated in the ACSS Strategic Plan adopted in July 2011. These Principles are subsumed in three major dimensions on: Institutional Environment, Statistical Processes, and Statistical Output. A set of indicators of good practice for each of the Principles provides a reference for reviewing the implementation status of the key principles of the ACSS Code of Practice. All aspects of the development, production, dissemination and communication of ASEAN statistics are covered by the ACSS Code of Practice.

Key Principles of the Code of Practice for the ASEAN Community Statistical System

- 17. The 8 key principles of ASEAN Community Statistical System are:
 - A. Institutional Environment
 - 1. Mandate for Data Collection
 - 2. Professionalism & Integrity
 - 3. Confidentiality
 - 4. Accountability
 - 5. Statistical Cooperation & Coordination
 - **B.** Statistical Process
 - 6. Cost Effectiveness
 - 7. Reduced Respondent Burden
 - C. Statistical Output
 - 8. Commitment to Quality (Relevance, Reliability, Timeliness, Comparability & Accessibility)

18. The ACSS Code of Practice can be subject for review when new developments in the statistical community take place. The ACSS can update the Code of Practice to address new developments in the operating environment while upholding a consistent set of ideals.

A. INSTITUTIONAL ENVIRONMENT

Key Principle 1: Mandate for Data Collection - National statistical authorities of the AMSs have clear legal mandates to collect information, which are shared with the ASEAN-Stats for the compilation of ASEAN statistics.

Indicators

- 1.1 The mandate of the national statistical authorities of the AMSs to collect information for the production and dissemination of national official statistics is stipulated in national laws and/or national legal frameworks;
- 1.2 National statistics produced by national statistical authorities of the AMSs is provided to the ASEAN-Stats for the compilation of ASEAN statistics, under the coordination of the National Statistical Offices; and
- 1.3 The ASEAN-Stats produces, disseminates, and communicates ASEAN statistics required by the ASEAN Community, with the guidance of the ACSS Committee.

Key Principle 2: Professionalism and Integrity - National statistical authorities of the AMSs and ASEAN-Stats decide according to strictly professional consideration on methods and procedures in various stages of statistical activities from data collection to data dissemination.

Indicators

- 2.1 Decisions are based on professional considerations of responsibility, competence and expert knowledge;
- 2.2 The national statistical authorities apply the relevant international standards, guidelines and good practices in the overall methodological framework;
- 2.3 The national statistical authorities ensure that the local staff avails of relevant training courses and conference that will allow them to improve their knowledge and skills; and

2.4 The ASEAN working groups and task forces are responsible for setting policies, frameworks, and guidelines on the production of timely and comparable statistics, supported by the ASEAN-Stats.

Key Principle 3: Confidentiality- The confidentiality of the information provided by households, enterprises, administrative units and other respondents for statistical purposes is safeguarded by national statistical authorities of the AMSs and ASEAN-Stats.

Indicators

- 3.1 The mandate of the national statistical authorities of the AMSs to safeguard the confidentiality of information provided for statistical purposes is stipulated in national law and/or national legal frameworks;
- 3.2 Policies, guidelines, terms and conditions/ protocol exist to safeguard statistical confidentiality in the production and dissemination processes at both national and ASEAN levels; and
- 3.3 Physical and technological infrastructures are in place to protect the security and integrity of statistical databases and archives.

Key Principle 4: Accountability ASEAN statistics are presented in a clear and understandableform with sources and methodology, and disseminated in a suitable and convenient manner withclear mention of their limitations.

Indicators

- 4.1 ASEAN statistics are presented in a form that facilitates proper and easy interpretation and meaningful comparisons;
- 4.2 Data sources, methodologies, and limitations are provided;
- 4.3 Errors discovered in published statistics are corrected at the earliest possible date and appropriately communicated;
- 4.4 The national statistical authorities of the AMSs are entitled to comment on erroneous interpretation and misuse of statistics; and
- 4.5 Data sets/ variables provided by the AMSs to ASEAN-Stats are defined in the relevant working groups and task forces, and documented in their respective data transmission protocols or meeting records.

Key Principle 5: Statistical Cooperation and Coordination - Cooperation and coordination in statistics contribute to improvement in AMSs' national statistical systems and ASEAN-Stats.

