



CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE
for CRVS Systems

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SNAPSHOT

OF CIVIL REGISTRATION AND VITAL STATISTICS SYSTEMS OF

SOUTH AFRICA



ECA

Program information

About the Centre of Excellence for CRVS Systems

Housed at the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), the Centre of Excellence for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) Systems is a global knowledge and resource hub that actively supports national efforts to develop, strengthen, and scale-up CRVS systems. It collaborates with organizations and experts to broker access to information and expertise, including global standards, tools, research evidence, and relevant good practice.

The Centre of Excellence was established with funding from Global Affairs Canada and IDRC and contributes directly to the work of the Global Financing Facility, a key financing platform of the UN Secretary General's Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health.

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Introduction

The purpose of this report is to provide a brief introduction to the civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) system in South Africa.

The information was collected through a questionnaire completed by the Department of Home Affairs and Statistics South Africa in March 2020 and supplemented by a desk review of available documents. Among other things, the report presents:

- Background information on the country;
- Selected indicators relevant for CRVS improvement processes;
- Stakeholders' activities; and
- Resources available to strengthen CRVS systems.

Brief country profile

The Republic of South Africa is the southernmost country in Africa. Its southern coastline stretches along 2,798 km of the South Atlantic and Indian oceans. It borders Namibia, Botswana, and Zimbabwe to the north, and Mozambique and Eswatini (Swaziland) to the east and northeast. It surrounds the enclaved country of Lesotho.

South Africa is divided into 9 provinces. The provinces are divided into 52 districts: 8 metropolitan and 44 district municipalities. The district municipalities are further subdivided into 205 local municipalities. The metropolitan municipalities, which govern the largest urban agglomerations (central cities and surrounding areas), carry out the functions of both district and local municipalities.

South Africa



Disclaimer: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

- Land area:¹ 118,484 km²
- Population: 58.78 million,² with an annual growth rate of 1.4 percent. The population is made up of about 27.2 million males and 28.4 million females.
- Capital cities: Pretoria (executive); Bloemfontein (judicial); Cape Town (legislative)
- Official languages: English, Zulu, Xhosa, Afrikaans, Northern Sotho, Tswana, Southern Sotho, Tsonga, Swazi, Venda, Southern Ndebele
- Ministry responsible for civil registration: Department of Home Affairs
- Civil registration agency: Department of Home Affairs
- National statistical office: Statistics South Africa (Stats SA)



CRVS dimensions

Births	
Completeness of birth registration ³	88.6% (2018) ⁴
Children under 5 years of age whose births were reported as registered	89% (2014) ⁵
Births attended by skilled health personnel	90% (2016) ⁶
Women aged 15–49 who received antenatal care from a skilled provider	97% (2015) ⁷
DPT1 immunization coverage among 1-year-olds ⁸	70% (2018) ⁹
Crude birth rate (per 1,000 population)	20.9 (2017)
Total fertility rate (live births per woman)	4.3 (2017)
Adolescent fertility rate (per 1,000 girls aged 15–19 years)	132.7 (2017) ¹⁰
Population under age 15 years	28.8% (2019)
Institutional deliveries — percentage of deliveries in a health facility	96% (2015) ¹¹
Deaths	
Completeness of death registration (adults only)	96% (2017)
Crude death rate (per 1,000 population)	9.5 (2017)
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	28.49 (2018) ¹²
Under-5 mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	33.8 (2017)
Maternal mortality ratio (per 100,000 live births)	125 (2015) ¹³
Marriages and divorces	
Marriage registration rate	Not available
Women aged 20–24 first married or in union before age 15	Not available
Women aged 20–24 first married or in union before age 18	Not available
Divorce registration rate	Not available
Vital statistics including causes-of-death data	
Compilation and dissemination of civil registration-based statistics	Every 2 years
Medically certified causes of death	63.9% (2017) ¹⁴

Civil registration system

South Africa has a long history of civil registration, which has transformed significantly over time. The collection of vital events in South Africa started around 1700, when registration of marriages was initiated in the Cape Colony and subsequent legislation was implemented in the colonies. By 1903, all colonies had systems to register births, marriages, and deaths. While there were laws regulating the registration of vital events, the laws were different in each of the four colonies.

