THE FIRST MEETING OF THE HEADS AND SENIORS OF NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS FOR CIVIL REGISTRATION OF THE OIC MEMBER COUNTRIES

15-17 April 2013 Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

FINAL COMMUNIQUE

We, the representatives of the National Organisations for Civil Registration (NOCR) participated in the first meeting of the heads and seniors of NOCR of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Member Countries, held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran on 15-17 April 2013,

Emphasize that each Member Country should give priority to enhance civil registration coverage and enforce on-time registration of vital events,

Recognize the importance of planning and designing an efficient civil registration system which forms the backbone and basis of production of accurate population statistics, secure identity documents, integration to many e-government applications such as labour and social security, health, education, trade and finance,

Recognize the importance of comprehensive legislation covering all aspects of civil registration and *underline* that the enforcement of these regulations is of utmost importance,

Underline the need for a systematic transition towards a centralised and computerised civil registration system which is built upon a unique national identification number and allows the citizens to access e-services effectively,

Invite the OIC Member Countries to link and integrate the address data of citizens with the civil registration system,

Encourage the OIC Member Countries to develop and design a national smart ID card, which is integrated to the civil registration system, as an effective tool for easing the life of citizens

due to its multifunctionality and *highlight* the importance of using standard technology, taking necessary security measures in the design of smart cards and signing bilateral and multilateral agreements to facilitate cross-border functionality among OIC Member Countries in the future,

Acknowledge that each OIC Member Country is in a different phase of the civil registration process and thus priorities and needs may differ across countries,

Recognize the importance of public-private partnerships (PPP) across the OIC Member Countries with an aim to increase intra-OIC technical cooperation and trade,

Recognize the importance of further cooperation and collaboration especially in prioritizing the registration of the non-citizens, experience sharing through study visits and undertaking common projects with OIC Member Countries in structuring an efficient civil registration system,

Request SESRIC to design and circulate a questionnaire, with an aim to assess the needs and capacities of the OIC Member Countries in regard with civil registration and to initiate a capacity building and training programme based on the analysis of the responses to the questionnaires,

Urge OIC Member Countries to nominate and submit their National Focal Point (NFP) to SESRIC in order to facilitate effective communication,

Request SESRIC to host a web portal in its headquarters and, in cooperation with the OIC Member Countries, to supply contents for this web portal with an aim to share experiences, best practices, researches and measures taken by Member Countries, publications, laws and regulations, country profiles and information on on-going projects as well as establish a civil registration experts database to facilitate communication between civil registration experts in the OIC Member Countries,

Recommend establishing an international civil registration organisation under the umbrella of the OIC which will facilitate the effective coordination among the civil registration institutions of the OIC Member Countries,

Request SESRIC to take measures to endorse the final communique in the next relevant OIC Ministerial Meeting.
17 April 2013, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran