



## **VANUATU COUNTRY STATEMENT**

2<sup>nd</sup> Asia/Pacific CRVS Ministerial Conference

16-19 November 2021, Bangkok, Thailand

### **Agenda item #4**

Civil Registration and vital statistics as an accelerator for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and ensuring no one is left behind.

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Distinguished Excellency's and Delegates,  
United Nations & Development Partners,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Tropical greetings from the REPUBLIC OF VANUATU!

Mr Chairman,

In general people feel left behind when they lack the choices and opportunities required to participate and benefit from development progress. For the Government of Vanuatu, it is essential to understand who is being left behind and why.

People can get left behind due to disadvantages in terms of income, chances to stay healthy, be educated and access to social services. Physical isolation and vulnerability based on a person's area of residence, as well as vulnerability and exposure to the effects of climate change and natural hazards can all contribute to people being left behind. Climatic events and Natural Disasters such as Tropical Cyclone (Category 5), Volcanic eruptions/activity causing earth quakes, tidal waves, landslides, volcanic ash fall and acid rain, and wet seasons causing Flooding are key contributing elements leading to Vanuatu being ranked among TOP 10 Vulnerable and Risk Countries in the World.

In order to prevent people from being left behind, the Government of Vanuatu is convinced that a better understanding of the population dynamics will be essential to achieving prosperity to the people of Vanuatu. Understanding your

population dynamics is for the Government of Vanuatu directly related Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS).

Mr Chairman,

The Government sees CRVS as an accelerator to prosperity for all its people as a functional CRVS system can provide for continued and universal registration of vital events. This in exchange will deliver valuable vital statistics on the population dynamics that can support the Government in understanding the needs and with planning and budgeting for help where it is needed the most.

The Government of Vanuatu is fully committed to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Key legislative reforms and policies undertaken such as the CRVS Policy, National Identity Policy, Election reforms (Voting using National ID Card), Data Protection & Privacy Policy and implementing a functional CRVS system will accelerate Vanuatu's drive to achieve CRVS RAF and that no one will get left behind.

We thank you for your listening and may God bless you all!

**Mr KAP Calo Andy**

Registrar General (Director)

Department of Civil Registry and Vital Statistics

Ministry of Internal Affairs

REPUBLIC OF VANUATU