The first legislation covering all races was passed in 1923, through the *Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act, 1923* (Act No. 17 of 1923); however, this legislation was voluntary for Africans in rural areas. The law was repealed by the *Births and Deaths Registration Act, 1963* (Act No. 81 of 1963). The 1963 act introduced the registration of births and deaths for Africans/Blacks by the Bantu Affairs. The final amendment of the law on registration of births, marriages, and deaths under apartheid was through the *Births, Marriages and Deaths Amendment Act, 1986* (Act No. 41 of 1986).

The National Population Register (NPR) was first implemented in South Africa in 1950 through the *Population Registration Act, 1950* (Act No. 30 of 1950). Both these systems maintained the exclusion of Africans. The records of the Black African population were included in the NPR only from 1986, following the implementation of the *Identification Act, 1986* (Act No. 72 of 1986).

The *Population Registration Act Repeal Act, 1991* (Act No. 114 of 1991) abolished the classification based on population groups in the NPR in South Africa. The act was further amended in 1993 (Act No. 4 of 1993) and in 1995 (Act No. 47 of 1995). All these identification acts were repealed by the *Identification Act, 1997* (Act No. 68 of 1997). The act also provided for compilation and maintenance of a population register, and for the issuance of identity cards and certain certificates to persons whose particulars are included in the population register.

When the *Births and Deaths Registration Act of 1992* was implemented, it ended a century of geographic and population fragmentation. The act was amended several times to cater for emerging challenges and new developments in the country. Subsequent amendments were through Amendment Act No. 67 of 1997 (in 1997) and again in 1998 through Amendment Act No. 43 of 1998. The last amendment was in 2010 through the *Births and Deaths Registration Amendment Act, 2010* (Act No. 18 of 2010).

Legislative framework

The laws governing civil registration in South Africa are found in the following acts:

- *Births and Deaths Registration Act, 1992* (Act No. 51 of 1992) and amendments: Act No. 40 of 1996, Act No. 67 of 1997, Act No. 43 of 1998, Act No. 1 of 2002, and Act No. 18 of 2010;
- *National Health Act, 2003* (Act No. 61 of 2003);
- *Inquests Act, 1959* (Act No. 58 of 1959);
- *Marriage Act, 1961* (Act No. 25 of 1961) and amendments;
- *Marriage Extension Act, 1997* (Act No. 50 of 1997);
- *Recognition of Customary Marriages Act, 1998* (Act No. 120 of 1998);
- *Civil Union Act, 2006* (Act No. 17 of 2006);
- *Divorce Act, 1996* (Act No. 95 of 1996), which amended the *Matrimonial Affairs Act, 1953* (Act No. 37 of 1953), and two amendments: Act No. 7 of 1989 and Act No. 44 of 1992; and
- *Children's Act* (Act No. 38 of 2005), which came into force in 2006.

The vital events discussed in legislation include births, deaths, marriages, divorces, stillbirths, recognitions, and legitimation. These laws cover all legal geographic areas of South Africa and its entire population, including non-citizens and refugees. The laws provide for the collecting of vital statistics for births and deaths only.

Management, organization, and operations

National CRVS systems coordination mechanisms

In South Africa, the Department of Home Affairs (DHA) is the institution responsible for civil registration. Annex 2 shows the organizational structure of the DHA.

Figure 1 shows the other ministries and agencies responsible for notification of vital events:

- Department of Health (births and deaths);
- Department of Justice and Constitutional Development (divorce decrees); and
- Department of Social Development (adoptions).