Indicators

- 5.1. National coordination mechanism exists for coordinating the development, production and dissemination of national statistics and ensuring their quality;
- 5.2. National coordination mechanisms exist for the country focal point, to coordinate the development, harmonization and provision of statistics required for compilation of ASEAN statistics;
- 5.3. Close cooperation and coordination between and among the national statistical authorities of the AMSs and ASEAN-Stats are in place to produce comparable ASEAN statistics;
- 5.4. Mechanisms are in place for various ASEAN sectoral bodies and other key stakeholders to advise the ACSS in setting overall statistical priorities;
- 5.5. The ACSS is equipped with a proper mechanism for data exchange between the AMSs and the ASEAN-Stats to enable the development, production, dissemination and communication of ASEAN statistics satisfactorily meeting the increasing demand;
- 5.6. Cooperation with the international statistical community is organized to improve methodology, effectiveness of the methods and tools implemented, where feasible; and
- 5.7. Coordination exists among donor assistance to AMSs and ASEAN-Stats to optimize the use of resources.

B. STATISTICAL PROCESSES

Key Principle 6: Cost Effectiveness and Adequacy of Resources - Resources are available adequately and used effectively.

Indicators

6.1 Procedures exist to optimize resources utilized in the production and dissemination of ASEAN statistics;

- 6.2 Procedures exist to assess and justify demands for new ASEAN statistics against their cost, and to assess if any ASEAN statistics can be discontinued or curtailed to free up resources;
- 6.3 Productivity potential of information and communications technology is being optimized for data collection, production and dissemination; and
- 6.4 Staff, financial, and technological resources are available both in magnitude and in quality to meet the current needs for ASEAN statistics.

Key Principle 7: Reduced Respondent Burden - The reporting burden should be proportionate to the needs of the users and should not be excessive for respondents.

Indicators

- 7.1 The range and detail of demands on ASEAN statistics is limited to what is required to meet the needs of the users;
- 7.2 Administrative sources are used when possible to avoid duplicating requests for information;
- 7.3 The national statistical authorities of the AMSs promote sharing of data, where possible, to avoid multiplication of surveys; and
- 7.4 Existing data sources are examined to assess if additional tabulation or statistical techniques can be applied to approximate the data required before undertaking new surveys.

Mechanism for the Policy of National Statistical System

19. Committee for Data Accuracy and Quality of Statistics will lead in the implementation processes of NSDS to be able to give guidelines from the government for National Statistical Development. The organization structure and terms of reference of Committee for Data Accuracy and Quality of Statistics are expressed in Appendix-A.

20. The Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance will be the Chairman of Implementation Committee for National Strategy for Development of Statistics and the Director-General level officials from statistics related ministries will be the members of the committee. The organization structure and terms of reference of

Implementation Committee for National Strategy for Development of Statistics are expressed in Appendix-B.

21. The committee needs to form Cluster Working Groups to facilitate the tasks of committee and practical implementation of specific issues and sectoral statistics by defining the terms of references for those clusters.

22. Region/State governments need to form respective Region/State Committee for Data Accuracy and Quality of Statistics.

23. According to the Myanmar Statistical Law, "Central Statistical Organization (CSO) must be the National Statistical Authority. CSO will lead in the implementation of Statistical Policies and National Strategy for the Development of Statistics –NSDS. Chief Statistician shall lead CSO. The Director-General of the CSO shall be the Chief Statistician of the NSS.

24. CSO needs to establish Data Communication Network among Head Office, Region/State, Districts, Townships level CSO branch offices to store the data, to establish electronic information system service, to disseminate all data except confidential, to draw the curriculums for statistical expertise and quality upgrading, and to give the trainings on statistical methodology development.

Stakeholders to implement for the Policy of National Statistical System

25. Region/State governments and government organization, individuals, household, cooperative, joint-venture, corporation, private organizations including companiesmust implement the statistical polices laid down by the National Committee for Data Accuracy and Quality of Statistics.

26. To emerge effective statistical cooperation among Regions /States and Union Territory, the authority must be given to respective Region/State Committees for Data Accuracy and Quality of Statistics with respects to statistical matters which are performed in relevant Regions/States, Districts, Townships, Wards and Villages.

27. The relevant ministries will be the main stakeholders in the implementing of National Statistical System. Those ministries need to compile the sectoral statistics as well as other official statistics from respective sources of censuses, surveys, administrative records under specific guidelines.

28. The ministries need to cooperate with CSO to collect, compile and disseminate relevant statistics in line with fundamental official statistics procedures to create accurate and quality of statistics.

Developing National Strategy for the Development of Statistics and Implementation

29. A framework will be settled to strengthen the capacity of statistics. In additions, the long-term and short-term vision, missions and milestones are needed to launch for the system.

30. Central Statistical Organization is the only one National Statistical Authority of Myanmar and will be the focal to implement National Strategy for the Development of Statistics-NSDS. Chief of the Statistician will lead the Central Statistical Organization. Hence, the Vision and Missions of CSO need to reflect the Statistical Law and policies. The Vision and Missions of CSO can be precise as follow:

Vision of Central Statistical Organization

31. To build a coherent National Statistical System in Myanmar that produces comprehensive, accurate and high-quality socio-economic statistics.

