



FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF SOMALIA
MINISTRY OF INTERIOR, FEDERAL
AFFAIRS & RECONCILIATION

FIRST STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING ON THE CIVIL REGISTRATION AND VITAL STATISTICS IN SOMALIA

16 NOVEMBER 2022
MOGADISHU - SOMALIA

MEETING REPORT

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Acronyms

BRA	Banadir Regional Administration
CRVS	Civil Registration and Vital Statistics
FMSs	Federal Member States
HMIS	Health Management Information System
ID	Identity Document
IND	Immigration and Naturalization Directorate
IOM	International Organization for Migration
MERA	Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs
MoIFAR	Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation
NADRA	National Database and Registration Authority – Pakistan
NDP	National Development Plan
NIRA (DADSOM)	National Identification and Registration Authority
SC	Steering Committee
SGDs	Sustainable Development Goals
SNBS	Somali National Bureau of Statistics
TOR	Terms of Reference
TWG	Technical Working Group
UN-JPLG	United Nations Joint Programme on Local Governance
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations Refugee Agency
UNICEF	United Nations Children’s Fund
WHO	World Health Organization

Part 1 - Introduction

The following report presents the background and overview of the First Steering Committee (SC) of the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) Meeting, a summary of discussions and presentations delivered at the SC meeting, and decisions of the meeting. The Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation convened the inaugural SC meeting at the Hangar Conference venue of Aden Adde International Airport in Mogadishu on 16 November 2022. The meeting report is organized into three sections. The first part sets the meeting background, the second part documents the meeting minutes, and the last part contains the decisions and outcomes of the meeting. The final communique is included as **Appendix A** to this meeting report.

1.1 Background

The Council of Ministers of the Federal Government of Somalia approved the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics policy on 5 August 2021, establishing the Steering Committee of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics. As per the policy, the Steering Committee is mandated with strategic-level policy design, planning, resource mobilization and coordination of CRVS in Somalia. The role of the Steering Committee is to direct the development of Civil Registration action plans and its strategic framework and to ensure both oversight and accountability for implementing CRVS policy. As per the CRVS policy, the Steering Committee will meet annually.

The inaugural Steering Committee meeting is held over one year after the approval of the CRVS policy and builds on achievements made by the National CRVS Technical Working Group (TWG). The National CRVS-TWG chaired and coordinated by the Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation (MoIFAR), is tasked to oversee the implementation of the CRVS system development and improvement plans in compliance with national, regional and international standards. The National CRVS-TWG was operational in the last 15 months and convened five coordination meetings per their Terms of Reference (TOR). Despite the challenges faced by the CRVS-TWG, it has made concerted efforts to enhance coordination and set the foundations for re-establishing the CRVS system in Somalia. Some of the TWG's significant achievements include preparing an advanced version of the CRVS Bill, developing CRVS Standard Operating Procedures, mapping current and desired workflows, identifying stakeholders and producing the CRVS improvement annual work plan for 2023.

1.2 Objectives

The objectives of the first Steering Committee meeting were as follows:

- To update the SC on progress and challenges facing CRVS policy implementation.
- To set the overall direction of the CRVS system development, future priorities and commitments.
- To review and approve Somalia's CRVS improvement annual work plan for 2023.

1.3 Agenda

The inaugural SC meeting was structured to foster discussion among participants around the meeting agenda items and to provide an opportunity for relevant stakeholders other than SC members, including representatives from the Government and development partners. The

meeting was held in a hybrid format to allow in-person and online participation. Simultaneous translation to either Somali or English languages was made available to participants. Members of the Steering Committee adopted the provisional agenda of the meeting, which circulated it to each member institution by email before the meeting. The final programme adopted by the SC members is available in **Appendix B**.

1.4 Participation

The CRVS policy lists the Ministerial level members of the Steering Committee, chaired by the Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation. It comprises the Federal level Ministries of Health, Justice, Religious Affairs, Women and Human Rights Development, and Education. The Ministers of Interior of Federal Members States of Puntland, Southwest, Jubaland, Galumud, Hirshabelle and the Governor of Banadir Regional Administration (BRA)/Mayor of Mogadishu also constitute sub-national members of the SC.

