MEETING OBJECTIVES

1. Review the achievements and challenges in implementing the Regional Action Framework, including deliberations at the 72nd session of the ESCAP Commission
2. Identify priority actions at country and regional levels to maintain momentum and accelerate progress towards the Regional Action Framework
3. Formulate work plan for the Regional Steering Group (immediate and future)

Draft Agenda

DAY 1: Tuesday, 6 September 2016

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Chair / Facilitator</th>
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<tr>
<td>9.00 – 9:30</td>
<td>Welcome and Opening</td>
<td>session chair: Mr. Yanhong Zhang</td>
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<td>- Mr. Adnan Aliani, O.i.C, a.i. ESCAP</td>
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<td>- Mr. Jone Usamate, Minister of Health and Medical Services, Ministry of Health and Medical Services on behalf of the Regional Steering Group on CRVS 2015-2016</td>
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<td>9.30 – 10:00</td>
<td>Adoption of the Agenda and Tour-de-table</td>
<td>session chair: Mr. Jone Usamate</td>
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<td><em>Expected outcome:</em> RSG members are clear about the expected outcomes of the meeting, the structure to achieve them as well as expected contributions from all individuals.</td>
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<td>10:00 – 10:30</td>
<td>Group photo and Coffee break (in front of the Conference Room)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 – 11:15</td>
<td>Session 1: Progress in implementing the Regional Action Framework: One year after the Ministerial Conference</td>
<td>session chair: Mr. Jone Usamate</td>
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<td><em>Expected outcome:</em> Shared understanding of major achievements and gaps across Asia and the Pacific in implementing the Regional Action Framework, as well as recommendations on priority areas for collective action to maintain momentum and accelerate progress.</td>
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<td>Presentation: Highlights of the “Report of the Regional Steering Group for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific” and deliberations at the 72nd session of the ESCAP Commission</td>
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Questions for discussion:
- In view of the vision of CRVS Decade, where across the Goals/targets is the pace of progress adequate and where acceleration is needed?
- In what action areas is the implementation of the Regional Action Framework adequate and where strengthened efforts are required?

11:15 – 12:00  Session 2: Country practices

Expected outcome: *Identified good practices in selected action areas as potential for scaling up*

Presentations: National and sub-regional practices in implementation of the regional action framework:
- What were the lessons learned in implementation of the regional action framework?
- What did work and what did not?
- What are the major challenges at the national level that require regional actions?

- H.E. Mr. Jone Usamate, Fiji
- Mr. Hor Darith, Cambodia
- Mr. Simil Johnson, Vanuatu
- Ms. Badamtsetseg Batgargal, Mongolia

Topics to be discussed:
- Improving accessibility of civil registration services Creating demand for registration of all vital events
- Monitoring of performance of the systems and registration completeness
- Coordination among national stakeholders and development partner
- Digitization of CRVS systems
- Ensuring sustainability and political commitment to improvement of CRVS systems

12.00-13:00  Lunch break

13:00 – 14:00  Session 2: Country practices (Contd)
### Session 3: Strengthening regional support to ensure achievement of the 2024 Vision

**Expected outcome:** Recommendations to prioritize and coordinate regional support to accelerate implementation of the regional action framework.

**Presentation:** Review of Activity Mapping and implications for a Regional Support Framework, (ESCAP)
- Ms. Lene Mikkelsen, Data4Health
- Mr. Nicholas Oakeshott, UNCHR
- Ms. Karen Carter, Secretariat of the Pacific Community
- Mr. Jeff Montgomery, New Zealand
- Ms. Eun Jeong Lee, Republic of Korea
- Mr Edward Duffus, Plan International

**Discussion:**
- In view of the achievements and identified gaps at the national level, to what extent regional support is sufficient?
- What are the priorities for regional support and to what extent the current activities address those priorities?

| 15:00 – 15:30 | Coffee break |

### Session 4: Sustainable Development Goals and opportunity to strengthen CRVS

**Expected outcome:** Increased awareness of SDG processes and recommendations on country and regional actions to leverage the emphasis on SDGs to strengthen CRVS.

**Presentation:** Links between SDGs and CRVS
Mr. Sam Notzon, United States
Mr Yanhong Zhang ESCAP

**Panel discussion:** (each panellist has 10 minutes first. Then 20 minutes open discussion. Lastly 20 minutes each panellist to sum up)
- Ms. Lisa Bersales, Philippines
- Mr. Simil Johnson, Vanuatu
- Ms. Claudine Henry-Anguna, Cook Islands
- Mr. Anir Chowdury, Bangladesh

**Discussions:**
- What are the opportunities that SDG implementation in your countries have created to advocate development of CRVS?
DAY 2: Wednesday, 7 September 2016

09.00 – 10:30 Session 5: Response to Regional Framework for Transforming Official Statistics

**Expected outcome:** Recommendations to the ESCAP Committee on Statistics for strengthening CRVS in alignment with the Regional Framework for Transforming Official Statistics

**Presentations:**
- Outcome of the Asia-Pacific Conference on Transforming Official Statistics for implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Mr Arman Bidarbakht Nia, ESCAP)
- A possible roadmap for strengthening training on CRVS (Ms Paula Monina Collado)

**Discussants:**
- Mr. Simil Johnson, Vanuatu
- Ms. AJ Lanyon, Australia
- Ms. Badamtsetseg Batgargal, Mongolia
- Ms. Lisa Bersales, Philippines

**Discussion:**
- Through strategic planning for statistical development (e.g. NSDS), what actions at the regional level do you propose to support establishing stronger political support and coordination for strengthening CRVS?
- Through what regional actions, national plans for improvement of CRVS can benefit from integration of official statistics? (integrated data sources as well as integrated production)
- What is a modern CR system and through what regional actions it contributes to modernization of statistical production system?
- What are the most effective modalities for strengthening national capacity for production and dissemination of VS?

10.30 - 11:00 Coffee break

11.00-12:30 Session 5: Response to Regional Framework for Transforming Official Statistics (Contd)

12.30 Lunch
Presentation from Mr. James Knowles, Data2X

13.30 Session 6: Work plan for the Regional Steering Group

**Expected outcome:** Work plan of the RSG formulated that covers short term (12 months) as well as longer term (36 months)

**Summary of the work by sub-groups and reflections:**
- Research, Dr. Azza Badr, WHO EMRO
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<tr>
<td>15.30 - 16:00</td>
<td>Coffee break</td>
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<td>16.30</td>
<td>Closing</td>
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<td>- Chair of the Regional Steering Group</td>
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- **Communications**, Mr Anis Chowdhury
- **Monitoring Guidelines of Regional Action Framework**, Mr Yanhong Zhang, ESCAP
- **Development of 12 Month Detailed Work Plan**, Mr. Matthew Perkins, ESCAP Secretariat