



GUIDE TO PARTICIPATION¹

Second Ministerial Conference on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics
16-19 November 2021
10:00-16:00 hrs. (Bangkok time, GMT+7)
(information as of 12 October 2021)

Hybrid meeting

The Second Ministerial Conference on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics will be held from 16 to 19 November 2021 in a hybrid modality: limited in-person at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok and online through the KUDO videoconferencing platform. The Conference is divided into two segments: Senior Officials' Segment and Ministerial Segment.

Given the technical limitations of conducting the Conference through a virtual platform and in view of the mandates and operational requirements of the Conference, priority will be given to the **members, associate members and permanent observers of the Commission** to deliberate on procedural matters.

Limited opportunities to deliberate on procedural matters will be available for observer organizations, intergovernmental organizations, other entities and non-governmental organizations.

All participants who wish to observe the proceedings may do so via broadcast on the Conference website. Details of the broadcast will be made available on the Conference website <https://getinthepicture.org/crvs-decade/second-ministerial-conference> in due course.

Letter of credentials, online registration and speakers list

As advised in the invitation letter of 23 June 2021, each delegation is required to submit a **letter of credentials**, duly signed by the appropriate authority of the respective Government and development partners, at the latest by 31 October. In addition to submitting a letter of credentials for the delegation, each delegate in the delegation is required to register online as soon as possible, but no later than 31 October at <https://meetings.unescap.org/>. Only registration of accredited delegates will be accepted.

Letters of credentials can be sent via email to the Statistics Division at the following address: escap-crvs@un.org with copy to nitiprapathananun@un.org.

¹ This guide to participation is also available on the Conference website at <https://getinthepicture.org/crvs-decade/second-ministerial-conference>



If you wish to send originals, the following mailing address can be used:

Statistics Division
United Nations Building
8th Floor Block B
Rajdamnern Nok Avenue
Bangkok 10200, Thailand

Each delegation is also requested to complete the speakers list request form to identify which members of the delegation will have a speaking role during the session. Due to the limited number of accounts to attend the session virtually through the KUDO platform, members and associate members of the Commission, as well as co-organizers can nominate up to four speakers. Permanent observers of the Commission, observer organizations, intergovernmental organizations, other entities and non- governmental organizations can nominate one speaker each. Delegations are requested to complete the speakers list request form and submit it to escap-crvs@un.org with copy to nitiprapathananun@un.org as soon as possible before 5 November 2021.

Due to the uncertainties related to the current COVID-19 pandemic and the need for physical distancing, more information will be provided to the delegates on the access to the conference room in the United Nations Conference Centre at the beginning of November. Furthermore, as the session will be conducted virtually through the KUDO platform, delegates who have a speaking role and wish to be present in the conference room need to be on the delegation list, registered and nominated as a speaker.

Country Interventions and Statements

Delegations wishing to deliver country statements are requested to coordinate among themselves and ***complete only one KUDO speakers request form***, identify which members of the delegations will have a speaking role during each session and submit it to escap-crvs@un.org with copy to nitiprapathananun@un.org, as soon as possible or before Friday 5 November 2021.

Delegates are strongly encouraged to deliver their statements live on KUDO. However, pre-recorded statements will also be possible. For delegates wishing to submit a video message, please refer to the video submission requirements, complete Part III of the Speaker Request Form, and return it to escap-crvs@un.org with copy to nitiprapathananun@un.org as soon as possible and no later than **5 November 2021**. Please note the number of four speakers per country does not include delegates delivering pre-recorded statements. Videos may be transferred via Google Drive, WeTransfer or similar file transfer links to escap-crvs@un.org with copy to nitiprapathananun@un.org and should be submitted as soon as possible and no later than **10 November 2021**.

Upon receiving the completed speaker request form, the secretariat will send a link to the KUDO session to delegates whose names are identified on the form. Please note that the KUDO



link is not transferable.

In view of time constraints, **country statements will be limited to three (3) minutes**. Prepared texts of longer statements may be circulated and will be posted on the Conference website unless requested otherwise.