Additional members of the SC, represented at the Director-general level, include the National Bureau of Statistics (SNBS), The Immigration and Naturalization Directorate (IND), and the National Identification and Registration Authority (NIRA - DADSOM). In addition to the SC members, other representatives from the Government and the UN agencies relevant to the specific discussions attended the meeting as observers or in an advisory capacity. Overall, the SC meeting brought together over **66 participants (16 women and 50 men)**, including invited non-Steering Committee partners and the SC members, with an apology received from one absent member. The final list of participants is available in **Appendix C**.

1.5 Media Coverage

The meeting attracted extensive media coverage from the local media, and the social media accounts of MoIFAR provided live updates on the meeting proceedings. The media team of the MoIFAR published highlights from the proceedings of the meeting on the Ministry’s Facebook, Twitter and YouTube channels. The links to the meeting news and selected photos from the gathering are provided in **Appendix D**.

1.6 Distributed Documents

Debates of the SC were informed and guided by a series of background documents distributed to the meeting participants. These include the **CRVS policy** in *Somali* and *English*, the preliminary draft of the **CRVS 2023 Annual Work Plan**, a snapshot report on commemorating **African CRVS Day** for the first time in Somalia and the **concept note** and the **provisional agenda** of the SC meeting.



Part 2 - Meeting Minutes

2.1 The opening session

Opening Remarks – by H.E. Ahmed Moallim Fiqi, Chair of the Steering Committee

The first meeting of the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Steering Committee was chaired and opened by **H.E. Ahmed Moallim Fiqi**, Minister of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation of the Federal Republic of Somalia. The Minister welcomed participants and explained the significance of the CRVS system to the nation's socioeconomic development and maintaining security. Noting the civil registration documents being an essential reference to every citizen's life course, he cited an old **Somali song** posing critical questions on how a free nation could care for its citizens if their data and information were unknown. The Minister recalled that most people living in Somalia today are born and die without being recorded in any official registry or counted by the government. He emphasized the current fragmented registration arrangements available in some parts of the country, which primarily provide late certification, are not expected to answer those questions raised by the artists while hinting the CRVS policy responds to these questions.

The Minister highlighted achievements of the CRVS-TWG, which paved the way for the SC meeting and explained the expected outcomes of the meeting, including assessing accomplishments made so far, giving direction for the upcoming year and mobilizing necessary funds for implementing the annual work plan. The Minister further noted the benefits of implementing a modern civil registration system, including delivering efficient services, strengthening peace and stability and elevating Somalia's rank into comparable levels to other nations. He also noted ongoing CRVS digitalization endeavours expected to be rolled out in 30 pilot districts in 2023. He concluded by thanking members of the CRVS-TWG for making remarkable efforts in coordination and developing the legal framework and plans for improving the CRVS in Somalia and declared the First CRVS Steering Committee meeting open.

2.2 Presentations – achievements, challenges and plans

Abdikani Wehlie, the Director of the Civil Registration Department of MoIFAR, presented an overview of the country's civil registration historical background, current legal framework components, progress made by the TWG and ongoing efforts. The presentation explained planned activities for 2023 included in the annual work plan. The work plan contains six priority areas, including strengthening the CRVS governance and coordination, knowledge and capacity, sensitization and advocacy, standardization of the tools, technical design and IT infrastructure, and monitoring and oversight of activities.

The challenges facing the CRVS system in Somalia include that current fragmented registration services and records could not be recognized as official civil records since legally mandated agencies do not provide them and because it is not issued according to the prescribed procedures that validate events. The presentation concluded with a request to the SC members to endorse the annual work plan for 2023 and mobilise the estimated USD 3.1 million necessities for its implementation. The presentation is available [here](#).

Sharmarke Farah, the Director-general of the National Bureau of Statistics (SNBS), explained the importance of the CRVS and the challenges of producing the Vital Statistics report in his presentation. After specifying the sources and types of data for official statistics, mainly surveys

and administrative data, he described the role of civil registration in producing vital statistics and its links with civil identification. The presentation underlined the value of the CRVS in measuring Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and monitoring the National Development Plan (NDP).

