

**Workshop on the Principles and Recommendations for a Vital Statistics System, Revision 3, for
African English-speaking countries,
2-5 December 2014, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

Organization of work

Day 1. Tuesday, 2 December 2014	
8:30–9:00	1. Registration of participants
9:00–9:30	<p>2. Opening Introductory remarks by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) - United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) <p>Introduction of participants and administrative matters Introduction of the programme of work, the methods of work and the literature provided to participants in print and in electronic format.</p>
9:30–10:00	<p>3. The third revision of the Principles and Recommendations for a Vital Statistics System. This session will walk the participants through the origin and development of international standards for civil registration and vital statistics. It will also outline the changes in the current revision compared to the previous ones, and assists the participants in understanding the structure and changes in the publication.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNSD presentation • General discussion
10:00–10:30	<p>4. Uses and guiding principles of vital statistics. The session reviews the importance, main uses and sources of vital statistics, as well as the components of a vital statistics system. This session will focus on international recommendations setting up and running a civil registration system, as well as the necessary coordination and integration within it (Chapters I and II of Part One of the Principles and Recommendations, Rev. 3).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNSD presentation
10:30–10:50	Coffee break
10:50–11:30	<p>5. Topics and themes to be covered in a vital statistics system. This session considers topics to be investigated for each vital event, its specific characteristics and the persons directly involved (Chapter III of Part One of</p>

	<p>the Principles and Recommendations, Rev. 3).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation: Topics from Civil Registration
11:30 – 12:30	<p>5a. Topics and themes to be covered in a civil registration based vital statistics system (continued). Group discussion:</p> <p>Which topics are covered by the national CRVS systems compared to international recommendations? Why are these topics important/relevant? Compare the forms used in individual countries with international recommendations, what are the differences What are the topics that represent the most difficult challenge? Why?</p>
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch break
14:00 – 14:45	<p>6. Quality assessment and assurance in the civil registration vital statistics system. The session reviews the basic quality assurance framework, and techniques, both direct and indirect, that can be used to evaluate the completeness of a civil registration system and reported vital statistics. The session will focus on internationally recommended mechanisms for assuring reliable, accurate and timely vital statistics (Chapter I of Part Three of Principles and Recommendations, Rev 3).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNSD presentation • General discussion
14:45 – 15:45	<p>7. Population registers, population censuses and surveys as a source of vital statistics. The session provides an overview of the use of alternative sources and their potentialities in the context of vital statistics (Chapters III and V of Part Two of Principles and Recommendations, Rev 3).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNSD presentation • General discussion
15:45–16:05	Coffee break
16:05–17:00	<p>8. The role of health institutions. The critical role of health institutions in collecting death and cause of death information is examined (Chapter IV of Part Two of the Principles and Recommendations, Rev. 3).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNSD presentation • WHO presentation (Webex). Certification of causes of death. • General discussion

Day 2. Wednesday, 3 December 2014

<p>9:00- 10:15</p>	<p>9. Civil registration as a source of vital statistics. The session examines the method, system, role and other characteristics of civil registration, and defines the vital events that should be registered. It also reviews the registration process for vital statistics purposes (Chapter II of Part Two of Principles and Recommendations, Rev 3).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNSD presentation • General discussion
<p>10:15- 10:45</p>	<p>Coffee break</p>
<p>10:45 – 12:00</p>	<p>10. National-level designation of responsibilities and organizational structures of a civil registration system. This session examines the types of structures under which information on the frequency of occurrence of certain vital events and the person(s) concerned with them is collected, stored, retrieved and preserved. It includes the legal framework for civil registration under which the structures can operate efficiently (Module 3 of Chapter I of Handbook on Training in Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNSD presentation • Country presentations (Registrars of Swaziland, Ethiopia, Lesotho and Namibia) • General discussion
<p>12:00 – 13:30</p>	<p>Lunch break</p>
<p>13:30 – 14:30</p>	<p>11. Local-level designation of responsibilities of a civil registration system. This session looks at the designation and duties of the local registrar. It also considers ways for the central office to improve the efficiency of the local registrar (Module 6 of Chapter I of Handbook on Training in Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNSD presentation • Country presentations (Registrars of Ghana, Uganda, Gambia and South Africa) • General discussion
<p>14:30 – 15:30</p>	<p>12. Civil registration process: place, time, cost, late registration. This session considers the place of registration for each type of event and how it should be defined in law and regulation. The session also considers the importance and effect of the time factor in the registration of vital events; how fees should be assessed, relative to the effect they have on the completeness of</p>

	<p>registration; and it examines the methods of late and delayed registration (Module 8 of Chapter I of Handbook on Training in Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNSD presentation • Country presentations (Registrars of Zimbabwe, Kenya, Mozambique and Tanzania) • General discussion
15:30 - 15:50	Coffee break
15:50- 17:00	<p>13. Tools for assessing a civil registration and vital statistics system in Africa. This session provides a general understanding of a CRVS review, in order to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNECA presentation • Country experiences on implementation of the assessment tool. Obstacles encountered during the assessment exercise and lessons learned (Registrars of Botswana and Zambia).
Day 3. Thursday, 4 December 2014	
9:00 – 10:00	<p>14. Africa Programme on Accelerated Improvement of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (APAI-CRVS). This session highlights the detailed strategies and approaches, progress made and challenges in this regional initiative.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNECA presentation
10:00 – 10:20	Coffee break
10:20 – 11:20	<p>14a Experiences of countries in implementation of APAI-CRVS: successes and challenges. This session will be an open session with countries reflecting on the successes and challenges in implementing the programme in their respective countries.</p>
11:20 – 12:00	<p>15. International collection of vital statistics and regional response rates for vital statistics. The session reviews the data and metadata requirements at international level for vital statistics; it will focus on the description of the system for collecting, processing and disseminating demographic statistics at international level using the United Nations Demographic Yearbook. It will also present the response rates for Africa and compare them with other world regions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNSD presentation • General discussion

12:00 – 13:30	Lunch break
13:30- 15:15	16. Country team work time. Representative(s) of each country will work as a team on preparing a 10 minute presentation on best strategies to improve civil registration and vital statistics in their respective countries, assisted by resource persons. The presentation will cover the current of various vital events, the new business process planned and the strategies to be adopted to get there. Presentation (template to be provided) will be delivered by each country on the last day of the workshop.
15:15- 15:35	Coffee break
15:35- 17:00	16. Country team work time (continued).
Day 4. Friday, 5 December 2014	
9:00- 10:30	17. Strategies for improving civil registration and vital statistics system in Africa. The session provides a platform for countries to share. Each country (statistician and registrar jointly) will make a presentation on possible national strategies for improving vital statistics in light of the revised set of international principles and recommendations as presented at this workshop. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Country presentations
10:30 – 10:50	Coffee break
10:50 – 12:20	17. Strategies for improving civil registration and vital statistics system in Africa (continued). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Country presentations
12:20 – 13:50	Lunch break
13:50 – 15:20	17. Strategies for improving civil registration and vital statistics system in Africa (continued). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Country presentations
15:20 – 15:40	Coffee break

15:40 – 17:00	18. Wrap-up /Closing. Presentation and discussion of the summary of the workshop’s proceedings: conclusions and recommendations on how to improve the quality of vital statistics in participating countries. Evaluation of the workshop
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