Delegations are also encouraged to provide statements in advance to the secretariat in electronic form at escap-crvs@un.org with copy to rattanakittiaporn@un.org. Statements will be used to facilitate and draft the report of the Conference. Statements will be posted to the Conference website after delivery, unless requested otherwise.

A guide to using the KUDO videoconferencing platform will be shared in due course with members of each delegation assigned to speak during the session. KUDO users will also be invited to a test-run 30 minutes prior to the sessions to familiarize themselves with KUDO, test the connection and ensure smooth online participation. All KUDO users are strongly encouraged to join the test-run, especially those who will join the KUDO Platform from a meeting room, so they can see if the meeting room conference/AV system is adequately linked to KUDO.

Documents and Interpretation

Pre-session documents are available in the four official languages of the Commission (Chinese, English, French and Russian) and will be posted on the Conference website at <https://getinthepicture.org/crvs-decade/second-ministerial-conference>.

Given the technical limitations of conducting the Conference in a virtual manner and in view of the mandates and operational requirements of the Conference, the report of the Committee on the Conference will contain only three sections: organizational matters, decisions taken, and reference to Chair's summary. A Chair's Summary will be prepared to record the proceedings of the Conference and will be annexed to the report after the conclusion of the Conference.

The report of the meeting will be available in all ESCAP languages on the meeting website by 12:00 noon Bangkok time of 19 November 2021 for consideration by the delegations on the final day of the meeting.

The KUDO platform provides live simultaneous interpretation in the four official languages of ESCAP. Details on how to choose an interpretation channel will be provided in the KUDO participation guide distributed to confirmed participants.

Sign-language interpretation will also be available simultaneously throughout the session.

Declaration and Decision

The Conference will consider for adoption the Ministerial Declaration "Building a more resilient future with inclusive civil registration and vital statistics". The secretariat has shared with members of the Commission a revised draft Ministerial Declaration, which takes into account the comments received during a written consultation. The process for the negotiation of the

Ministerial Declaration will be continued through online consultations and is expected to be concluded prior to the Conference through use of the silence procedure.

Members of the Commission have been invited to participate in these online consultations. The first meeting took place on 11 October 2021 between 12:00 and 14:00 hours, Bangkok time (GMT+7). A second meeting will be held online on 25 October 2021. For more information regarding the online consultations, please refer to the explanatory note shared with Members of the Commission on 24 September 2021.

Side Events

Side events organized by delegations and partner organizations will take place in the weeks leading up to the Ministerial Conference (25 October to 1 November 2021). Further information on these events will be made available on the Conference website at <https://getinthepicture.org/crvs-decade/second-ministerial-conference/side-events2021>.

A. Senior officials' segment

Day 1: 16 November 2021

- **Agenda item 1:** Opening of the Session (10:00-11:00, GMT+7)
- **Agenda item 2:** Review of the progress and existing challenges in accelerating the implementation of the Regional Action Framework on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific (11:00-12:00, and 14:00-16:00, GMT+7)
- **Side event:** Deep dive on progress made during the first half of the Decade (12:45-13:30, GMT+7)

Agenda item 1: Opening of the Session (10:00-11:00, GMT+7)

Supporting documents:

- Provisional agenda (ESCAP/MCCRVS/2021/L.1)
- Annotated provisional agenda (ESCAP/MCCRVS/2021/L.2)

Agenda item 1 of the provisional agenda includes (a) opening statements; (b) election of officers; and (c) adoption of the agenda.

The session will be opened at 10 a.m. Bangkok time (GMT+7) by the Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).

In line with its rules of procedure and usual practice, the Conference will elect, among its members, a chair and vice-chairs for the senior officials' segment.

Following the election of officers, the Chair will present the provisional agenda for the Conference consideration and adoption. After the agenda is adopted, the Chair may invite pre-

recorded messages and statements from distinguished guests, if time allows and pre-recorded messages and statements are available.

