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Ministerial Conference on Civil Registration and Vital
Statistics in Asia and the Pacific

Bangkok, 24-28 November 2014

Annotated provisional agenda (revised)*

The present document contains the provisional agenda for the Ministerial Conference on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific (section I) and the annotations to the provisional agenda (section II).

I. Provisional agenda

A. Senior officials segment (24-26 November 2014)

1. Opening of the Conference:
 - (a) Opening statements;
 - (b) Election of officers;
 - (c) Adoption of the agenda.
2. Key issues and perspectives on civil registration and vital statistics in Asia and the Pacific.
3. Consideration of the draft ministerial declaration to “Get every one in the picture” in Asia and the Pacific.
4. Implementation of the regional action framework on civil registration and vital statistics in Asia and the Pacific.

B. Ministerial segment (27-28 November 2014)

5. Opening of the ministerial segment:
 - (a) Opening statements;
 - (b) Election of officers;
 - (c) Adoption of the agenda.

* The late submission of the present document to conference services was due to the need to reflect the result of further consultations with member States and the Regional Steering Group for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific, following the Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Ministerial Conference, which was held in Bangkok on 28 and 29 August 2014.

6. Policy priorities for improving civil registration and vital statistics in Asia and the Pacific.
7. Other matters.
8. Adoption of the ministerial declaration to “Get every one in the picture” in Asia and the Pacific.
9. Adoption of the report of the Conference.
10. Ceremony to proclaim the “Asian and Pacific Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Decade, 2015-2024”.

II. Annotations

A. Senior officials segment (24-26 November 2014)

1. Opening of the Conference

(a) Opening statements

The Executive Secretary of ESCAP and senior dignitaries will deliver statements to open the Conference.

(b) Election of officers

A chair, vice chair(s) and a rapporteur will be elected for the senior officials segment.

(c) Adoption of the agenda

Documentation

Annotated provisional agenda (revised) (E/ESCAP/MCCRVS/L.1/Rev.1)

Annotation

The senior officials will consider and adopt the provisional agenda as it relates to their segment, subject to such changes as may be necessary.

2. Key issues and perspectives on civil registration and vital statistics in Asia and the Pacific

Documentation

Special edition of the *Asia-Pacific Population Journal* on civil registration and vital statistics, vol. 29, No. 1 (printed copies will be made available at the Conference, while electronic copies can be downloaded from www.getinthepicture.org).

Annotation

Under this agenda item, the status, key issues and perspectives related to civil registration and vital statistics in Asia and the Pacific will be reviewed, with deliberations benefitting from the insights afforded by the special edition of the *Asia-Pacific Population Journal*. The session will begin with a panel discussion, followed by a plenary debate.

3. Consideration of the draft ministerial declaration to “Get every one in the picture” in Asia and the Pacific

Documentation

Draft ministerial declaration to “Get every one in the picture” in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/MCCRVS/WP.1)

Report of the Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Ministerial Conference on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/MCCRVS/3)

Annotation

The senior officials will review the draft ministerial declaration to “Get every one in the picture” in Asia and the Pacific. The ministerial declaration is intended to be a pioneering instrument expressing the commitment of ministers to fulfil a shared vision that, by 2024, all people in Asia and the Pacific will benefit from universal and responsive civil registration and vital statistics systems that facilitate the realization of their rights and support good governance, health and development. In order to achieve that shared vision, the ministerial declaration will proclaim the “Asian and Pacific Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Decade, 2015-2024”.

The ministerial declaration emerged from deliberations of the Regional Steering Group for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific, which comprises high-level representatives of Governments and development partners from across the region and the civil registration, health and statistics sectors. The preliminary draft of the ministerial declaration was reviewed by government experts at the Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Ministerial Conference on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific (Bangkok, 28-29 August 2014). The present draft ministerial declaration under consideration incorporates certain revisions agreed at the Meeting.

It is expected that, under this agenda item, the draft ministerial declaration will be endorsed by the senior officials for later submission to the ministers and possible adoption.

4. Implementation of the regional action framework on civil registration and vital statistics in Asia and the Pacific

Documentation

Draft regional action framework on civil registration and vital statistics in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/MCCRVS/1)

Draft revised terms of reference for the Regional Steering Group for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/MCCRVS/CRP.1)

Annotation

Under this agenda item, the senior officials are invited to make concise statements to share their country’s perspectives and priorities for the implementation of the regional action framework on civil registration and vital statistics in Asia and the Pacific. Statements should focus on plans for setting targets, approaches to carrying out the implementation steps that are set out in the regional action framework, and the need for and likely results of support from international development partners.

