

1 September 2016

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UNITED NATIONS EXPERT GROUP MEETING ON THE METHODOLOGY AND  
LESSONS LEARNED TO EVALUATE THE COMPLETENESS AND QUALITY OF  
VITAL STATISTICS DATA FROM CIVIL REGISTRATION

Population Division

Department of Economic and Social Affairs

United Nations Secretariat

New York

3-4 November 2016

**Background and objectives of meeting**

A well-functioning civil registration system with information on births and deaths is the preferred source of data for vital statistics on fertility and mortality. Registration also helps to ensure that every person has a legal identity, facilitating access to the benefits and protections of the state. In the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the need for accurate and timely vital statistics has been reaffirmed. Goal 16 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) recognizes a direct link between civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) systems, legal identity and sustainable development. Moreover, one of the indicators to monitor the progress in the achievement of Goal 17 is tracking the proportion of countries that have achieved 100 per cent birth registration and 80 per cent (a)-3.9B3at h rng10.4 (i)-3.2 (s)3.6 (t)-3.3 (ra)-65 (t)-3.32(i)-3.2 (sn )by10.4 ( )2030]TJ 0 Tc ( .Tj 0 )Tj

Core questions for each session include:

- What are the most appropriate methods available to evaluate the completeness and quality of births and deaths records?
- What are the strengths and limitations of the various methods?
- What are the lessons learned from recent experiences with the application of these methods to different settings?
- What recommendations can be provided to LMICs to best evaluate the completeness and quality of their vital statistics, both at the national and at the local level?
- What further methodological research would be desirable to address any pending needs?

## **Outcomes**