Agenda item 2: Review of the progress and existing challenges in accelerating the implementation of the Regional Action Framework on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific (11:00-12:00, and 14:00-16:00, GMT+7)

Supporting documents:

- Summary of Getting Every One in the Picture: A Snapshot of Progress Midway through the Asia and Pacific Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Decade (ESCAP/MCCRVS/2021/1)
- Support from development partners in the first half of the Asia and Pacific Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Decade (2015–2024) (ESCAP/MCCRVS/2021/2)

Information documents supporting Agenda item 2:

- Development partners involved in civil registration and vital statistics improvement in Asia and the Pacific: profiles and support activities (ESCAP/MCCRVS/2021/INF/1)
- Economic costs and benefits of civil registration and vital statistics systems (ESCAP/MCCRVS/2021/INF/3)

Agenda item 2 of the provisional agenda will start with a presentation on the summary of findings of the documents under this agenda item. Guest speakers will be invited to provide remarks on progress towards specific goals and implementation steps of the Regional Action Framework. Following these remarks, the floor will be opened for statements from countries, development partners and the civil society.

Under agenda item 2, it is anticipated the Conference will renew regional commitment to the shared vision of the Decade and provide guidance on how to accelerate progress towards this vision. Delegations may thus wish to focus their statements on the issues for recommendations from the supporting documents, share experiences and progress towards the goals and targets of the Regional Action Framework and provide guidance on how to overcome the remaining challenges. Furthermore, delegations may also want to comment on development partners' support for the second half of the Decade.

Side event: Deep dive on progress made during the first half of the Decade (12:45-13:30, GMT+7)

This side event aims to celebrate the progress made towards the goals of the Regional Action Framework, by showcasing three countries that have made significant reforms to their Civil Registration and Vital Statistics systems, demonstrating the role of effective multisectoral coordination, dedicated resources and political commitment for achieving the shared vision. More details of the side event will be available at <https://getinthepicture.org/crvs-decade/second-ministerial-conference/side-events2021>.

Day 2: 17 November 2021

- **Warm-up session:** Health sector and civil registration and vital statistics (08:45-09:30, GMT+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 (10:00-12:00, GMT+7)
- **Warm-up session:** Civil registration and vital statistics as an accelerator for the Sustainable Development Goals (12:45-13:30, GMT+7)
- **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 (14:00-16:00, GMT+7)

Warm-up session: Health sector and civil registration and vital statistics (08:45-09:30, GMT+7)

Before starting Agenda item 3 of the provisional agenda, a warm-up session dedicated to the topic of Agenda item 3 will be organized. It will focus on the health sector and civil registration and vital statistics. More details of the warm-up sessions will be available at <https://getinthepicture.org/crvs-decade/second-ministerial-conference/side-events2021>.

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 (10:00-12:00, GMT+7)

Supporting document:

- The potential of the health sector to catalyse accelerated improvement in civil registration and vital statistics (ESCAP/MCCRVS/2021/3)

Information documents supporting Agenda item 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 of the provisional agenda will start with a presentation on the summary of findings of the documents under this agenda item. Guest speakers will be invited to provide remarks on strengthening productive collaboration between civil registration authorities and health sector stakeholders. Remarks will also be provided on the importance of a well-functioning civil registration and vital statistics system to generate a continuous stream of data on births and deaths to support decision-making at national and subnational levels.

Following these remarks, the floor will be opened for statements from countries, development partners and the civil society.

Under agenda item 3, the Conference may wish to provide further guidance and advice on how to strengthen productive collaboration between civil registration authorities and health sector stakeholders and how to ensure better data on all-cause mortality and causes of death. Delegations may thus wish to focus their statements on the issues for recommendations from the supporting documents, share experiences on strengthening collaboration between civil registration authorities and the health sector, and improving data on all-cause mortality and causes of death. Furthermore, delegations may also wish to 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.

Warm-up Session: Civil registration and vital statistics as an accelerator for the Sustainable Development Goals (12:45-13:30, GMT+7)

Before opening Agenda item 4 of the provisional agenda, a warm-up session dedicated to the topic of Agenda item 4 will be organized. It will focus on the participation of children and youth in implementing functioning CRVS systems. The session will feature the voices of children and youth, who will share experiences of the challenges faced by children, youth and their families in birth, marriage and death registration and discuss the importance of including children and youth in consultations on the issues of civil registration. The session will also showcase the multisectoral collaboration in the Philippines to improve birth registration among indigenous Sama Bajau who live in remote areas, with a representative from the Sama Bajau community providing their insights. More details of the warm-up sessions will be available at

<https://getinthepicture.org/crvs-decade/second-ministerial-conference/side-events2021>.