The significant challenges of the CRVS include a lack of appropriate and effective legal and regulatory framework, weak institutional capacity, lack of coordination, fragmentation and duplications of efforts, poor public awareness, and inadequate resources and funding. The proposed solutions to overcome these challenges include accelerating the preparation of the CRVS legal framework, investing in capacity building and institution development, streamlining the production of vital statistics and coordination with partners, increasing advocacy, awareness-raising and outreach campaigns, allocating domestic resources and mobilizing donor/partner resources. The presentation is available [here](#).

2.3 Statements by the Federal-level SC members

Abdullahi Bihi, Director-General of the National Registration and Identification Authority (NIRA - DADSOM)

- Highlighted that efforts to develop the technology infrastructure for data storage and review the legal framework for data management is going well - NIRA will present the first 100 days plan of the new director-general soon.
- The CRVS data is fundamental for the country's development and cooperation with SNBS, and producing vital statistics could be the basis for measuring development targets.
- NIRA (DADSOM), in collaboration with NADRA (Pakistan), is responsible for implementing the national ID and will support CRVS digitization and interoperability.

Mr. Abdulkadir Ali, Director-General of the Immigration and Naturalization Directorate

- Lauded the Ministry of Interior for convening the meeting and considered its topics vital for the country's destiny, future and development.
- The IND is the primary user of civil documents issued by the local governments, as it is a requirement for citizens to present a birth certificate, authentication letter and clearance from the CID when applying for passports.
- The presentations revealed challenges of the systems as people currently request a birth certificate in one location and then apply for another certificate with different birth dates from another place, which signifies the need for unified databases and reference data.
- Improving the CRVS system will help the next generation as it aims to capture vital events of the person's life course from birth.
- The IND formed committees to verify the age of applicants and keeps extensive records of citizens and migration data beginning from the date it started issuing passports.

Hassan Moallim, Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs

- Commended the Ministry of Interior for taking the lead in coordinating the CRVS and presenting the vision for addressing fragmentation in the system.
- Harmonizing fragmented data would allow the government to establish a reference for citizens' vital events information and serve its citizens.
- The CRVS system's revival shows the country's improving governance system and is the cornerstone for preventing fraud and crimes as it would establish the identity of citizens.

Mohamed Hassan, Deputy Minister of Health and Human Services 

- Applauded the meeting and mentioned that the Ministry plays a lead role in feeding the civil registration system through the HMIS database.
- The database captures birth and death events in all public hospitals run by the Ministry.
- Current plans of the Ministry include decentralizing and expanding its database to private health facilities and the Federal Members States and training new personnel on its use.
- Present priorities include recording the cause of death, sex, and location disaggregated data.

Mukhtar Robow, Minister of Endowments and Religious Affairs 

- Thanked the Ministry of Interior for organizing the SC meeting and prioritizing the CRVS, as it is critical for maintaining the country's security and peace.
- Without reliable security, expanding civil registration services would remain challenging; thus, all participants must work on maintaining peace and security.
- Improving CRVS completeness would influence the world's perceptions of Somalia and its population figures.
- verifying compliance of legal frameworks with the Sharia is imperative.
- Uniting marriage and divorce services under one entity rather than being regulated and administered by two different institutions should be considered.

Hon. Khadija Dirie, Minister of Women and Human Rights Development 

- Thanked the Minister of Interior for making the meeting happen and inviting all participants.
- The importance and benefits of civil registration are enormous, including civil identification and security aspects.
- The National CRVS development went through a demanding process and aimed to re-establish a system compatible with modern technologies.
- Somalia aspires to hold one-person, one-vote elections, and civil registration is key to realizing these aspirations.

2.4 Statements by the SC members from FMSs and BRA

Yusuf Jimale, Governor of BRA and Mayor of Mogadishu 

- Recalled the efforts made by the Ministry of Interior to organize the SC meeting and expressed contentment for hosting the first SC meeting in Mogadishu.
- It is common in Somalia that people willing to hide their age claim that they are born in a rural area but not a hospital.
- Civil registration captures the life course information of citizens, and countries with effective systems, like Egypt, have an interconnected system where registration services are available for all citizens from birth to death.
- Implementing civil registration must be fast-tracked to improve security since establishing an effective CRVS system would contribute to maintaining security.
- Some of the challenges in the country include prevalent secret marriages, and advancing civil registration would likely decrease that phenomenon.

