



African Development Bank



United Nations



African Union  
Commission



Federal Democratic  
Republic of Ethiopia

## Preparatory Meeting of Experts for the First Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Civil Registration

UN Conference Centre  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
10-12 August 2010

# DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA

**Theme:** Towards Improved Civil Status Information for Efficient Public Administration and Generation of Vital Statistics for National Development and MDGs Monitoring in Africa



## 1. Registration

Participants to the Preparatory Meeting of Experts will register at the delegate's registration office and get their pass to access the UN Conference Centre. Participants are encouraged to start registering preferably on Monday afternoon to avoid queuing on the 10th.

## 2. Opening of the Meeting

The Meeting will be formally opened by H.E. Mr. Ahmed Shide, State Minister of Finance and Economic Development of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. A welcoming statement will be delivered by Mr. Abdoulie Janneh, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. Opening remarks will be delivered by Dr. Maxwell Mkwesalamba, Commissioner for Economic Affairs of the Africa Union Commission, and Dr. Charles Lufumpa, Director, Statistics Department of the African Development Bank.

## 3. Election of the Bureau

The composition of the Bureau will be announced following consultations by heads of delegations. The Bureau will comprise five members as follows: 1 Chairperson, 3 Vice Chairpersons and 1 Rapporteur elected on the basis of equitable geographic representation.

## 4. Adoption of the Agenda and Programme of Work

Participants will be invited to consider and adopt the draft provisional agenda and programme of work, subject to amendments as deemed necessary.

## 5. Objectives of the Meeting

A short presentation highlighting the objectives of the meeting will be delivered. The presentation will address the main objectives, purposes and expected outcomes of the meeting.

## 6. Why Improving Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems in Africa?

Under this agenda item, various presentations on the technical, operational and management aspects of civil registration and vital statistics will be presented. The different technical presentations are expected to be informative and forward looking in addressing the problems and challenges facing African countries in improving the management and operations of civil registration and vital statistics systems. The presentations are also expected to introduce the international standards and their relevance, adoption and application to the African countries. These presentations will also help in raising the awareness and understanding of the purposes, operations and management of civil registration and vital statistics systems in Africa. The topics selected for the presentations are the following:

- a) Importance and services of civil registration and vital statistics systems: UNSD

- b) Technical, administrative and operational aspects of civil registration and vital statistics systems: UNSD
- c) International standards and guidelines and their importance to improve civil registration and vital statistics systems in Africa: UNSD
- d) Challenges and opportunities for the improvement of civil registration and vital statistics systems in Africa: AfDB
- e) Implementing improvements in civil registration and vital statistics systems: HMN
- f) Gender perspective of civil registration and vital statistics systems in Africa: ACGS
- g) Accelerating birth registration in Africa: UNICEF
- h) The inclusion of displaced populations in civil registration and vital statistics: UNHCR
- i) International experience on law drafting techniques and its application to civil registration laws: Boston University

## 7. Regional Initiatives and Strategies

Under this item the following presentations by different speakers will be delivered:

- a) The Tanzania regional workshop outcomes and progress on the implementation of the recommendations: ECA
- b) The proposed medium-term regional civil registration and vital statistics plan: ECA
- c) Partnership building and resource requirements and mobilization: AfDB
- d) Organization and expectations from the Ministerial conference: AUC

## 8. Technical, Operational and Policy issues

A presentation highlighting technical, operational and policy issues to be addressed in improving civil registration and vital statistics systems in Africa will be delivered. Major areas to be investigated under the three categories and the approaches to be followed in filtering them will also be covered in the presentation. The presentation provides background information for the breakaway sessions.

## 9. Breakaway Sessions

The participants to the meeting will break into groups and review the technical, operational and policy issues that need to be considered in reforming and improving civil registration and vital statistics systems in Africa. Two working groups will be arranged and each of them will be provided with necessary resource materials that will enable them to filter and propose issues to be included in the draft conclusions and recommendations of the meeting. The working groups are expected to present major technical, operational and policy issues to the plenary afterwards.

## 10. Meeting with Country Experts

On the third day of the meeting, participants to the preparatory expert meeting will be joined by country experts. Participants to the expert meeting will present the final draft conclusions and recommendations for consideration by country experts and together polish, finalize and recommend them for consideration by the ministerial meeting.

### 11. Any other Business

The meeting may raise other matters not covered under the items mentioned above.

### 12. Closing of the Meeting

Representatives of the United Nations Statistics Division, African Development Bank, Africa Union Commission and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa will make brief closing remarks.

### 13. Country Experts Briefing their Respective Ministers

Country experts are expected to brief their respective ministers on the outcomes of the expert meeting, specifically the proposed draft conclusions and recommendations of the meeting.