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 (14:00-16:00, GMT+7)

Supporting document:

- Civil registration and vital statistics as an accelerator for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and ensuring that no one is left behind (ESCAP/MCCRVS/2021/4)

Agenda item 4 of the provisional agenda will start with a presentation on the summary of findings of the document under this agenda item. Guest speakers will be invited to provide remarks on how to ensure that no one is left behind in civil registration and vital statistics to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The session will feature reflections from



children and youth representatives on their participation in consultations on issues of birth, marriage, and death registration/certification. In addition, representatives from civil society organizations and countries will provide remarks on where greater progress is needed to reach hard-to-reach and marginalized population groups and share experiences of good practices to achieve universal registration that leaves no one behind. Following these remarks, the floor will be opened for statements from countries, development partners and the civil society.

Under agenda item 4, it is anticipated the Conference will provide remarks on the linkages between sustainable development and well-functioning civil registration and vital statistics systems, in particular to ensure that everyone can realize their right to a legal identity and is included in official statistics. The Conference may further wish to provide guidance on how to accelerate inequality assessments for civil registration and vital statistics systems in Asia and the Pacific. Delegations may thus wish to focus their statements on the issues for recommendations from the supporting document, share experiences and discuss areas where more efforts are needed to address inequalities during the second half of the Asia and Pacific Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Decade (2015-2024).

Day 3: 18 November 2021

- **Warm-up session:** Connecting Vital Events Registration and Gender Equality (08:45-09:30, GMT+7)
- **Agenda item 5:** Vital statistics production, dissemination and usage: harnessing civil registration data for decision-making (10:00-11:00, GMT+7)
- **Agenda item 6:** Implementing gender-sensitive civil registration and vital statistics systems through a life cycle approach (11:00-12:00, GMT+7)
- **Warm-up session:** Legal identity (title TBC) (12:45-13:30, GMT+7)
- **Agenda item 7:** The relationship between civil registration, identity management and vital statistics, and their role in ensuring legal identity in Asia and the Pacific (14:00-15:30, GMT+7)
- **Agenda item 8: Other matters** (15:30-16:00, GMT+7)
- **Ministerial discussion:** Stocktake at half-time in the shadow of the pandemic: Is Asia and the Pacific on track to achieve legal identity for all by 2030? (16:30-17:30, GMT+7)

Warm-up session: Connecting Vital Events Registration and Gender Equality (08:45-09:30, GMT+7)

Before starting Day 3 of the Conference, the warm-up session on connecting vital events, registration and gender equality will be conducted by ESCAP, UNFPA and UN Women. The session will discuss the practical role of vital statistics in advancing gender equality and bodily autonomy, and will provide specific country examples on how vital statistics can and are being used to advance evidence and action to address important gender-related inequities such as gender-biased sex selection, adolescent fertility, preventable maternal deaths and gender equality within marital unions. The discussion taking place during this session will help frame

those that will follow during Agenda item 5 and 6 of the provisional agenda. More details of the warm-up sessions will be available at <https://getinthepicture.org/crvs-decade/second-ministerial-conference/side-events2021>.

Agenda item 5: Vital statistics production, dissemination and usage: harnessing civil registration data for decision-making (10:00-11:00, GMT+7)

Supporting document:

- Vital statistics production, dissemination and usage: harnessing civil registration data for decision-making (ESCAP/MCCRVS/2021/5)

Agenda item 5 of the provisional agenda will start with a presentation on the summary of findings of the document under this agenda item. Guest speakers will be invited to provide remarks on the status and recent evolution of vital statistics production, dissemination and usage in Asia and the Pacific. Following these remarks, the floor will be opened for statements from countries, development partners and the civil society.

