

# Agenda item 3

Wednesday, 17 November 2021 (10:00-12:00 hours, UTC+7)

**Agenda item 3:** The potential of the health sector to catalyse accelerated improvement in civil registration and vital statistics systems and the role of civil registration and vital statistics in the response to and recovery from the coronavirus disease pandemic

Dr Steve Mac Feely,  
Director, Data, Metrics and Analytics, WHO



# Agenda item 3: Documentation

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- The potential of the health sector to catalyse accelerated improvement in civil registration and vital statistics (ESCAP/MCCRVS/2021/3)
- Verbal autopsy and the Regional Action Framework on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific: operational procedures, practices and innovations (ESCAP/MCCRVS/2021/INF/2)

# Agenda item 3: Some key findings

Current limits to civil registration:

- Many births and deaths are still **not being registered**
  - Registration sometimes **long after occurrence**
- } inaccuracy of data for legal documents and vital statistics

Links to the health sector beneficial because health workers are:

- In contact with people throughout life cycle, including births and death
- Ideally placed to **document and report** births and deaths

Net result:

- Civil registration agencies benefit from **improved supply of information** on vital events
- Health sector benefits from improved data on **fertility, mortality and causes of death**

# Agenda item 3: Some key findings (*cont.*)

Determining causes of death are critical for public health monitoring

Health sector can contribute in two ways, for two different scenarios:

1. For deaths occurring **in health facilities** or with a medical professional attending, by filling the **Medical Certificate of Causes of Death**, to determine the underlying cause of death
2. For deaths **occurring at home**, by performing **verbal autopsy** on a representative sample. Less accurate, but useful when aggregated. Requires a strong connection between CR and health to be put in place.

# Agenda item 3: Operationalization

Aspects to improve to ensure a smooth collaboration:

- Improved business process
- Information-sharing (*governance and legislation*)
- Interoperability and standardization (*including Uis*)
- Capacity development

# Agenda item 3: Purpose

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During this session, the conference may wish to:

- Provide further guidance and advice on how to strengthen productive collaboration between civil registration authorities and health sector stakeholders (Public and Private)
- Provide further guidance and advice on how to ensure better data on all-cause mortality and causes of death
- Comment on the role of verbal autopsy for deaths taking place in the community and without the attention of a medical practitioner and to share experiences of its integration into civil registration and vital statistics systems.

# Agenda item 3: Programme

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## Speakers

- [Mr. Ardeshir Khosravi, Director, Group for Health Statistics, Ministry of Health and Medical Education, **Iran**
- Mr. Seniloli Kimbu 'Inoke, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Justice and Prisons, **Tonga**
- Dr. Dzhangaziev Bakyt, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health and Social Development, **Kyrgyzstan**
- Ms. Sandhya Singh, Deputy Registrar General, **India**
- Ms. Jana Shih, Technical Advisor, **Vital Strategies**

## Country statements