A national technical working group provides a forum for stakeholders in CRVS systems. The group meets quarterly. It is made up of the following members:

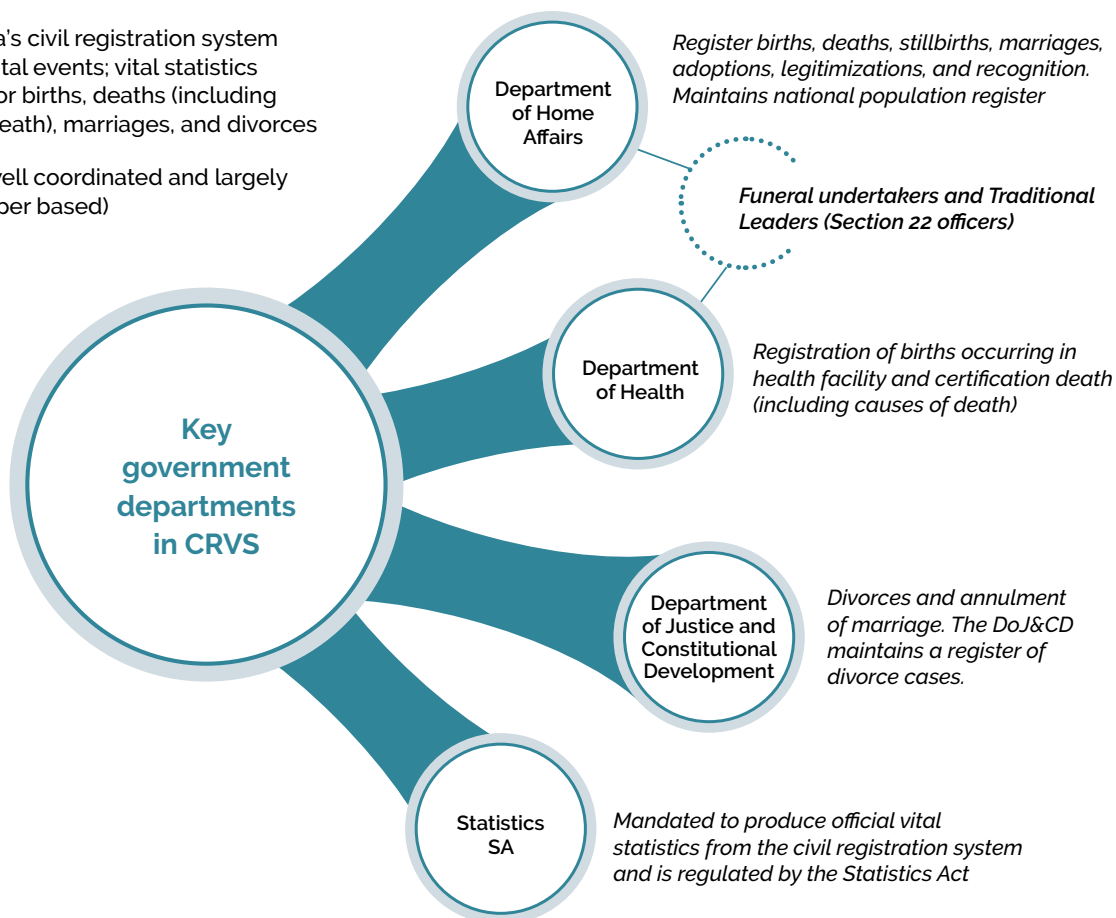
- South African Medical Research Council;
- Statistics South Africa (Stats SA);
- Department of Health;
- DHA; and
- Academic institutions.

There is no legislation relating to the establishment and operation of the coordinating committees.

Figure 1: Key government departments in CRVS in South Africa.

South Africa's civil registration system covers all vital events; vital statistics produced for births, deaths (including causes of death), marriages, and divorces

System is well coordinated and largely manual (paper based)



Source: Risenga Maluleke. South Africa's Progress in Civil Registration. Note that the original figure has been recreated for inclusion in the present publication. The original figure was published in English here [id4africa.com/2019_event/presentations/InF1/1-Risenga-Maluleke_Statistics-SA.pdf](https://www.id4africa.com/2019_event/presentations/InF1/1-Risenga-Maluleke_Statistics-SA.pdf), and includes the logos of Statistics South Africa and National Development Plan 2030.

Administrative-level registration centres

The lowest administrative level is at the major towns level. There are 412 local civil registration offices or service points, with 164 in urban areas and 248 in rural areas. There are 88 local civil registrars.