Mission of Central Statistical Organization

- 32. The Missions of Central Statistical Organization are as follow:
 - (a) To promote wide and effective implementation of the new Myanmar Statistical Law, and to ensure implementation of the National Strategy for Development of Statistics(NSDS) in order to achieve reliable and timely compilation and dissemination of official statistics;
 - (b)To coordinate with stakeholders in the implementations of official statistics and relevant yearly statistical process, short-term and long-term plans to emerge National Statistical System;
 - (c) To set the standards for the statistical processes along with basis principles and to cooperate with the relevant departments in order to maintain those standards in doing their statistical process;
 - (d)To analyze statistical process which are being performed by government departments, organizations and private sector which are included in

Myanmar National Statistical System to be able to collect the statistics with identified standards;

- (e) To coordinate and cooperate relevant statistical producers and users, international organizations, if necessary, as regards to the technical assistance related to statistical process in order to avoid misstatement of statistical results;
- (f) To cooperate with the organizations/clusters in Myanmar National Statistical System in accordance with official statistics procedures to collect primary data and socio-economic surveys;
- (g)To serve as a secretariat at the Committee for Data Accuracy and Quality of Statistics
- (h) To analyze and supervise for data dissemination, projects development and implementation plans which are related to official statistics in National Statistical System;
- (i) To open regional offices under Central Statistical Organization in Regions, States, Districts, Townships in order to ensure in providing the accurate and qualified statistics and then to connect the Data Communication Network among those offices to facilitate data transmission;
- (j) To cooperate with all stakeholders from State and Regional level as well as Union level and Nay Pyi Taw Council in National Statistical System for official statistics and other related statistical activities;
- (k) To cooperate with line ministries and organizations in disseminating the statistical data as part of e-government operation except confidential data, the data of official statistics and other statistical activities through various media;
- To construct the curriculums and give the trainings for the development of statistical techniques and expertise;
- (m) To construct the curriculums and give the trainings for the development of statistical techniques and expertise;
- (n) To do research for the analysis of data in National Statistical System and to do monitoring and evaluation(M&E) and review on the quality of statistical data dissemination;
- (o)To implement the statistical development activities which are updated with current needs

- (p)To use the updated statistical techniques and software and to distribute them to the other statistical organizations;
- (q)To issue statistical publications for policy makers, planners, researchers and other statistical users;

Scope of the National Strategy for Development of Statistics

33. After studying the other countries' experiences on implementing National Strategy for Development of Statistics Framework, reviewing on current Myanmar's statistical system and data availability, and then try to figure out the areas for improvement of statistics.

34. Seven cluster groups are formed for the better implementation of NSDS which will be implemented to create stronger National Statistical System and concrete quality of statistics. Those clusters may be reorganized as necessary grounded on practical implementation. They are:

- (a) National Accounts Statistics Cluster
- (b) Survey Coordination and statistical standard Cluster
- (c) Social and Vital Statistics Cluster
- (d) Agriculture and Rural Sector Statistics Cluster
- (e) Energy and Environment Statistics Cluster
- (f) Trade and Investment Sector Statistics Cluster
- (g) Macroeconomic Monitoring and Financial Statistics Cluster

Term of References for each cluster is already set up and there are consultations among clusters leader to organize the series of meetings.

35. CSO serves as a statistical authority as well as national statistical coordinator to be more effectiveness of decentralized statistical system, to be better userproducer relationships, and to be further improvement in statistical production programmes. 36. 12 critical programmes are set for key statistical productions which are pivotal for development of the country as follow:

- (a) National Accounts and Macro-economic Statistics
- (b) System of Prices
- (c) Industry, Tourism, Investment Statistics
- (d) Agricultural and Rural Sector Statistics
- (e) Trade Statistics
- (f) Demographic and Population Statistics
- (g) Social and labour Statistics
- (h) Civil Registration and Vital Statistics
- (i) Health Statistics
- (j) Education Statistics
- (k) Energy and Environmental Statistics
- (1) Geocoding and Geospatial Information

The implementing area can be extended as necessary.

Implementation Policy of National Strategy for Development of Statistics

37. The implementation Policies of National Strategy for Development of Statistics are as follow:

- (a) To be the data verified with Statistical Quality Assessment Framework;
- (b) To unify all the concepts/ methodologies for data quality measurement criteria;
- (c) To do reference on the comprehensive, quality, and clear documentations for statistical production;
- (d) To match policy's procedures and standardswith international;
- (e) To precise in the law clearly special exemptions from policy needs;
- (f) To indicate the source and publication period, if external information is used, to evaluate the quality of data by users;

Technical Assistance

38. Myanmar is isolated under international's economic sanctions for many years. As a consequence, the ability of performance in statistical activities are lag

behind international standards. National Strategy for Development of Statistics which is in line with international standards will be implemented with the technical assistance of IMF, WB, ADB and other Development Partners (DPs).

