

United Nations Statistical Commission

Fifty-third session

Item 3 (f) of the provisional agenda

Items for discussion and decision: civil registration, vital statistics and statelessness statistics

Document E/CN.3/2022/9 – Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the UN Legal Identity Agenda – Civil Registration and Vital Statistics

Statement provided by:

Central Statistical Organization, Ministry of Planning and Finance
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Statement:

Civil Registration and Vital Statistics System of Myanmar

The registration of births and deaths in Myanmar started at the beginning of the twentieth century, in 1907. Civil Registration and Vital Statistics System (CRVS) encompasses only births and deaths. The mainly responsible institutions of CRVS are Ministry of Health, and Central Statistical Organization under Ministry of Planning and Finance.

The system was gradually improved throughout the years in registering all births and deaths across the country. According to the Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) in 2015-2016, birth registration coverage had reached 81.3%. However, there are differences between urban and rural, with 93.9% and 77.7% respectively.

The birth registration coverage was increased through the intervention of the birth registration campaign, refresher courses for implementers, and public awareness activities on the importance of birth registration. Nevertheless, there were some limitations for age and geographic coverage in reaching all people, and the government has encouraged all stakeholders to cooperate in timely registering of all births and deaths that occur within country.

A national level Coordination Committee for Birth and Death Registration was formed under the leadership of Deputy Minister of Health in 2021. The Committee was formed for the effective coordination between administrative levels and concerned departments at the Central level. This has been mirrored down to, the State/Region level, District level, Township level, and Ward/Village Track level. Directives on data collection techniques, channels for reporting, policy, and procedures on updating and maintenance of statistics have been released. The country has made follow-ups in assigning the Civil Registrar General and initiated the development of a comprehensive CRVS law since the beginning of the year 2020.

During 2015-2020, the Vital Registration E-Platform has been started, and digital archiving system has been set up in the country that creates permanent records of vital statistics. All registration data are made accessible for planning, implementation, and decision-making. However, the country is still working on digital data collection to obtain real-time data and purposes improving its data uploading and sharing system. The Vital Registration E-platform was scaled up across the country during the same year.

With the support of the UNICEF in 2019, Myanmar piloted the 'Mobile Birth and Death Registration (MBDR)' project in one pilot State (Mon). This project is planned to be used for a national scale-up in 2021.

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