

## Presentation on Agenda 6

### **Agenda 6. Implementing gender-sensitive civil registration and vital statistics systems through a life-cycle approach.**

States have committed to the universal civil registration of vital events in a person's life. Still, the comprehensiveness of coverage remains challenged by factors such as availability and accessibility of official mechanisms and gaps associated with efforts not informed by the life-cycle approach and gender-sensitive perspective.

A life cycle approach to civil registration calls for recognizing every life stage's peculiar needs and interests, resulting in entitlements likely met with legal visibility. It also highlights the necessity of fulfilling the referred entitlements as preconditions to meeting succeeding ones in the subsequent life stage. One example would be that birth registration will most likely facilitate school enrollment.

A gender-sensitive perspective to civil registration enables authorities to recognize the gender-differentiated context, likely to disadvantage women relative to the life stages. An example would be a failure to register marriages when contracted involving a child or a teenage girl may obscure crucial data on women's health.

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Indeed, legal visibility through civil registration guarantees rights, correspondingly a basis for claims of its fulfillment. All necessitate state accountability. Accurate and comprehensive vital statistics are crucial to an evidence-based policy formulation, program development, and strategic planning aimed at timely, relevant, and responsive actions to the presenting and projected demographic characteristics.

Hence, the needed resolve of UN member states and political will of its leaders to implement gender-sensitive civil registration and vital statistics systems through a life-cycle approach, especially if the aim is to leave no one behind and accelerate progress on the 2030 Agenda. We know of states that assisted stateless individuals on humanitarian grounds. These actions are genuinely laudable but are more sustainable when fortified by a shared standard upon which all are held accountable. Governments must establish enabling measures that render barriers to inclusive civil registration permeable, complementing them with necessary resources.

As a final point of reflection, the current pandemic taught us that humanity's survival hinges on the survival of all. Thus, we must know the all as captured by accurate, responsive, and comprehensive vital statistics gathered through a life-cycle approach and gender-sensitive civil registration systems.

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