In the Name of Allah, the Compassionate, the Merciful,

Statement by H.E. Dr. Hamid Derakshan-Nia
Deputy Minister and the Head of the Civil Registration Organization of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Second Ministerial Conference on
Civil Registration and Vital Statistics
in Asia and the Pacific

At the outset I would like to express my gratitude to the Chair for his able leadership, and thank warmly the Secretariat for organizing this meeting. I also would like to seize the opportunity on behalf of the Government and people of the Islamic Republic of Iran to offer my deepest sorrows to the families of those who lost their loved ones, and relatives due to the COVID 19 pandemic.

Mr. Chair, distinguished delegations,

The Islamic Republic of Iran highly values the key function that ESCAP could play in achieving the defined goals for the Ministerial Conference on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics and full realization of the potentials of all members within the common vision of getting everyone in the picture. Inspired by the ancient literature of my homeland, "anybody who deserves a soul from God, sure deserves to be counted and identified”, Islamic Republic of Iran believes this is a common vision that leads us towards a comprehensive solution and better future for our nations.

Mr. Chair, distinguished delegations,

COVID-19 pandemic showed that how important resilient and comprehensive CRVS and identification systems are. Continuity and development of common solutions will help us to improve the quality of implementation of joint programs and commitments.

Mr. Chair, distinguished delegations,

Due to the necessity of a comprehensive and integrated global approach to the CRVS, there is a need to address and pay due attention to the impediments impairing national and international endeavors in this regard. The Unilateral
Coercive Measures, which infringe the fundamental principles of international law and principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, remains one of the most pressing challenges and hindrances in ensuring effective international cooperation in this field.

I thank you Mr. Chair