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The Second Ministerial Conference on CRVS in Asia and the Pacific 16-19 November 2021

Briefing on plans, 18 May 2021
Statistics Division, ESCAP

Objectives of the Second Ministerial Conference on CRVS

- Celebrating achievements during the first half of the CRVS Decade
- Highlight necessity of CRVS to legal identity



Focus on the importance of CRVS systems in the response to pandemics and the recovery from COVID-19

- Emphasize how CRVS is instrumental for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Second Ministerial Conference

16-19 November 2021

- ✧ Expected outcomes:
 - ✧ A Ministerial Declaration on CRVS
- ✧ Expected participants
 - ✧ Ministers responsible for: Civil Registration, Planning, Justice, Health, Statistics, Finance and National ID systems
- ✧ Preparation
 - ✧ Led by the Regional Steering Group for CRVS to ensure a comprehensive and inclusive process
 - ✧ Supported by ESCAP and other development partners

Co-organisers for the Conference



- With additional support from the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, Statistics Norway, UNSD, IOM, IDRC, Global Health Advocacy incubator, CRC Asia

Face-to-face, hybrid or online?

- ✧ The Ministerial Conference in 2020 was postponed to 2021 due to COVID-19
- ✧ Postponing again is not an option
- ✧ The preference is for a face-to-face Conference, but this is looking increasingly unlikely
- ✧ A hybrid event would mean that embassies and organisations with representation in Thailand could attend in person while everyone else would be joining virtually
- ✧ What is the preference modality?

DRAFT Programme








DRAFT

	16 November	17 November	18 November	19 November
10-12	<p>1. Opening of the Senior Officials segment</p>	<p>4. Leaving No One Behind - Civil registration and vital statistics as an accelerator for achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development</p> <p>(+ country statements, youth and children and civil society statement)</p>	<p>6. The relationship between civil registration, legal identity and vital statistics in Asia and the Pacific</p> <p>(+ country statements)</p>	<p>8. Opening of the Ministerial Segment</p>
	<p>2. Review of the progress made and existing challenges to accelerate the implementation of the Regional Action Framework on CRVS in Asia and the Pacific</p> <p>(+ country statements)</p>		<p>7. Consideration of the draft Ministerial Declaration</p>	<p>9. Towards our shared vision of universal and responsive CRVS systems that facilitate the realization of rights and support good governance, health and development</p> <p>(+ country statements)</p>
14-16	<p>3. The potential of the health sector to catalyze accelerated improvement in CRVS systems and the role of CRVS in response and recovery from COVID-19</p> <p>(+ country statements)</p>	<p>5 (a). Priority topic session: Vital Statistics Production and Usage: Harnessing civil registration data for decision-making</p>		<p>Signature session – Ministerial roundtable(s)</p> <p>Focus on CRVS and COVID-19</p>
		<p>5 (b). Priority topic session: Making Gender Count in times of crisis – using CRVS to inform gendered responses to COVID-19 in Asia-Pacific</p>		<p>11. Adoption of the Ministerial Declaration</p>
		<p>5 (c). Priority topic session: Economics of CRVS systems: cost and benefits</p>		<p>12. Adoption of the report of the Conference.</p>

Supporting activities

-  Side events organized by countries and development partners October/November 2021
-  Youth and children consultation (Feb-May 2021)
-  Youth and Civil Society Forum (September 2021)
-  Training of journalists (September 2021)
-  Preparatory Meetings of sub-regional initiatives (PCRN, CR8)
-  Communication strategy w co-organisers
-  Press conference (ESCAP and co-organisers)

Key dates

-  December 2020: review of concept notes by Regional Steering Group
-  May-July: Drafts for consultation with co-organisers and RSG members
-  June/July: Provisional agenda and invitations sent to countries
-  5 October: All documents must be shared with members and associate members of ESCAP
-  October: participant registration and submission of letters of credentials from countries and partners

Role of the Regional Steering Group in the preparations

- ✧ ESCAP will be requesting RSG members to review official documents for the conference via emails
- ✧ Members are encouraged to support the process of consultation on the Ministerial Declaration within their countries
- ✧ Members are encouraged to facilitate high level multisectoral delegations from their countries to the Ministerial Conference,
- ✧ Supporting the selection of speakers at the conference
- ✧ A bureau of Chair, Vice Chairs and rapporteur will be selected for the Ministerial Conference

Consultation on Ministerial Declaration



- ◆ 30 March: zero draft ministerial declaration developed by the Secretariat
- ◆ end May: first draft ministerial declaration developed by Regional Steering Group
- ◆ June: first draft ministerial declaration sent to national CRVS focal points, RSG members and partners (with MFAs in copy) for written consultation
- ◆ August: second draft ministerial declaration sent to national CRVS focal points, RSG members and partners (with MFAs in copy) for written consultation, possibly followed by online consultation if needed
- ◆ Silence procedure
- ◆ **16-18 November: Senior official segment**
- ◆ **19 November: Ministerial segment**

Key elements of the zero draft Ministerial Declaration

-  Avoiding repeating agreements from 2014
-  Refer to relevant international agreements since 2014, including SDGs, UN LIA etc
-  Include language on key topics decided by Regional Steering Group in 2020 (progress, health, vital statistics, gender, economics, data protection, legal identity, SDGs/Leave No One Behind)
-  Operative paragraphs outlining actions to be taken by Member States, Development Partners and ESCAP



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