



Get every one in the picture



Civil registration



Legal documents



Vital statistics

“Get Every One in the Picture”

First Meeting of the Regional Steering Group for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS)

Meeting Room A, UN Conference Centre, Bangkok, Thailand, 28-30 July 2015

Meeting Objectives

1. Decide on approaches and modalities for providing regional support to the implementation of the Regional Action Framework on CRVS in Asia and the Pacific,
2. Review the draft guidelines for the implementation of the Regional Action Framework and discuss the development of further tools and research to support the improvement of CRVS
3. Develop the programme of work for the Regional Steering Group for the period 2015-2019

DAY 1: Tuesday, 28 July 2015

Session	Description	Chair / rapporteur
Session 1	Welcome and Opening	ESCAP Secretariat
9.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dr. Shamshad Akhtar, Under-Secretary General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of ESCAP ▪ Mr. Jeff Montgomery, Registrar-General and General Manager, Department of Internal Affairs, New Zealand on behalf of the Regional Steering Group on CRVS 2013-2014 	
Session 2	Election of the Chair and Vice Chairs	ESCAP Secretariat
9.15	<i>Expected outcome: A Chair and Vice Chairs are elected amongst the Regional Steering Group.</i>	
Group photo and Coffee break (in front of Meeting Room H)		
Session 3	Introductions	Session chair: Chair of the Regional Steering Group
9.50	<p>Presentation: Overview of the programme, Ms. Rikke Munk Hansen, ESCAP Secretariat</p> <p>Tour-de-table: Participants briefly introduce themselves to the group and share their expectations for this meeting.</p> <p><i>Expected outcome: Participants become familiar with each other.</i></p>	
Session 4	RAF Action Areas: Political commitment	Session chair: Chair

10.25	<p>The Regional Action framework includes seven Action Areas.</p> <p>The Action Areas facilitate structured reporting on activities and progress by Government and development partners, which will enable enhanced knowledge-sharing, regional cooperation and learning, and the identification of opportunities for collaboration. This session focuses on the Action Area political commitment.</p> <p>Presentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overview of the Regional Action Framework (RAF) and implementation steps, Ms. Tanja Sejersen, ESCAP Secretariat - Political commitment in Fiji, H.E. Mr. Jone Usamate, Fiji - The Philippines CRVS coordination mechanism and Presidential Declaration, Ms. Lisa Bersales, Philippines - Political commitment in Mongolia, Mr. Davaadorj Radnaased, Mongolia <p><i>Discussion and interventions: Participants have an opportunity to ask questions about the Regional Action Framework and discuss how to achieve political commitments and how the regional initiative can support country work in this Action Area</i></p> <p><i>Expected outcome: Participants have an enhanced and shared understanding of the commitments under the Regional Action Framework</i></p>	<p>of the Regional Steering Group</p> <p>Rapporteur: Ming Viado</p>
Session 5	RAF Action Areas: Public engagement	<p>Session chair: Chair of the Regional Steering Group</p>
11.00	<p>This session focuses on the Action Areas public engagement.</p> <p>Presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CRVS activities in Malaysia, Mr Zakaria Awi, Malaysia - Country engagements with Civil Society Organizations, Mr. Abid Gulzar, World Vision <p><i>Discussion: Questions and answers to the presentations and discussion on how to achieve public engagement and involvement of relevant government stakeholders for the development of comprehensive multisectoral national CRVS strategies and how the regional initiative can support country work in this Action Area</i></p> <p><i>Expected outcome: Identification of the kind of assistance countries need in the Action Area and how the work of the Regional Steering Group can assist activities in line with this Action Area. Possibly identification of opportunities for enhanced knowledge-sharing, regional cooperation and learning, and the identification of opportunities for collaboration.</i></p>	<p>Rapporteur: Nicoleta Panta</p>
12.00	Lunch 2 hours	
Session 6	RAF Action Areas: Coordination	<p>Session chair: Vice Chair of the RSG</p>
14.00	<p>Implementation steps for the RAF include multisectoral consultations and the establishment of an effective and sustainable national CRVS coordination mechanism comprising all relevant stakeholders, as well as the appointment of national focal point for CRVS. This session focuses on the Action Area 'coordination'</p> <p>Presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coordination on provision of birth certificate, Ms. Suharti, Indonesia - Coordination mechanisms in Pakistan, Mr. Zafar, Pakistan 	<p>Rapporteur: Grace Agcaoili</p>

- **CRVS comprehensive assessments as a tool for coordination**, Dr. Azza Badr, WHO EMRO
- **Coordination in Bhutan**, Dr. Pandum Tshering, Bhutan
- **Pacific Vital Statistics Action Plan**, Dr. Karen Carter, Secretariat of the Pacific Community
- **CRVS Activities in Bangladesh**, Mr. Anir Chowdury, Bangladesh
- **The National CRVS Focal Points**, Ms. Tanja Sejerssen, UNESCAP

Discussion: Questions and answers to the presentations and discussion on how to improve coordination within countries between national stakeholders as well as donors and development partners. How can the regional initiative support coordination?