- BRA currently issue birth certificates and authentication letters and is ready to expand the system as part of current efforts.
- Falsifying documents is a critical challenge, and all stakeholders must partake in fighting against fraud and falsification.

Abdi Mohamed Jama, Minister of Interior, Galmudug State 

- Civil registration is a crucial pillar of Somalia's state-building and multi-sector process.
- Civil registration facilitates identifying all citizens and their vital events and counting everyone.
- The system should be unified and standardized to avoid duplication and fragmentation, including multiple registrations in different locations.
- Somali citizens can present death documents while alive today, so the legal framework should strictly prevent these incidents.
- Obtaining passports and licenses should be tied to civil registration documents.
- Galmudug is committed to supporting the implementation of the CRVS policy and plans.

Gen. Ali Areys, Deputy and Acting Minister of Interior, Jubaland State 

- Jubaland supports and endorses the CRVS annual work plan as it has participated in all activities to develop the system.
- Jubaland State commissioned a private company to provide ID documents in Kismayo and Dobley districts. It is now prepared to integrate its system into the national databases.
- To strengthen security and monitor the movement of the population, no one can access inter-state transportation, get employed and obtain a driving license without having an ID.

Abdirahman Dahir Karore, Minister of Interior, Hirshabelle State 

- Commended the Minister of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation for taking a step forward on the CRVS and expressed the commitment of Hirshabelle to implement the civil registration by piloting it in the five districts as per the annual plan.
- Strengthening local governments to assume their responsibilities could prevent the falsification of civil documents in the open market.
- Registering vital events is critical for maintaining security in the country since registering vital events would facilitate identifying citizen data and obtaining passports.
- Hirshabelle is committed to implementing the current plan and partake in ongoing efforts.

Abdimalik Ibrahim, State Minister of Interior, Southwest State 

- Thanked MoIFAR for taking a lead role in developing the country's CRVS system, considering it an essential element for service delivery and good governance.
- Southwest is struggling with security challenges as movement between districts is constrained, and civil registration could contribute to boosting security.
- The benefits of civil registration include collecting citizen data with ease. Establishing the cause of death would be impossible without civil records.
- Civil registration is vital for collecting taxes and increasing government revenues, and data from civil registration is imperative for local governments and their plans.

2.5 Remarks by the UN representatives

Wafaa Saeed, UNICEF Somalia Country Representative

- Congratulated members of the SC and labelled the meeting as an action-oriented forum as it already endorsed the annual plan.
- UNICEF is an organization mandated to support the Government, while the Government is in the lead in the realization of the rights of Children and having a vision of 100% child registration as part of this effort is very important.
- The SC member's message was clear: you are united to act in the people's interest. The UN partners also understand that they should be united and coordinate their efforts to support Government's role.
- The work on the Bahnano project is providing substantive support under the Government and trying to have a unified registry system. However, we take the word that we also must coordinate and fully support the efforts of the Government.
- The presentations highlighted that there is a policy, ongoing work on the legislation and the need for an action plan that addresses the SDGs and leaves no one behind and for Somalia's commitment to the SDGs.
- Expressed full commitment to supporting the Government's leadership and its efforts guided by the people's interests and thanked translators for a job well done.

Sanaa Omar, UNHCR Somalia Deputy Country Representative

- She expressed her happiness and admiration for attending the SC meeting and commended the presentations.
- Civil registration is vital for good planning, as it assures fair services across the board since there is a need for more fairness or identifying the right people we need to reach when their records are unavailable.
- UNHCR is mandated to ensure that everybody has an identity document because it has a sense of protection and belonging and assures everybody is part of a community, a society and not left behind and that it aligns closely with UNHCR's efforts to end statelessness.
- Congratulated the SC members and affirmed UNHCR's commitment to supporting the Ministry of Interior and all its efforts to ensure that everybody is registered as part of the Civil Registry.

Dr. Shajib Hossain, WHO Somalia, Planning Officer

- Acknowledged working closely with the Ministry of health as their counterpart line Ministry on vital statistics, especially for those related to health.
- Health is a fundamental human right that is not attained without knowing who is in need, who is alive and how many of them.
- Help could be provided to most needy people through this initiative to achieve the SDGs and all health indicators of the SDGs at one time.
- Thanked the meeting organizers and confirmed WHO's commitment to offering whatever possibilities and contributions to this effort.

