Mongolia subscribed today to the International Monetary Fund's Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS), the first case where implementation of the enhanced General Data Dissemination System (e-GDDS) has facilitated advancement to the SDDS. Under the e-GDDS, Mongolia launched a National Summary Data Page—a one-stop online publication portal—laying the foundation for moving to the next tier of IMF data standards, the SDDS. In this process, Mongolia has benefitted from a project in the Improvement of Data Dissemination in the Asia and Pacific Region, financed by the Japanese government, which aims to assist countries to improve data dissemination under IMF's data standards initiatives.

Louis Marc Ducharme, Chief Statistician and Data Officer of the IMF, welcomed this major milestone in the country's statistical development. "I congratulate the authorities for subscription to the SDDS. It underscores Mongolia's strong commitment to transparency, as well as the adoption of internationally accepted best practices in statistics."

The SDDS, established by the IMF in March 1996, is intended to guide members in the provision of economic and financial data to the public. Subscription to the SDDS enhances the availability of timely statistics according to an advance release calendar, thereby contributing to sound macroeconomic policies and the proper functioning of financial markets. Although voluntary, a subscribing member commits to observe the standard and to provide information (metadata) about its data dissemination practices. This information is made publicly available on the IMF's Dissemination Standards Bulletin Board (DSBB).

The DSBB now provides comprehensive documentation in English on the statistical practices

of Mongolia for SDDS data categories, hyperlinked to country data included in the National Summary Data Page, maintained by Mongolia's National Statistical Office. * **- FMI