Expected outcome: Discussion on key challenges and opportunities for effective coordination in countries. Clarity on the role of the National CRVS Focal Points. Identification of the kind of assistance countries need in the Action Area and how the work of the Regional Steering Group can assist activities in line with this Action Area.

15.30 Coffee break

Session 7 **RAF Action Areas: Policies, legislation and implementation of regulations**

15.45

- **Linking Civil Registration and identity management:** Ms. Mia Harbitz, World Bank
- **Passport to protection**, Ms. Grace Agcaoili, UNICEF
- **Assessing inequalities in accessing civil registration for hard-to-reach and marginalized groups – a pilot project:** Mr. Nick Oakeshott, UNHCR

Session chair:
Vice Chair of the RSG

Rapporteur:
Carla Abouzahr

Discussion: Questions and answers to the presentations and discussion on how to improve policies, legislation and implementation of regulations and how the regional initiative can support country work in this Action Area

Expected outcome: Identification of the kind of assistance countries need in the Action Area and how the work of the Regional Steering Group can assist activities in line with this Action Area. Possibly identification of opportunities for enhanced knowledge-sharing, regional cooperation and learning, and the identification of opportunities for collaboration.

17.00

Reception hosted by World Vision



DAY 2: Wednesday, 29 July 2015

Session 8 **Taking stock of Day One**

9.00

Desired outcome: The Regional Steering Group addresses any issues from the first day, and, if necessary, changes the

Session chair: Chair of the Regional Steering Group

remainder of the meeting programme.

Session 9 9.10	RAF Action Areas: Infrastructure and resources Presentations:	Session chair: Chair of the Regional Steering Group
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CRVS progress in India, Ms. P A Mini, India - Cause of death and ICD-mortality shortlist and other existing WHO tools, Mr. Mark Landry, World Health Organization 	Rapporteur: Kendra Gregson
	<p><i>Discussion: Questions and answers to the presentations and discussion on how to improve infrastructure and resources and how the regional initiative can support countries within this Action Area</i></p>	
	<p><i>Expected outcome: Identification of the kind of assistance countries need in the Action Area and how the work of the Regional Steering Group can assist activities in line with this Action Area. Identification of opportunities for capacity building and training of officials to facilitate the establishment, maintenance and monitoring of CRVS systems.</i></p>	
10.00	Coffee break	
Session 10 10.15	RAF Action Areas: Operational procedures, practices and innovation	Session chair: Vice Chair of the Regional Steering Group
	<p>ICT related challenges are related to this Action Area and many countries are involved in improvements using ICT.</p>	
	Presentations:	Rapporteur: Mark Landry
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - "Better Access to Baby Identify and Information Service (BABII)", Jeff Montgomery, New Zealand - CRVS activities in Armenia, Mr. Argam Stepanyan, Armenia - Coordination activities in Cambodia, Mr. Heng Sophat, Cambodia - Systemic approaches on ICT for birth registration Ms. Kendra Gregson, UNICEF - Digital Birth Registration Risk assessment tool, Ms. Nicoleta Panta, Plan International - Interoperability and Unique IDs and Smart ICT Investments for CRVS, Ms. Lori Thorell, UNICEF 	
	<p><i>Discussion: Questions and answers to the presentations and discussion on key challenges for the use of ICT in Civil Registration and identification of best approaches for overcoming them.</i></p>	
	<p><i>Expected outcome: Identification of the kind of assistance countries need and how the work of the Regional Steering Group can assist activities in line with this Action Area. Possibly identification of opportunities for enhanced knowledge-sharing, regional cooperation and learning, and the identification of opportunities for collaboration.</i></p>	
Session 11 11.30	RAF Action Areas: Production, dissemination and use of vital statistics	Session chair: Vice Chair of the Regional Steering Group
	Presentations:	Rapporteur: Karen Carter
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Experiences from Australia, Ms. AJ Lanyon, Australia - CRVS improvement activities in Iran, Mr. Ali Akbar 	

- Mahzoon, Iran
- **Improving the collection of vital statistics**, Mr. Agidalov, Kazakhstan
- **Status Update from Korea**, Ms. Yeanok Yoon, Rep. of Korea
- **Bloomberg Data for Health**, Ms. Carla Abouzahr, CAZ Consulting

Discussion: Questions and answers to the presentations and discussion on how to improve the production, dissemination and use of vital statistics and how the regional initiative can support countries.

Expected outcome: Identification of the kind of assistance countries need in the Action Area and how the work of the Regional Steering Group can assist activities in line with this Action Area. Possibly identification of opportunities for enhanced knowledge-sharing, regional cooperation and learning, and the identification of opportunities for collaboration.

