

**Speech for the Registrar General of Bangladesh
on upcoming UNESCAP Ministerial Meeting on CRVS**

Dear Moderator,

Panel of speakers and participants.

I am very delighted to be a part of this august occasion of 2nd Ministerial Conference on CRVS for Asia and the Pacific.

Bangladesh is relentlessly trying to improve CRVS system and pledge bound to fulfill 100% birth registration and 50% death registration by the end of CRVS decade 2024. All relevant measures have been taken to accomplish the target. Total 5,143 civil registrars are engaged here in Bangladesh for birth and death registration. In recent years they have been trained adequately for registering all birth and death of their respective jurisdiction. They have been provided with monthly and yearly target for the registration process depending on their population. The monthly target was calculated as per crude birth and death rate, which is 18 and 5 respectively per 1000 population (Bangladesh bureau of Statistics). Monthly monitoring and evaluation have been strengthened for the process within 45 days of occurrence as per birth and death registration act. Previous national, divisional, district, sub-district and union level committees have been revised and revamped for efficient implementation and coordination from national to grassroot level. Besides this Bangladesh Government has incorporated birth and death registration in its Annual Performance Agreement (APA) and accordingly the target for relevant district and sub-district level officials has been stated very clearly with performance scoring point. With all these visionary initiatives of the government we have observed tremendous improvement . This momentum will certainly lead Bangladesh to fulfill the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16.9 to provide legal identity for all her citizens with 100% birth registration.

Recently, we have introduced sophisticated Birth and Death Registration Information System (BDRIS) for smooth accomplishment of birth and death registration for 169 million people of Bangladesh.

Though CRVS is a complex system, and its accomplishment is also time consuming but in recent years the three components of CRVS- birth, death and causes of death, Bangladesh achieved milestone development. Registration of birth and death within one year of occurrence have been increased from 3% to 22% and 1% to 40% respectively all across the country. For determination of correct causes of death,

recently Bangladesh introduced Medical Certification of Cause of Death (MCCoD) in 155 primary, secondary, and tertiary level hospitals with technical and financial support from Vital Strategies. And from those hospitals around 3,40,000 underlying causes of death have been determined.

Implementation of CRVS is not only time consuming but also very technical and costly. So, for proper implementation, sustainability and institutionalization of CRVS in Bangladesh, there are wide scope for UN organizations like WHO, UNESCAP, IMO and other international development agencies and partners to come forward with technical assistance.

Lastly to conclude,

I would like to convey sincere thanks to UNESCAP for the extraordinary arrangement of organizing this august event. Thank you all for your time and patience.