



**ICP Asia Pacific
Meeting of Heads of National Implementing Agencies
30 July 2007
ADB Headquarters, Manila, Philippines**



Opening Address

By

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and Chair of the ICP Asia Pacific Regional Advisory Board

A pleasant good morning to all of you!

The Regional Advisory Board (RAB) of ICP Asia-Pacific is very pleased with your presence in today's gathering. Allow me, my colleagues, to congratulate all of you for your active participation and support to this project that now has interesting results. Your patience and dedication really mattered in generating these results. After four years of hard work, that is, from the time of the inception workshop in 2003 to today, the regional office of ICP Asia-Pacific, the Asian Development Bank is ready to present to us the much-awaited preliminary results—the PPPs of each of the participating country in the region.

A lot of validation work was done to insure the consistency of the data within each country and across countries in the region. Many decisions were made by the RAB of the region on matters affecting the operations of the project such as data collection, data processing and validation, assumptions made in processing the data, and in the use of the Tool Pack. These were all geared towards the improvement of the data and the harmonization of the ICP with the regular CPI work in our offices. The Regional Office encourages the countries to disseminate the final PPPs and make use of them in their future planning and policy formulation activities.

Lastly, on behalf of the Regional Advisory Board of the 2005 ICP, I would like to thank all the participating countries for their hard work and cooperation in all the activities to make this project a success. This also comes with an appeal for further support and commitment for planning and implementing of the future rounds of the ICP. To the ADB and the ICP Global Office in the World Bank, it was an honor for us to be your partners in generating the necessary statistical information that will make our region globally competitive.

Thank you very much and a good day to all!