Mariam Alwi, UNFPA Somalia Head of Population and Development Unit 

- Thanked the SC members for taking leadership on this matter and partnering with NADRA, which delivered remarkable work in Afghanistan.
- The population dynamics and data, being a priority agenda for the new Government, aligns with the vision of the president to conduct a census when UNFP assisted the Government complete Population Estimation Survey in 2013 to facilitate a one-person, one-vote election.
- For this exercise, the guidance of the Government is critical as we prepare for the upcoming census.
- UNFPA is committed to working with the Ministry of Interior and wishes it would take its role in conducting the upcoming census.

Ewa Naqvi, IOM Somalia Deputy Chief of Mission 

- Had appreciated hearing about the government's progress in civil registration and its current efforts to harmonize and digitize the system.
- People could not enjoy their full rights without necessary documents, including accessing formal jobs, opening bank accounts, etc.
- Not to forget the needs of Somali migrants and returnees coming back to the country for civil documentation.
- IOM remains committed to supporting the Government in whichever way its mandate allows.
- Revealing the exact support needed from the UN and the International Community, preferably through the Resident Coordinator's office, is needed.



WASAARADDA ARRIMAHA GUDAHA
FEDERAALKA IYO DIB U HESHIISIINTA



MINISTRY OF INTERIOR
FEDERAL AFFAIRS & RECONCILIATION

KULAN SANADEEDKA GUDDIGA QARAN
EE HAGIDDA DIIWAANGELINTA MADANIGA AH
IYO ISTAATISTIKADA DHACDOOYINKA MUHIIMKA AH

**CIVIL REGISTRATION AND VITAL STATISTICS
NATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE ANNUAL MEETING**

HANGAR

16 NOVEMBER | 8 AM

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WWW.MOIFAR.GOV.SO


Part 3 - Meeting Outcomes

3.1 Decisions of the Meeting

The following are the decisions of the Steering Committee:

- The SC members unanimously endorsed the preliminary draft of the CRVS annual work plan and directed the CRVS-TWG to prepare plans for the FMSs and BRA with budget estimates and timelines.
- The SC members decided to expand the CRVS-TWG and the SC membership by adding the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Internal Security and Finance to the two bodies.

3.2 Closing of the Meeting

The Chair thanked the Steering Committee members and other participants for their fruitful contributions and deliberation. He stated that he was looking forward to another full of achievements year ahead while encouraging all represented parties in the meeting to intensify their collaboration and support for implementing the CRVS annual work plan for 2023. The Chair finally read the SC Meeting Communique and formally declared the meeting closed. 



Acknowledgments

Special thanks to UNICEF for providing logistics and financial support to the meeting, and UNDP-JPLG for the venue and interpretation services. Special thanks also go UNECA for technically supporting the CRVS in Somalia. Special appreciation goes to the UNICEF Country Representative for representing the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General, the UN Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator for Somali and participating on behalf of the Director of the African Centre for Statistics at UNECA.

Appendices

Appendix A1: Meeting Communiqué (Somali Version)

Sanad kaddib markii Golaha Wasiiraddu meelmariyeen Siyaasadda Qaran ee DWIM, WARGF&D waxaa ay qabtay kulankii ugu horreeyay ee Guddiga Hagidda Diiwaangelinta Madaniga ah iyo Istaatistikada Muhiimka ah, kaasoo ah shir sannadle ah sida ku cad siyaasadda, 16ka Nofeembar 2022, kana dhacay xarunta Hangarka, Garoonka Caalamiga ah ee Aaden Cadde ee Muqdisho.