The senior officials may also wish to share their views on the long-term regional governance structure that is outlined in the regional action framework, and make specific recommendations on the draft revised terms of reference for the Regional Steering Group for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific. The terms of reference will be considered by the Committee on Statistics at its fourth session with a view to possible endorsement by the Commission at its seventy-first session.

The landmark regional action framework has been designed to accelerate and focus the efforts of Governments and development partners to improve civil registration and vital statistics in Asia and the Pacific. The regional action framework contains key principles, regional goals, national targets individually set by Governments, action areas and implementation steps. The regional action framework also outlines a regional governance structure for its implementation.

The regional action framework was developed by the Regional Steering Group for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific. The zero draft of the regional action framework was distributed to Governments and development partners for consultations between April and June 2014, and the preliminary draft was developed based on the feedback received. The preliminary draft of the regional action framework was reviewed by government experts at the Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Ministerial Conference on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific. The Meeting noted that the regional action framework was of a technical nature and had already been the subject, since April 2014, of extensive consultations with member States, and therefore recommended it to be submitted to the Conference for consideration and possible endorsement without further revision.

B. Ministerial segment (27-28 November 2014)

5. Opening of the ministerial segment

(a) Opening statements

The Executive Secretary of ESCAP and senior dignitaries will deliver statements to open the ministerial segment, and a keynote address will be made.

(b) Election of officers

A chair, vice chair(s) and a rapporteur will be elected for the ministerial segment of the Conference.

(c) Adoption of the agenda

Documentation

Annotated provisional agenda (revised) (E/ESCAP/MCCRVS/L.1/Rev.1)

Annotation

The Conference will consider and adopt the provisional agenda as it relates to the ministerial segment, subject to such changes as may be necessary.

6. Policy priorities for improving civil registration and vital statistics in Asia and the Pacific

Documentation

State of civil registration and vital statistics in Asia and the Pacific and overview of supporting initiatives (E/ESCAP/MCCRVS/2)

Annotation

Under this agenda item, ministers and heads of delegations will be invited to deliver short statements to highlight policy priorities for the “Asian and Pacific Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Decade, 2015-2024”, and their expectations as regards regional collaboration to improve civil registration and vital statistics. Ministers and heads of delegations may also wish to share their countries’ achievements and challenges in the area of civil registration and vital statistics.

As part of their countries’ commitments to implementing the regional action framework, ministers and heads of delegations are also invited to announce their national targets to be achieved by the conclusion of the Decade in 2024.

A joint statement will be delivered on behalf of the regional partnership of international organizations supporting countries in their implementation of the regional action framework. Representatives of development partners may also be afforded the opportunity to make brief statements on specific issues related to the improvement of civil registration and vital statistics.

A consolidated statement will be delivered by a representative of civil society, conveying the recommendations of civil society organizations for the attention of the Conference. These recommendations will be based on the outcome of the Civil Society Forum on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific, which will be held in Bangkok on 26 and 27 August 2014.

7. Other matters

The Conference may raise any matters not covered under the items listed above.

8. Adoption of the draft ministerial declaration to “Get every one in the picture” in Asia and the Pacific

Documentation

Draft ministerial declaration to “Get every one in the picture” in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/MCCRVS/L.3)

Draft regional action framework on civil registration and vital statistics in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/MCCRVS/1)

Annotation

Under this agenda item, the Conference will consider for possible adoption the draft ministerial declaration to “Get every one in the picture” in Asia and the Pacific, including its proposed endorsement of the regional action framework on civil registration and vital statistics in Asia and the Pacific.

9. Adoption of the report of the Conference

Documentation

Draft report of the Conference (E/ESCAP/MCCRVS/L.2)

Annotation

The Conference will consider the draft report for adoption, which will be submitted for the consideration and endorsement of the Commission at its seventy-first session in 2015.

10. Ceremony to proclaim the “Asian and Pacific Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Decade, 2015-2024”

A ceremony will be conducted to mark the historic proclamation of the “Asian and Pacific Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Decade, 2015-2024”, thus officially closing the Conference.
