

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the Name of Allah The Most Gracious and Most Merciful

Distinguish delegates, ladies and gentlemen

I am very pleased to be with you in this very important conference. Afghanistan despite of all the challenges we have is still actively participating and involved in all global, regional and country specific long term developmental plans and efforts.

We conducted the CRVS rapid and comprehensive assessments using the global tools and the findings of these assessments informed development of a 10 years CRVS priorities plan.

Based on the findings of the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey birth registration was raised from 6 percent in 2003 to 37.4 percent in 2011. The next survey will be conducted next year and based on the statistics we have the birth registration might be above 45 percent.

We have computerized our passports and as such we have stopped issuing manual passports.

We have finalized arrangements for issuing electronic national IDs to our citizens. This is a priority for us. We have computerized our birth registration system and are planning to add registration through SMS next year.

We are also planning to link the birth registration database with the electronic national ID and passport databases. Our birth registration database is capable of linkage with all other databases.

Under our vital statistics we are recording five vital events such as births, deaths, marriage, divorces and displaced. We have made progress on birth and death registration while we have to improve registration of the three other events.

The achievements we have made could not have been possible without good coordination and collaboration among various government ministries and institutions and the support of our international partners. It is worth mentioning that the regional CRVS initiative has also helped us to improve our systems.

Using this opportunity I would like to thank my colleagues from all line ministries and our international supports specifically UNICEF, IOM, UN ESCAP, European Union and the World Bank.

Building on our achievements and with continued support of our partners I am confident that Afghanistan will be able to fulfil its commitment that I am making now on behalf of my government to observe the regional CRVS action plan.

Thank you.