



Concept Note

Q4 2024 Meeting of the Civil Registration Professionals of South Asia (CR8)

Theme: Inequality assessment, addressing barriers to registration, and advocacy

Venue: Virtual, Microsoft Teams

Date and time: 25 November 2024, 15:00-16:30 Bangkok time

[Registration Link](#)

Background:

Following the decision made at the in-person meeting of the Civil Registration Professionals of South Asia (CR8) in Dhaka, Bangladesh, 2023, the CR8 secretariat has been organizing quarterly meetings to offer the opportunity for CR8 members to share experiences and lessons learned on CRVS improvement on a more regular basis. The first virtual quarterly meeting in March 2024 focused on CRVSID architecture enhancement, digitization of birth and death registration, and governance arrangement for CR8. The latest Q3 2024 meeting zoomed in on monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan and system, the 2025 review of progress in implementing the Regional Action Framework on CRVS in Asia and the Pacific (RAF), and preparations for the Third Ministerial Conference on CRVS in Asia and the Pacific, to be held from 24 to 26 June 2025.

The Q4 2024 CR8 meeting will be the last quarterly meeting for 2024 and offer the opportunity to share updates on key areas of work and discuss preparations in the lead up to the Third Ministerial Conference. Inequality assessment has been identified as an area of interest since the Third CR8 meeting in Dhaka, 2023, and it remains a crucial implementation step under RAF that requires more attention and resources. Inequalities can be assessed using a quantitative¹, qualitative² or mix methodology, and the data for the assessment can be derived from primary, secondary or combined sources depending on available resources. In addition to inequality assessment, addressing barriers to registration and increasing advocacy efforts among targeted population groups are also priority areas of work for our region. Therefore, inequality assessment, addressing barriers to registration, and advocacy are selected as key themes for the Q4 2024 CR8 meeting.

Objectives:

The objectives of this virtual quarterly CR8 meeting are to (1) share country experience on implementing inequality assessment, waiving fees for birth registration, and CRVS advocacy, (2) provide an update on preparation for the Third Ministerial Conference on CRVS in Asia and the Pacific, particularly on the processes

¹ Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). (2022). [Guidelines for estimating completeness of civil registration of vital events](#)

² Regional Support Office of the Bali Process, & UNHCR Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific. (2023). [Bali Process Toolkit for Inclusive Civil Registration](#)



required for facilitating Ministerial participation and nomination of members of delegation, and (3) brief members of CR8 on the South-Asia sub-regional forum scheduled for the morning of 23 June 2025 in Bangkok.

Format:

The meeting will be held virtually via MS Teams. The modality of the meeting will mainly be presentations followed by Q&As.

AGENDA

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Moderator: Mr. Sovannarothe Tey, Associate Statistician, Statistics Division, ESCAP

TIME		AGENDA ITEM	SPEAKER
15:00	15:10	Opening remarks by CR8 secretariat (10 mins)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Petra Nahmias, Chief, Population and Social Statistics Section, Statistics Division, ESCAP Mr. Vedasto Nsanzugwanko, Regional Advisor, Child Protection, Regional Office for South Asia, UNICEF Mr. Martin Bratschi, Technical Director, CRVS, Vital Strategies
15:10	15:32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation on fee-waiving for birth registration at the provincial level in Pakistan (6 mins). Presentation on strengthening coordination and advocacy for birth registration in Pakistan (6 mins) Q&As (10 mins) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Syed Khalid Hyder Shah, Additional Chief Secretary, Local Government, Pakistan Ms. Mehek Naeem, Member Punjab, National Commission of Rights of a Child, Pakistan
15:32	15:55	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation on inequality assessment of CRVS system in Nepal: Process, findings, and lessons learned (13 mins). Q&As (10 mins) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Nishant Khanal, Consultant, UNICEF
15:55	16:07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation on preparation for 2025 Ministerial Conference on CRVS in Asia and the Pacific (12 mins) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Tanja Sejersen, Statistician and CRVS Lead, Statistics Division, ESCAP
16:07	16:20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation on preparation for the South-Asia sub-regional forum prior to the Third Ministerial Conference on CRVS in Asia and the Pacific (13 mins) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Belete Birara Walle, Child Protection Specialist, Regional Office for South Asia, UNICEF
16:20	16:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Q&As and AOB (10 mins) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Sovannarothe Tey, Associate Statistician, Statistics Division, ESCAP