Accessibility of civil registration services

The DHA states that service points should be located within a catchment area of a 20 to 25 km radius; rural areas also have mobile registration units. The average distance of most households from the nearest local registration office is 20 to 50 km. The average estimated time it would take most households to reach their nearest local registration office is 30 to 44 minutes by car.

Registration of vital events

The events covered by the civil registration system are listed in Table 1.

Civil registration physical forms and vital statistics documents are prepared separately. The physical form contains civil registration information and can be used to collect vital statistics.

The recording of demographic events covers all segments of the country's population and all geographical regions.

Annex 1 gives an overview of the CRVS system and how it works.

The processes of registration for the different vital events are as follows:

Births: All children born in South Africa must be registered within 30 days of their birth, under the *Births and Deaths Registration Act, 1992*.

A parent, parents, guardian, or any other person legally responsible for the child must complete Form DHA-24. This form is issued at the DHA, not at healthcare facilities. The DHA has introduced Form DHA-24PB as well: it is completed by the health personnel present at the birth. A copy is given to the mother to register the birth; it must be submitted to the nearest DHA office if the person is in South Africa, or the nearest South African embassy, mission, or consulate if they are overseas.

As soon as the child's birth has been registered, an unabridged birth certificate is issued free of charge. The South African system is live, so certificates are issued at registration, although some hospital registration points are not connected to the system.

Table 1: Events covered by the civil registration system.

Vital event	Is event covered?	Are definitions aligned to UN suggested definitions?	Additional remarks
Live birth	Yes	Partly	Definition of a live birth in the act not aligned to UN definition
Death	Yes	Partly	Definition of death in the act not aligned to UN definition
Marriage	Yes	No	Based on local customs and culture
Divorce	Yes	Yes	Adequate
Adoptions	Yes	Partly	
Stillbirths			



Marriages: The Department of Home Affairs manages the solemnization and registration of civil marriages, customary marriages, and civil unions. Civil marriages are governed by the *Marriage Act*. South Africa also recognizes customary marriages through the *Recognition of Customary Marriages Act* (2000). Civil unions are recognized under the *Civil Union Act* (2006).

A person who is getting married in South Africa must do the following:

- Ensure that they are legally allowed to marry.
- Understand the legal consequences of marriage: in particular, that marriages in South Africa are automatically based on community of property, unless a valid prenuptial contract has been signed before the marriage.
- Make sure that the marriage will meet all legal requirements for a valid marriage. A person who is not sure of these requirements is advised to seek legal counsel before marrying.

Marital status and date of the marriage can be verified with the DHA at any time by text message. The DHA created this process because a large number of fraudulent marriages were being reported every year. Couples must contact the DHA to set a date for the wedding. At this stage, their marital status is verified and they are required to complete form DHA-27.

Adoptions: Under section 25 of the *Child Care Act, 1983* (Act No. 74 of 1983), the DHA must record the adoption of a child in the child's birth register if the adoptive parents request it. To record the adoption, the adoptive parents must do the following:

- Complete form DHA-193;
- Submit a written request to any domestic office of the DHA;
- Submit a certified copy of the adoption order; and
- Pay the required fee.

The DHA is responsible for recording the adoption in the child's birth register only if the adoptive parents request it. Any other matters relating to adoption fall under the Department of Social Development (previously Welfare and Population Development).

Backlog of unregistered births

There is no backlog of unregistered births in South Africa.¹⁵

Sample registration forms

Not available.

Registration fee

Registration of vital events is at no cost (Table 2). There are, however, fees for late registration and delayed registration. There are also fees for reissuing certificates (Table 3).

Table 2: Fees for issuing vital events certificates.

Vital event	Certification fees	Remarks
Birth	Free first time	Fee for re-issue of the certificate
Marriage	Free first time	Fee for re-issue of the certificate
Divorce	Free first time	Fee for re-issue of the certificate
Death	Free first time	Fee for re-issue of the certificate

Table 3: Fees for reissuing vital events certificates.