Kulanaka Waxaa kasoo qeyb galay Wasiirrada iyo madaxda hay'adaha xuddunta u ah Diiwaangelinta Madaniga iyo Istaatistikada Muhiimka ah ee heer federaal, heer dowlad goboleed iyo daneeyayaasha caalamiga ah ee kala ah:

Wasaaradda Arrimaha Gudaha, Federaalka iyo Dib u heshiisiinta, Wasaaradda Caafimaadka, Wasaaradda Cadaaladda iyo Dastuurka, Wasaaradda Diinta iyo Awqaafta, Wasaaradda Waxbarashada, Hiddaha iyo Tacliinta Sare, Wasaaradda Haweenka iyo Horumarinta Xuquuqda Aadanaha, Hey'adda Istaatistikada Qaranka, Hey'adda Socdaalka iyo Jinsiyadda, Hey'adda Diiwaangelinta iyo Aqoonsiga Dadweynaha ee Xukuumadda Federaalka Soomaaliya. Wasaaradda Arimaha Gudaha Federalka iyo Dib u heeshiisiinta Dowlad Goboleedka Galmudug, Wasaaradda Arrimaha Gudaha iyo Dowladaha Hoose ee D/Goboleedka Hirshabeelle, Wasaaradda Arrimaha Gudaha, Federaleynta iyo Dib u heshiisinta Jubaland, Wasaaradda Arimaha Gudaha Dowladaha Hoose iyo Dib u heshiisinta D/Goboleedka Koonfur Galbeed, Maamulka Gobolka Banaadir. Madaxda iyo wakiillada hey'adaha caalamiga ah UNICEF, UNHCR, UNDP, UNFPA, WHO, IOM iyo UNECA ayaa sidoo kale ka qayb galay kulanka.

Guddiga Hagidda Diiwaangelinta Madaniga ah iyo Istaatistikada Muhiimka ah,

- **Markii ay arkeen** warbixinta xaaladda guud ee nidaamka Diiwaangelinta Madaniga ah iyo Istaatistikada Muhiimka ah ee Soomaaliya, horumarka laga sameeyay, caqabadaha, iyo qorshayaasha 2023;
- **Garawsadeen** muhiimadda uu u leeyahay qaranka ay Soomaaliya u leedahay hirgelinta Nidaam Diiwaangelin Madaniya oo casri ah oo isku xiran dalka oo dhan;
- **Iyadoo la tixgelinayo** fursadaha jira iyo soojeedimaha Koox-howleedka Diiwaangelinta Madaniga ah.

Iyadoo raacayo tilmaamaha siyaasadda DMIM, Guddiga hagidda waxa uu:

- **Bogaadiyay soona dhaweeyey** horumarka ay Koox-howleedka Farsamadu ka sameeyeen hirgelinta siyaasadda qaran ee DMIM muddada sanadka ah sida lagu xusay warbixintii shirka;
- **Go'aansaday** in sida ugu deg-degta badan ee suurtoogalka ah lagu dhameystiro hindise sharciyeedka iyo habraacyada hawlgallada, iyo qeexidda habsocodka howsha ee nidaamkan;
- **Qiray** doorka daneeyayaasha ka qaybqaatay taageerayna dadaallada socda, kuwaas oo kala ah UNICEF, UNECA, UNHCR iyo UNDP;
- **Meelmariyay** baaqa Koox-howleedka Farsamo ee khuseeya ballaarinta xubinnimada Guddiyada Diiwaangelinta Madaniga ah.
- **Ansixiyay** qorshe hawleedka Diiwaangelinta Madaniga ah iyo Istaatistikada Muhiimka ah ee Sanadka soo socda ee 2023;
- **Ugu Baaqay** bah-wadaagta horumarinta inay bixiyaan taageero maaliyadeed si loo hirgeliyo qorshaha Diiwaangelinta Madaniga ah ee 2023;
- **Ku dardaarmay** xoojinta iyo joogtaynta iskaashiga iyo isla howlgelidda DMIM.

Appendix A2: Meeting Communique (English Version)

Over a year later, when the Council of Ministers approved the National CRVS Policy, MoIFAR convened the inaugural meeting of the Steering Committee on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics, which is an annual meeting according to the policy, on November 16, 2022, at the Hangar meetings venue, Aden Adde International Airport, Mogadishu.

The Ministers and heads of core line agencies of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics at the federal level, state level and international stakeholders attended the meeting, including:

The Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation, Ministry of Health and Human Services, Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs, Ministry of Education, Culture and Higher Education, Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development, Somali National Bureau of Statistics Agency, Immigration and Naturalization Directorate, National Identification and Registration Authority of the Federal Government of Somalia. The Ministry of Interior, Federalism and Reconciliation of Galmudug State, Ministry of Interior and Local Government of Hirshabelle State, Ministry of Interior, Federalism and Reconciliation of Jubaland State, Ministry of Interior, Local Governments and Reconciliation of Southwest State representing the Federal Member States, and Banadir Regional Administration. The heads and representatives from UN agencies of UNICEF, UNHCR, UNDP, UNFPA, WHO, IOM and ECA also participated in the meeting.

The Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Steering Committee,

- **Having seen** the report on the situation of the civil registration system and vital statistics in Somalia, progress made, challenges, and plans for 2023;
- **Acknowledging** the importance of implementing a modern civil registration system that is connected throughout the country for Somalia;
- **Considering** the existing opportunities and proposals of the Technical Working Group.

Acting under the guidance of the CRVS policy, the Steering Committee:

- **Commends and welcomes** the progress made by the Technical Working Group on the implementation of the national CRVS policy in the last year, as reported to the meeting;
- **Decides** to complete the CRVS Bill, the Standard Operating Procedures and outline workflows of the system as soon as possible;
- **Acknowledges** the role of stakeholders who participated in and supported the ongoing efforts, namely UNICEF, UNECA, UNHCR and UNDP;
- **Approves** the call of the Technical Working Group on expanding the Civil Registration Membership;
- **Endorses** the following year's 2023 annual work plan for civil registration and vital statistics;
- **Calls upon** the development partners to provide financial support for implementing the civil registration 2023 annual work plan;
- **Recommends** strengthening and sustaining cooperation and partnerships on the CRVS.

Appendix B: Meeting Agenda

Time	Items	Responsible
09:00 – 09:20 am	Arrival and Registration	All
	Adoption of the Agenda	All
09:20 – 09:40 am	Opening Remarks	Minister of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation
09:40 – 10:00 am	Presentation: CRVS in Somalia – Achievements, Challenges and Plans	MoIFAR
10:00 – 10:15 am	Importance of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics and the challenges of producing a Vital Statistics Report	SNBS
10:15 – 10:45	Tea/coffee break and informal networking	
10:45 – 11:20 am	Statements by the Federal-level SC members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DADSOM • IND • Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs • Ministry of Religious Affairs and Endowments • Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development • Ministry of Health and Human Services 	Ministers
11:20 – 11:50 am	Statements by the SC members from FMSs and BRA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governor of BR and Mayor of Mogadishu • Minister of Interior of Galmudug State • Minister of Interior of Hirshabelle State • State Minister of Interior of South West • Deputy Minister of Interior of Jubbaland 	FMS/BRA
11:50 – 12:10 pm	Remarks by the UN representatives	UNICEF/UNDP/IOM/UNHCR/WHO/UNFPA
12:10 – 12:20 pm	Workplan approval and the Communique	All
12:20 – 2:30 pm	Closing Remarks	Minister
12:30 – 13:30 pm	Lunch and Prayer	
	Press Release (Communique)	