12.30	Lunch	
Session 12 13.30	<p>Implementation of the Regional Action Framework on CRVS: Review of the draft guidelines for setting and monitoring the goals and targets of the Regional Action Framework (breakout and plenary)</p> <p>Sub-groups:</p> <p>Group A: Goal 1 - Universal civil registration of births, deaths and other vital events</p> <p>Group B: Goal 2 - All individuals are provided with legal documentation of civil registration of births, deaths and other vital events, as necessary to claim identity, civil status and ensuing rights;</p> <p>Group C: Goal 3 - Accurate, complete and timely vital statistics (including on causes of death) are produced based on registration records and are disseminated</p> <p>Rapporteur: Each sub-group will select a rapporteur who will present a summary of the discussions and recommendations in the subsequent plenary session.</p> <p>Expected outcomes: Subgroups will discuss the guidelines and provide feedback and specific recommendations on these as well as considerations of how they can be used by countries for the monitoring and implementation of the Regional Action Framework.</p>	<p>Session chair: Vice Chair of the RSG</p> <p>Introduction and plenum discussions facilitated by Jessica Gardner, Independent Consultant</p>
15.00	Coffee break	
Session 13 15.15	<p>Reporting on previous session</p> <p>Groups report back on their discussions</p>	<p>Session chair: Vice Chair of the RSG</p>
Session 14 16.15	<p>Special Session: Further initiatives to support implementation of the Regional Action Framework</p>	<p>Session chair: Vice Chair</p> <p>Rapporteur: Nicholas</p>

	<p>Presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Update on the activities of the Pacific Civil Registrars Network, Mr. Jeff Montgomery - CDC CRVS activities, Mr. Sam Notzon, CDC <p>Discussion: Questions and answers to the presentations</p> <p>Expected outcome: <i>The Regional Steering Group provides proposal for further assistance needed to implementation of the Regional Action Framework.</i></p>	Oakeshott
DAY 3: Thursday, 30 July 2015		
Session 15 9.00	<p>Taking stock of Day Two</p> <p>Desired outcome: <i>The Regional Steering Group addresses any issues from the second day, and, if necessary, changes the remainder of the meeting programme.</i></p>	Session chair: Chair of the Regional Steering Group
Session 16 9.15	<p>Special Session: Research to support implementation of the Regional Action Framework</p> <p>Presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Research Agenda for CRVS, Ms. Carla Abouzahr, CAZ Consulting - Research on CRVS and Gender, Mr. James Knowles, UN Foundation <p>Discussion: Q & A</p> <p>Expected outcome: <i>The Regional Steering Group provides ideas and feedback on potential research projects, advocacy and fundraising activities that should be developed to support the improvement of CRVS in the region.</i></p>	<p>Session chair: Vice Chair of the Regional Steering Group</p> <p>Rapporteur: Mariko Tomiyama</p>
10.00	Coffee break	
Session 17 10.15	<p>Regional support for RAF implementation</p> <p>Presentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The terms of references of the Regional Steering Group, Ms. Tanja Sejersen, UNESCAP - Regional CRVS knowledge sharing website, Ms. Sinovia Moonie, ESCAP <p>Panel Discussion: <i>Panel discussion revisiting objective one on deciding on approaches and modalities for providing regional support to the implementation of the Regional Action framework</i></p> <p>Expected outcome: <i>Agreement on approaches and modalities for providing regional support to the implementation of the Regional Action Framework on CRVS in Asia and the Pacific</i></p>	Session chair: Vice Chair of the Regional Steering Group
12.30	Lunch	
Session 18	Work programme for the Regional Steering Group in 2015 – 2019	Session chair: Chair of the Regional Steering Group

13.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Taking stock of the sessions of the morning ▪ Tour-de-table: Participants will be asked to provide their own perspective on expectations for programme of work for the RSG including important issues which should be covered in the baseline report for the CRVS Decade. <p>Discussion: <i>Lessons learned from the first Regional Steering Group on CRVS. Ideas for the work programme (Chair of the Regional Steering Group)</i></p> <p>Expected outcome: <i>The Regional Steering Group agrees on a work programme through to the end of 2019, building on the discussions during the first 2.5 day of the Regional Steering Group meeting.</i></p>	
15.00	Coffee break	
Session 19	Roles and responsibilities of the Regional Steering Group (CLOSED, only for RSG members)	Session chair: Chair of the Regional Steering Group
15.15	<p>Presentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Nominations received for the Regional Steering Group, Ms. Tanja Sejersen, UNESCAP <p>Discussion: <i>Discussion on the roles and responsibilities of the Regional Steering group, communication, sub-groups, procedural and management matters.</i></p> <p>Expected outcome: <i>Shared understanding of the role of the Regional Steering Group and its means and modes of communication as well as timelines, responsibilities, sub-groups, membership and frequency and modality of Regional Steering Group meetings.</i></p>	
Session 20	Closing	
16.30	-	Chair of the Regional Steering Group