Service	Tariff (in rand)
Identity document: Issuing of first document.	Free
Identity document: Re-issuing, provided that the re-issuing of identity documents is free of charge in those cases where an identity document was issued and the forename is repeated as a surname in the document, if the Department of Home Affairs (DHA) did not insist on the application for insertion of the surname at the time of the initial application, and when a new identity document is issued to a former TBVC (Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda, and Ciskei)-citizen to replace their old South African identity document classifying them as a non-South African citizen.	R 140.00
Temporary identity certificate: Issuing of a temporary identity certificate.	R 70.00
First issue of an unabridged birth certificate.	Free
First issue of an abridged death or marriage certificate.	Free
Issuing of an unabridged birth, death, or marriage certificate, or a reproduction of the relevant register or a reproduction of any supporting documentation that is coupled to the register concerned, as well as verification of information from birth, marriage, and death registers with regard to any individual, provided that where such reproduction or verification is required for official purposes by a government institution within the meaning of serial number 11, it will be free of charge.	R 75.00
Issuing of an abridged computer printed or handwritten birth, death, or marriage certificate, provided that no fees are payable for the issuing of the prescribed certificate on registration of birth, death, or marriage.	R 20.00
Application for any amendment to the birth register of any person including the noting of the fact of adoption in the birth register of a person in respect of the <i>Child Care Act, 1983</i> , but excluding the re-registration of a birth in respect of section 11 of the <i>Births and Deaths Registration Act, 1992</i> , which is free of charge.	R 70.00
Application for any change of the forenames or surname of a minor (sections 24 and 25 of Act 51 of 1992).	R 70.00
Application for the changing of a major's forenames in the birth register (section 24 of Act 51 of 1992). The insertion of a major's surname in the birth register, however, is free of charge if their identity document was issued with the forename repeated as a surname. The subsequent re-issuing of such a person's identity document is also free of charge.	R 140.00
Application by a major to assume a different surname (provided that, should the applicant be lawfully married, the amount also includes the application of his spouse as well as those of any minor children, or if the applicant is a divorced female or widow, it also includes the application of her minor children, if any) (section 26 of Act 51 of 1992).	R 325.00
Issuing of a duplicate confirmation of the change of a major's forenames and/or surname.	R 70.00
Letter of confirmation of marital status.	R 50.00

Source: dha.gov.za/index.php/fees



Vital statistics system

Vital statistics

Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) has the legal mandate to collect, compile, analyze, publish, disseminate, and coordinate the national statistics system. The Health and Vital Statistics division compiles statistical reports based on data from the civil registration system, including causes of death. The Demography division compiles vital statistics from other sources (Table 4).

The estimated completeness levels are in Table 5.¹⁶

The latest vital statistics reports are:

- 2017 (Mortality and Causes of Death)
- 2018 (Recorded Live Births)
- 2017 Marriages and Divorces (the 2018 report was due for publication in March 2019)

The Government Treasury allocates funds for the compilation of vital statistics from the civil registration system.

Apart from the government budget, no development partner is supporting the generation of vital statistics system in South Africa.

Table 4: Vital statistics compiled from the civil registration system.

Vital statistics	Is the event compiled from the civil registration system?	Remarks
Live births	Yes	From the National Population Register (NPR)
Marriages	Yes	From the NPR
Divorces	No	Currently compiled based on decrees issued
Deaths	Yes	Processed at Stats SA from DHA-1663; Death Notification Form to obtain cause of death

Table 5: Estimated completeness of population event registration.

Event	Completeness of record				Remarks
	2016	2017	2018	2019	
Live births	88.6%	88.6%	88.6%	N/A	The 2016 figure is an intercensal estimate; the 2019 estimate has yet to be published
Marriages	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No estimates available
Divorces	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No estimates available
Deaths	96%	96%	N/A	N/A	Only adult mortality estimate (intercensal estimate) available

Causes of death

The cause-of-death information is collected through the civil registration system (Table 6).