Responsibility

39. To develop statistical sector the following tasks should be in place:

(a)Statistical experts' Responsibility

After reviewing the current data storage and methods, the statistical experts immediately begin the dialogues with consultants. The resulting recommendations should be taken into account in instant implementation of statistical development tasks to improve the statistical methods.

(b) Statistical Methods and Standards Allocation Responsibility

Statistical staffs need to learn the recognized statistical standards and methods to apply them for the development of statistical sector.

Definition of data quality

40. Data Quality can be defined as follow:

(a) Relevance

Enumerated area, coverage, credibility of indicators, source of data, metadata should be expressed.

(b) Accuracy

It is needed to collect, compile and disseminate the standard deviation and variation for published statistical indicators, broad statistics, sampling frame, coverage area, methodology, and sampling method.

(c) Timeliness

It is necessary to disseminate the statistical data in timely manner to reflect the current situations.

(d) Accessibility

To access the information easily, all statistical data should be uploaded on the internet website, issued publications through media, informed the address of statistics offices, library where statistical data is available to data users and researchers.

(e) Interpretability

The interpretation of all statistical indicators must be in clear and accurate statements for easy understanding of general public.

(f) Coherence

Comparative analysis must be done with similar data collected by other agencies and the periodic statistics to adhere logical coherence to other statistical information.

(g) Methodological Soundness

To ensure methodological Soundness, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) skills, education and supplement materials, accurate statistical methods are needed.

(h) Integrity

Statistical data must be disseminated in correct, accuracy, and timeliness manners to maintain statistical integrity.

Procedures and Standards

41. Each and every statistical fieldshould follow the relevant international procedures and standards on UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and ASEAN Community Statistical System – ACSSstep by step to ensure the quality of statistics in line with standardized criteria.

Conclusion

42. Quality of Statistics is necessary for Monitoring and Evaluation on Policy implementation and Development planning and also stressed as one of the four economic policies of the country. It is our vision to emerge the National Statistical System that can be carried out comprehensive socio-economic indicators with the accurate, inclusive and quality statistics.

43. Aimed at successful implementation of policies on National Statistical System, Committee for Data Accuracy and Quality of Statistics was formed to develop the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics-NSDS. The quality of national statistical system will be improved by organizing steering committee and Cluster Working Groups to support the successful implementation of NSDS.

Appendix- A

Terms of Reference for the Committee for Data Accuracy and Quality of Statistics

(a) To give guidance for promulgation of new National Statistical Law to meet the requirement of the current situations and to supervise the enforcement of the law,

(b) To promote the credibility of Statistics,

(c) To give advice and guidance for the establishment of National Statistical System (NSS),

(d) To supervise and give guidance on surveys and statistical activities for the socio-economic development of Myanmar,

(e) To coordinate for the emergence of good statistical system in various sectors with the responsible line ministries,

(f) To make Peer Review on the National Statistical System to be consistent with international statistical systems and to submit report to the Cabinet on the sectoral review of gaps for the necessary preparations,

(g) To coordinate and manage in providing trainings for the unification of data collection system and statistical methods among Union Ministries, Local Governments and Regional Governments,

(h) To supervise National Strategy for Development of Statistics (NSDS) implementation and management of National Statistical Institutions for statistical development,

3. The Committee needs to submit implementation reports to the Cabinet periodically and the necessary committees and sub-committees will be formed if needed.

The main tasks of the Implementation Committee for National Strategy for Development of Statistics are as follows:

- (a) To give guidelines and directions in the implementing tasks of improving the capacity of National Statistical System(NSS)
- (b)By means of broad data users-producers consultations, to set the timeframe and resources for National Strategy for Development of Statistics, and to lay down the road map for National Strategy for Development of Statistics framework with the timely instructions on it.
- (c) To give guidelines and directions for National Statistical System, if necessary, with recommendations
- (d) To set 5 years to 10 years Statistical Priority Strategies including sectoral plans, to give guidelines and recommendation on strategic implementation mechanism and Monitoring and Evaluation for National Strategy for Development of Statistics
- (e) To confirm and accept National Strategy for Development of Statistics and then to submit the President for approval
- (f) To advocate and recommend on the implementation process of National Strategy for Development of Statistics, and monitoring and evaluation process made with the cooperation of government and civil society