Under agenda item 5, it is anticipated the Conference will provide guidance on how to ensure that all members and associate members achieve the goal of producing and disseminating accurate, complete and timely vital statistics including on causes of death, based on registration records, as a means to support improved understanding of subnational differentials in fertility, mortality, and nuptiality outcomes. Delegations may thus wish to focus their statements on the issues for recommendations from the supporting document, share experiences and opportunities to enhance the production of and dissemination of vital statistics on births, deaths, causes of deaths, marriage, divorce, maternal deaths, foetal deaths and induced abortions. Furthermore, delegations may also want to comment on recent innovations during the COVID-19 pandemic in improving the production, dissemination and usage of mortality statistics.

Agenda item 6: Implementing gender-sensitive civil registration and vital statistics systems through a life cycle approach (11:00-12:00, GMT+7)

Supporting document:

- Implementing gender-sensitive civil registration and vital statistics systems through a life cycle approach (ESCAP/MCCRVS/2021/6)

Agenda item 6 of the provisional agenda will start with a summary of findings from the background paper under this agenda item. Guest speakers will be invited to provide their remarks on eliminating barriers to civil registration and enhancing the contribution of civil registration and vital statistics to achieving gender equality and women's empowerment in the region. Following these remarks, the floor will be opened for statements from countries, development partners and civil society.

Under agenda item 6, it is anticipated the Conference will discuss the extent to which plans and strategies for improving civil registration and vital statistics incorporate a gender perspective and how such emphasis may be strengthened to achieve the shared vision that by 2024 everyone in Asia and the Pacific benefit from universal and responsive civil registration and vital statistics systems that facilitate the realization of rights and support good governance, health and development. Delegations may thus wish to focus their statements on the issues for recommendations from the supporting document, share experiences and provide guidance on how to ensure gender-sensitive civil registration and vital statistics systems in Asia and the Pacific.

Warm-up session: Legal Identity (12:45-13:30, GMT+7)

Before starting Agenda item 7, the warm-up session on legal identity will feature an interactive discussion between panelists to share experiences of accessing and promoting legal identity with a focus on the experience of civil society organizations. It will highlight the role of civil registration in a country's identity management systems, and look at holistic approaches to the development of civil registration and vital statistics and legal identity systems in Asia and the Pacific. The discussion taking place during this session will help frame those that will follow during Agenda item 7 of the provisional agenda. More details of the warm-up sessions will be available at <https://getinthepicture.org/crvs-decade/second-ministerial-conference/side-events2021>.

Agenda item 7: The relationship between civil registration, identity management and vital statistics, and their role in ensuring legal identity in Asia and the Pacific (14:00-15:30, GMT+7)

Supporting document:

- Intersection between civil registration and identity management systems in Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP/MCCRVS/2021/7)

Information documents supporting Agenda item 7:

- Legal identity systems in Asia and the Pacific: civil registration, vital statistics and identity management (ESCAP/MCCRVS/2021/INF/4)
- Privacy and confidentiality in the context of civil registration and vital statistics systems (ESCAP/MCCRVS/2021/INF/5)

Agenda item 7 of the provisional agenda will start with a presentation of the background documents under this agenda item. Guest speakers will be invited to provide remarks on the relationship between civil registration, identity management and vital statistics and their role in ensuring legal identity in Asia and the Pacific. Following these remarks, the floor will be opened for statements from countries, development partners and civil society.

Under agenda item 7, it is anticipated the Conference will provide guidance and advice on how to implement the United Nations Legal Identity Agenda in Asia and the Pacific. Delegations may thus wish to focus their statements on the issues for recommendations from the supporting document, share experiences of linking civil registration and legal identity systems and discuss efforts for continued improvement in ensuring legal identity for all during the second half of the Decade.

Agenda item 8. Other matters (15:30-16:00, GMT+7)

Agenda item 8 of the annotated provisional agenda provides the opportunity for members and associate members to raise other matters which are not covered under the previous agenda items. Members or associate members wishing to raise other matters may request the floor using the online chat function.