For non-institutional deaths, verbal autopsy tools or methods are not used for collecting cause-of-death information. The cause of death is coded according to the International Classification of Diseases version 10 (ICD-10). The *Birth and Death*

Registration Act requires all deaths to be medically certified, regardless of where they occurred.

The latest report on the causes of death published is *Mortality and Causes of Death in South Africa, 2017: Findings from Death Notification P0309.3*, which was published in 2020.¹⁷ The institutions using it include the DHA, and health and academic institutions. According to this report, the leading cause of death in 2017 was tuberculosis (Table 7).

Table 6: Cause-of-death information collection through the civil registration system.

Cause of death (COD)	Is COD information collected through the civil registration system?	Is the Standard International Form of Medical Certificate of COD for recording deaths used?
For deaths occurring in health facilities	Yes	Yes
For natural deaths occurring in the communities	Yes	Yes
For non-natural deaths occurring in the communities	Yes	Yes

Table 7: Leading underlying natural causes of death in South Africa.*

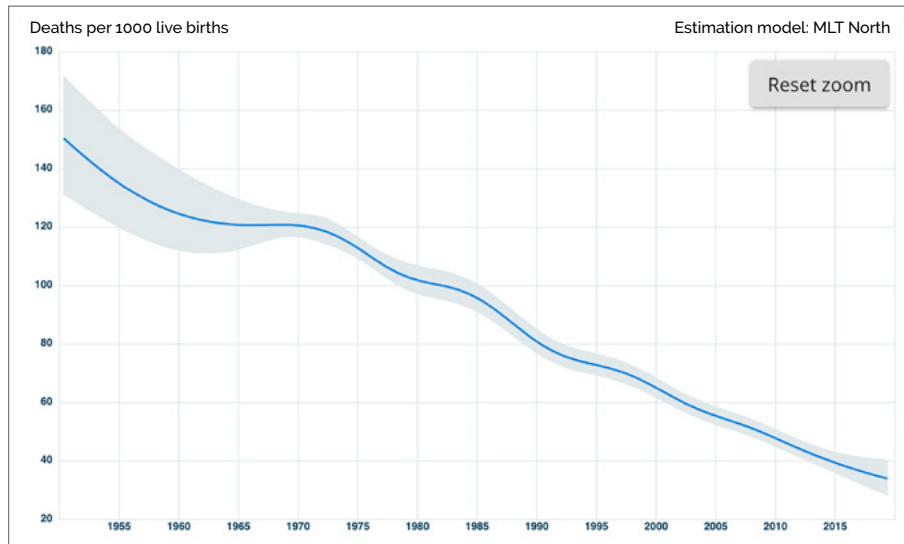
Causes of death (Based on ICD-10 code)	2015			2016			2017		
	Rank	Number	%	Rank	Number	%	Rank	Number	%
Tuberculosis (A15-A19)**	1	34,106	7.2	1	30,441	6.5	1	28,678	6.4
Diabetes mellitus (E10-E14)	2	25,805	5.4	2	25,799	5.5	2	25,336	5.7
Cerebral-vascular diseases (I60-I69)	3	23,540	5.0	4	23,695	5.0	3	22,259	5.0
Other forms of heart disease (I30-I52)	4	23,324	4.9	3	24,552	5.2	4	22,098	4.9
Human immunodeficiency virus [HIV] disease (B20-B24)	5	22,594	4.8	5	22,483	4.8	5	21,439	4.8
Hypertensive diseases (I10-I15)	7	19,876	4.2	6	20,289	4.3	6	19,900	4.5
Influenza and pneumonia (J09-J18)	6	21,055	4.4	7	20,152	4.3	7	18,837	4.2
Chronic lower respiratory diseases (J40-J47)	9	13,031	2.7	10	13,040	2.8	8	13,167	2.9
Ischemic heart diseases (I20-I25)	10	12,726	2.7	9	13,269	2.8	9	12,766	2.9
Other viral diseases (B25-B34)	8	16,501	3.5	8	16,877	3.6	10	12,622	2.8
Other natural causes		208,242	43.9		206,281	43.9		198,278	44.4
Non-natural causes		53,375	11.3		53,518	11.4		51,164	11.5
All causes	10	474,175	100.0	10	470,396	100.0	10	446,544	100.0

*Data from 2014–2015 has been updated with late registrations and delayed death notification forms processed in 2018–2019.

