

# **BHUTAN**

## **Second Ministerial Conference on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics 16-19 November 2021**

### **Ministerial Segment (19 November 2021)**

## **Agenda item 13: Adoption of Ministerial Declaration**

### **Thank you Chair**

We would like to sincerely acknowledge the effort put in by UNESCAP in bringing up the second ministerial declaration on CRVS through series of review and consultations with the member countries.

We deeply appreciate UNESCAP for its leadership and progressive role in taking forward the agenda on strengthening CRVS system in the region.

The second ministerial declaration which calls for building a more resilient future with inclusive civil registration and vital statistics is very timely. It comes at a time when the international community is grappling with the complex and evolving scenario of COVID-19 which calls for well-functioning CRVS systems, more than ever, to effectively guide our response to the pandemic.

Bhutan, on behalf of member states in Asian and Pacific region, has the pleasure to fully support the adoption of the draft declaration.

The ministerial declaration will be instrumental for the second half of the decade for the member countries for mobilizing resources and garnering technical support required to achieve their goals of building universal and responsive CRVS by 2024.

We also recognize that building universal and responsive CRVS system will not only helps to overcome the challenges posed by COVID-19 pandemic but is also critical in realizing the goals set for 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Bhutan has immensely benefited for being a signatory to the first ministerial declaration and will continue to commit to this regional initiative in achieving its set goals and targets by 2024.

**Thank you**