

Statement by

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To

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Mr. Chairman

Honorable Ministers

Distinguished Delegates

Ladies and gentlemen

At the outset I would like to express my gratitude to the ESCAP for organizing this very important regional conference. Congratulations to you H.E Mr. AHM Mustafa Kamal on your election as the chair of this meeting.

The Islamic Republic of Iran takes this opportunity to emphasize that as we name the 2015- 2024 period as the Decade of Civil Status Registration, it also requires a solid determination in making the next 10 years a decade of better future in which we could witness valuable achievements and accomplishments in the area of civil status and biostatistics.

Considering the importance of civil registration and vital statistics, Iran has already named as “National Day of Civil Registration” on its national calendar. In fact, civil status registry in Iran in its current state established in 1918 when the task was first started. Here I share with you some figures as we have reached so far:

- more than 78 million Iranians have already received identity services;
- from which %70 lives in the cities; and
- %71 is young and middle age groups.

Mr. Chairman

Distinguished Delegates

The civil registration system in Iran pursues following three main activities: “Registry of Civil Status”, “Issuance of Identity Documents” and “Production and Releasing Population Statistics and Information” .

In the area of registry of civil status widespread infrastructures have been established throughout the country with the aim of providing

necessary services to the people with more feasibility in base-core form. This infrastructure has provided the country with the registry of about %98 of birth events during the legally binding 15 days deadline and about %97 of the death events within the legal 10 days deadline. By using the capacities of legal entities more than 40,000 members that move in the districts for the registry of vital status and events in far off spots.

In the area of issuance of identity documents it worth mentioning that after the registry of birth or death events, identity documents and certificates are issued for all Iranian nationals. A birth certificate issued for each newborn under the web-services by using the central data base. In addition to the mechanized birth certificates, all national ID cards have been replaced and reissued by smart national ID cards for all Iranian nationals. Issuing national smart ID cards are considered as an essential step towards E-government which enables us using biometric data such as fingerprint, digital signature and citizenship emails which helps to identify individuals in virtual space as well as increasing in providing services.

In the area of producing and publishing population statistics and information due to increase in the quality of statistics of vital events which are developed through registering identity data, it is notable that those statistics and information also are being used by the state planners and policy-makers.

Privileged and enriched by the lessons learned from the two international seminars on civil registration, which were held with the participation of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) and The Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), the Islamic Republic of Iran, is ready to work closely with the ESCAP and cooperate and share its experiences with the countries in the region to keep the momentum to

realize our common goals and objective in the field of CRVS. To this end, the Islamic Republic of Iran, expresses its strong support for cooperation of regional and sub-regional organizations as is being reflected in OP8 of the Draft Ministerial Declaration.

In the end we are of the view that CRVS universality can be better reached through establishing an international mechanism for coordination and cooperation under the auspices of the United Nations in the area of CRVS.

With the hope of a future in which everyone is registered and all got into the picture.

Thank you for your attention.