Ministerial discussion: Stocktake at half-time in the shadow of the pandemic: Is Asia and the Pacific on track to achieve legal identity for all by 2030? (16:30-17:30, GMT+7)

This discussion will focus on the importance of strengthening CRVS systems and establishing organic links between CRVS and identity management systems to support inclusive development and gender equality. It will also look at the ingredients for building inclusive identity management systems that link to a country's CRVS system and ways to ensure that all populations are included and provided with identity. Finally, the discussion will also investigate how legal identity management can impact upon COVID-19 response and vice versa. More details of the event will be available at

<https://getinthepicture.org/crvs-decade/second-ministerial-conference/side-events2021>.

B. Ministerial segment

Day 4: 19 November 2021

- **Ministerial roundtable:** Pandemics, people and preparedness: civil registration and vital statistics, COVID-19 and health (08:30-09:30, GMT+7)
- **Agenda item 9:** Opening of the Session (10:00-11:00, GMT+7)

- **Agenda item 10:** Towards a shared vision of universal and responsive civil registration and vital statistics systems that facilitate the realization of rights and support good governance, health and development (11:00-12:00, GMT+7)
- **Ministerial roundtable:** Building resilient CRVS systems – incorporating lessons from COVID-19 in the second half of the Asia-Pacific CRVS Decade (12:30-13:30, GMT+7)
- **Agenda item 11:** The importance of civil registration and vital statistics and legal identity for all to accelerate progress on the 2030 Agenda (14:00-15:00, GMT+7)
- **Agenda item 12:** Other matters (15:00-15:10, GMT+7)
- **Agenda item 13:** Adoption of the ministerial declaration (15:00-15:45, GMT+7)
- **Agenda item 14:** Adoption of the report of the Conference (15:45-16:00, GMT+7)

Ministerial roundtable: Pandemics, people and preparedness: ministerial roundtable on civil registration and vital statistics, COVID-19 and health (08:30-09:30, GMT+7)

This ministerial roundtable will look at how we can respond to the ongoing challenges posed by the pandemic while leveraging the spotlight on mortality statistics to ensure sustainable capacity strengthening. It will also discuss what Governments and the international community can do to assist least developed countries in rebuilding through productive transformation of CRVS systems to ensure preparedness for the next health emergency or pandemic. More details of the ministerial roundtables will be available at <https://getinthepicture.org/crvs-decade/second-ministerial-conference/side-events2021>.

Agenda item 9: Opening of the Session (10:00-11:00, GMT+7)

Supporting documents:

- Provisional agenda (ESCAP/MCCRVS/2021/L.1)
- Annotated provisional agenda (ESCAP/MCCRVS/2021/L.2)

Agenda item 9 of the provisional agenda includes (a) opening statements; (b) election of officers; and (c) adoption of the agenda.

The session will be opened at 10 a.m. Bangkok time (GMT+7) by the Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).

In line with its rules of procedure and usual practice, the Conference will elect a chair and vice-chairs for the segment.

Following the election of officers, the Chair will present the provisional agenda for the Conference consideration and adoption. After the agenda is adopted, the Chair may invite pre-recorded messages and statements from distinguished guests, if time allows and pre-recorded messages and statements are available.

Agenda item 10: Towards a shared vision of universal and responsive civil registration and vital statistics systems that facilitate the realization of rights and support good governance, health and development (11:00-12:00, GMT+7)

Supporting documents:

- Summary of Getting Every One in the Picture: A Snapshot of Progress Midway through the Asia and Pacific Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Decade (ESCAP/MCCRVS/2021/1)
- Support from development partners in the first half of the Asia and Pacific Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Decade (2015–2024) (ESCAP/MCCRVS/2021/2)
- The potential of the health sector to catalyse accelerated improvement in civil registration and vital statistics (ESCAP/MCCRVS/2021/3)
- Vital statistics production, dissemination and usage: harnessing civil registration data for decision-making (ESCAP/MCCRVS/2021/5)

Information documents supporting Agenda item 10:

- Development partners involved in civil registration and vital statistics improvement in Asia and the Pacific: profiles and support activities (ESCAP/MCCRVS/2021/INF/1)
- 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 10 of the provisional agenda will start with a presentation on the summary of findings of the documents under this agenda item. Guest speakers will be invited to provide remarks on solutions to facilitate progress on civil registration and vital statistics for the second half of the Decade. Following these remarks, the floor will be opened for statements from countries, development partners and the civil society.

Under agenda item 10, it is anticipated the Conference will provide guidance on how to achieve the goals and targets of the Regional Action Framework and renew commitments to the shared vision that, by 2024, all people in Asia and the Pacific will benefit from universal and responsive civil registration and vital statistics systems. Delegations may thus wish to focus their statements on the issues for consideration from the supporting documents and share successful experiences in strengthening civil registration and vital statistics systems as well as guidance to realize the shared vision of universal and responsive civil registration and vital statistics systems. Furthermore, delegations may also want to provide guidance on development partners' support for the second half of the Decade.

Ministerial roundtable: Building resilient civil registration and vital statistics systems – incorporating lessons from COVID-19 in the second half of the Asia-Pacific CRVS Decade (12:30-13:30, GMT+7)

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted on the ability of governments to maintain services and routine functions, including the operation of national civil registration and vital statistics

(CRVS) systems. This ministerial roundtable will provide an opportunity to reflect on the challenges posed by the pandemic and potential solutions. Ministers will be able to share their experiences of maintaining services during this difficult period as well as inspire and guide efforts to enhance the functioning of CRVS systems during emergencies in the second half of the Asia-Pacific CRVS Decade. More details of the ministerial roundtables will be available at

<https://getinthepicture.org/crvs-decade/second-ministerial-conference/side-events2021>.

Agenda item 11: The importance of civil registration and vital statistics and legal identity for all to accelerate progress on the 2030 Agenda (14:00-15:00, GMT+7)

Supporting documents:

- Civil registration and vital statistics as an accelerator for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and ensuring that no one is left behind (ESCAP/MCCRVS/2021/4)
- Implementing gender-sensitive civil registration and vital statistics systems through a life cycle approach (ESCAP/MCCRVS/2021/6)
- Intersection between civil registration and identity management systems in Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP/MCCRVS/2021/7)

Information documents supporting Agenda item 11:

- Economic costs and benefits of civil registration and vital statistics systems (ESCAP/MCCRVS/2021/INF/3)
- Legal identity systems in Asia and the Pacific: civil registration, vital statistics and identity management (ESCAP/MCCRVS/2021/INF/4)
- Privacy and confidentiality in the context of civil registration and vital statistics systems (ESCAP/MCCRVS/2021/INF/5)

Agenda item 11 of the provisional agenda will start with a presentation on the summary of findings of the documents under this agenda item. Guest speakers will be invited to provide remarks on the challenges and solutions to ensure legal identity for all and the essential role of civil registration as the foundation of national identity management systems. Following these remarks, the floor will be opened for statements from countries, development partners and the civil society.

Under agenda item 11, it is anticipated that the Conference will provide guidance on how to accelerate progress towards the UN Legal Identity Agenda and ensure legal identity for all in Asia and the Pacific. Delegations may thus wish to focus their statements on the issues for recommendations from the supporting documents, share experiences and lessons learned in the collaboration between civil registration and identity management systems and provide guidance on developing and implementing well-functioning legal identity systems.

Agenda item 12: Other matters (15:00-15:10, GMT+7)

Agenda item 12 of the annotated provisional agenda provides the opportunity for members and associate members to raise other matters not covered under previous agenda items.

Members or associate members wishing to raise other matters may request the floor using the online chat function.

Agenda item 13: Adoption of the ministerial declaration (15:10-15:45, GMT+7)

Supporting document:

- Draft ministerial declaration (ESCAP/MCCRVS/2021/L.4)

Under this agenda item, the Conference will consider and adopt the ministerial declaration, which will be submitted to the Commission at its seventy-eighth session, in 2022.

Agenda item 14: Adoption of the report of the Conference (15:45-16:00, GMT+7)

Supporting document:

- Draft report (ESCAP/MCCRVS/2021/L.3)

The Conference will consider and adopt its report, which will be submitted to the Commission at its seventy-eighth session, in 2022.

Following the adoption of the report, closing remarks will be delivered

The Chair may also deliver a closing statement before formally closing the session.