



UN Statistics
Division



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SESSION 7. THE ROLE OF HEALTH INSTITUTIONS

UNITED NATIONS STATISTICS DIVISION

Workshop on the Principles and Recommendations for a Vital Statistics
System, Revision 3 for Arabic-speaking countries

Muscat, Oman, 14 - 17 November 2016



Role of health institutions

Principles and Recommendations, para 485-501



Role of health institutions



Critical role

- Informants of the occurrence of birth, foetal deaths and deaths
- Certification of causes of deaths
- Health statistics

Informant

- Civil Registration Law often designates the head of the health institutions as responsible for acting as informant of births, foetal deaths and deaths occurring in their institutions
- In practice, this results in having a secondary civil registration office located in the health institutions, making the information of occurrence fast-flowing
- The parents (births) or relatives (deaths) are pointed to the registrar's office within the health institutions where the registration of the event as well as certificates are take place
- Even when the office is elsewhere and the role of informant falls to an individual (parents, relatives) the health institution provides the certification of the occurrence of the event which is then used by the registrar

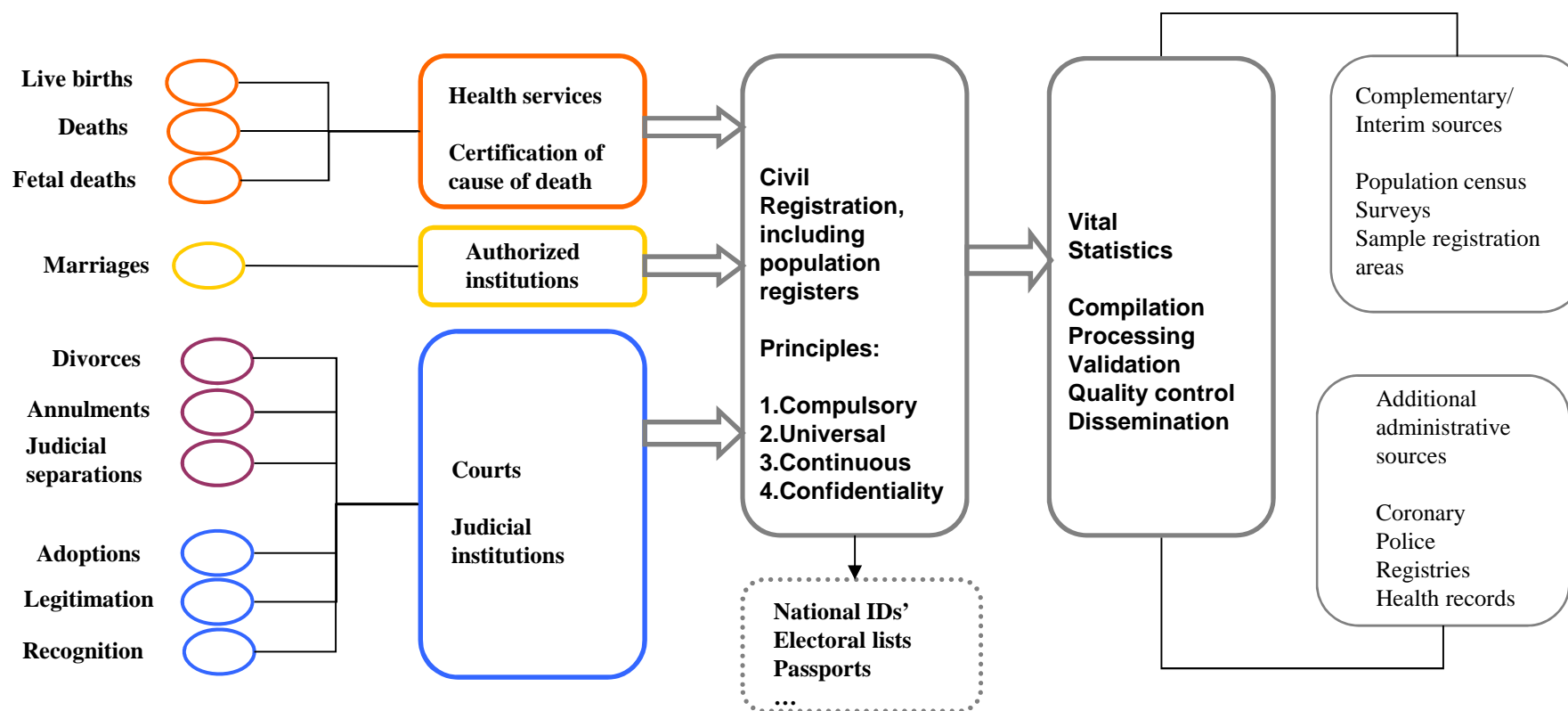


Not civil registration

- Health institutions do not have the authority to issue certificates
- Only civil registrar has the authority for legitimate registration
- Health institutions are not equipped to discharge this function
- Adverse impact on their primary function – health services
- In certain circumstances health institutions may be tasked to submit statistical reports on vital events resulting in the production of vital statistics

Certification of cause of death

- Death certificate critical for surviving relatives
- Equally important from the public health aspect is the cause of death
- Registrar should insure that the cause of death form is part of the record and submitted for statistical processing
- WHO standards for the cause of death
- Presentation by WHO



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- Informants
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