Appendix C: List of Participants

No	Name	Institution	No	Name	Institution
1	H.E. Ahmed Moallim Fiq	Minister - MoIFAR	34	Abdirashid Abdullahi Salad	BRA
2	H.E. Hassan Moallim	Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs	35	Omar Mohamed	UNDP
3	H.E. Mukhtar Robow	Minister of Endowments and Religious Affairs	36	Ahmed Ainte	UNHCR
4	Hon. Khadija Mohamed Dirie	Minister of Women & Human Rights Development	37	Ahmed Anen Ahmed	UNFPA
5	H.E. Dr. Mohamed Hassan Mohamed	Deputy Minister of Health	38	Felex Mulam	UNFPA
6	H.E. Yusuf Jimale	Governor of BRA and Mayor of Mogadishu	39	Fridah Karimi	UNDP-JPLG
7	Sharmake M. Farah	SNBS	40	Elsegenet Lemma	UNHCR
8	Abdullahi Bihi Hussein	DADSOM	41	Jollyn Samuel	UNHCR
9	Abdulkadir Ali (Abdul)	IND	42	Ahmed Ali Hajji	MoIFAR
10	H.E. Abdi Mohamed Jamma	Minister of Interior – Galmudug	43	Hussein Hassan Mohamed	MoIFAR
11	H.E. Abdirahman Dahir Karore	Minister of Interior - Hirshabeele	44	Paul Simkin	JPLG
12	H.E. Gen. Ali Areys Hassan	Deputy and Acting Minister of Interior - Jubaland	45	Mohamed Hussein Ama	MoIFAR
13	H.E. Abdimalik Ibrahim	State - Minister of Interior South West	46	Ayan Abdirashid Hassan	MoIFAR
14	Aidarus Moallim Hassan	DG - MoIFAR	47	Abdirazak Ali Said	DADSOM
15	Abdinasir Mukhtar Ibrahim	Ministry of Health	48	Abdinasir Adam yare	MERA
16	Wafaa Saeed	UNICEF - Country Representative	49	Hassan Ali Nur	MERA
17	Sanaa Omar	UNHCR - Deputy Country Rep	50	Abdifatah mohamud	DADSOM
18	Ewa Naqvi	IOM - Deputy Chief of Mission	51	Suleiman Mohamed ahmed	DADSOM
19	Violet kinuthia	UNECA – (Online)	52	Ramadan Hajji Elmi	MoIFAR
20	Dr.Shajib Hossain	WHO – planning officer	53	Yusuf Hassan Mohamud	MERA
21	Mariam Alwi Hussien	UNFPA - Head of PDU	54	Abdikani Mohamed Wehlie	MoIFAR
22	Jennifer Melton	UNICEF - Chief of PU	55	Abdirahman Ali Abdi	MoIFAR
23	Abdullahi Mohamed Ahmed	BRA	56	Maria Dvione	MoIFAR
24	Salah Hassan	BRA	57	Fadumo Aweys Mohamed	MoIFAR
25	Mohamed Nur Yalahow	UNICEF	58	Abdirahman Ahmed Farah	MoIFAR
26	Harun Njiru	WHO	59	Mohamed mohamud	MoIFAR
27	Abdi Abdirahman	Galmudug	60	Mohamed Abdulle Farah	MERA
28	Mursal Hussein Mohamed	Galmudug	61	Hassan Sheikh Ahmed	Ministry of Health
29	Dr.Abdirahman Adle	IND	62	Jamilo Farah Mohamed	MoIFAR
30	Abdikadir M.Ahmed (Dalha)	BRA	63	Abduwahid Hajji	Jubaland
31	Abdifatah Ali Mursal	SWS	64	Sharmake Abdikadir Ismail	MoIFAR
32	Mohamed Hussein Kulmiye	Hirshabelle	65	Fartun Abdirahman Omar	MoIFAR
33	Abdulrazak Abdullahi Karie	SNBS	66	Idil Sabriye	MoIFAR

Appendix D1: Media Coverage

In addition to MoIFAR's twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube channels, and the state owned [Radio Muqdisho](#), [Somali National TV](#), and [Dalka Journal](#) that broadcasted the meeting updates, it attracted more than 15 lead Somali media outlets, including [Universal TV](#), [Arlaadi Media](#), [Five Somali TV](#), [Qurbajoog Media](#), [Radio Beriweyne](#), [M24 Media](#), [M24 Somali TV](#), [Hiiraanweyn](#), [Jubba TV](#), [Radio Gaalkacyo](#), [Somali Live Media](#) and [City Somali TV and Radio](#), among others that covered the first CRVS Steering Committee in their news programmes and social media channels.

Thread

Ministry of Interior, Federal A... @MoIFAR... · Nov 16 ...
 Replying to @MoIFARSomalia
 "The implementation of an effective civil registration system will help the government and people of Somalia, provide and receive essential services such as healthcare, education and more"
 -Ahmed Moallim Fiqi, Minister of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation

Hon. Ahmed FIQI and Aidarus M. Hassan

Ministry of Interior, Federal A... @MoIFAR... · Nov 16 ...
 MoIFAR's director of Civil Registration, Abdiqani Wehlie takes the steering committee through the updates and progress of the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics system.

#CRVS

Hon. Ahmed FIQI and 5 others

Ministry of Interior, Federal A... @MoIFAR... · Nov 16 ...
 We are now joined by the Minister of Religious Affairs and the Deputy Minister of Education, Culture and Higher Education. Stay tuned for their remarks on #CRVS