Source: Statistical Release *Mortality and Causes of Death in South Africa 2017*

Other sources indicate the infant mortality rate at 28.4 deaths per 1,000 live births¹⁸ in 2018 (Figure 2).

Figure 2: Infant mortality rate — South Africa.



Digitization

The State Information Technology Agency is responsible for consolidating and coordinating information technology resources to deliver e-government services efficiently to the public. Civil registration data is hosted in the government data centre.

Computerization

Computer use is outlined in Table 8.

Table 8: Computer use in CRVS.

Centre	Are computers used for civil registration?	Remarks
Local registrars across the country	Yes	412 offices are linked to the Department of Home Affairs (DHA) Home Office server
Urban centres	Yes	DHA (164 centres)
Healthcare facilities	Yes	Online registrations for births at hospitals enable birth registration right after childbirth. Online systems have been set up in 391 maternity wards across the country to ensure that births are registered with the DHA right away.
Mobile units managed by DHA	Yes	136 fully computerized mobile offices provide services such as the electronic registration of births and deaths.
Thusong Service Centre managed by DHA	Yes	This government program was launched in 1999 as a primary way to address historical, social, and economic factors that limited access to information, services, and participation by citizens. There are 197 centres in South Africa.

Online registration at health facilities

Please refer to table 8.

Mobile technology application

No institutional arrangements are mentioned between the DHA and mobile network operators or the Government Communications Commission. However, the DHA uses mobile technologies like text messaging to identify fraudulent marriages.

Text messaging is also used for registration once the initial process is done in the office. The client is informed of progress via text and notified when their document is available for pickup.

Unique identification number

A unique number is common to civil registration and identity (ID) management. This is the same ID number issued at birth: the civil registration system is the basis for entry into the identity system. Individuals enter the civil registration system through birth or by naturalization (for people who were born outside South Africa or who are not South African citizens). A birth certificate with a unique ID number is issued when a birth is registered. When a child turns 16, they ask the DHA for an ID card (using the same ID number issued at birth). The system is also linked to the passport system.

Identity documents are issued to people who are age 16 or older and are South African citizens or hold a permanent residence permit. People (including their spouses and children) who work for the South African government or one of its statutory bodies outside of South Africa also qualify for a South African ID. Eligible citizens or permanent residents can apply for IDs at any office of the DHA or any South African mission or consulate overseas.

Population register

Digitization of historical registration records

No information available.

Link with identification system

An existing identification system is linked to civil registration. Birth and death registration occurs in DHA offices across the country. Identity management is a separate division within the DHA, but within the same offices.

Two data protection laws are in place:

- *Protection of Personal Information, 2013* (Act No. 4 of 2013); and
- *Statistics Act, 1999* (Act No. 6 of 1999).

Interface with other sectors and operations

The **health sector** is involved in the notification of births, stillbirths, and deaths that occur in healthcare facilities. Having health personnel complete the DHA-24PB form will ensure that the DHA is notified about births in these facilities. The DHA-1663 form is issued by healthcare facilities (for deaths that occur there) and by private medical doctors (for deaths in the community).

To access an **education**, children need a birth certificate, which enables them to go to school. Matriculation students (those in their final year of high school) need an identity document to write their final exams.

Social services protect the poor and vulnerable through the Department of Social Development. The following ID documents are needed to use these services:

- Birth certificate to access child grants;
- ID documents to access old age and disability grants; and
- Death certificate to access a foster care grant.

For **elections**, the DHA biometric system is used by the Independent Electoral Commission for voter identification.

Banks use the DHA biometric system to identify and verify individuals' identity.



Improvement initiatives and external support

Improvement plan and budget

Strategic plan

The DHA has a five-year strategic plan (2020–2025). One of its priorities is civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS).

Budgetary allocations and requirements

In the 2019–2020 fiscal year, the State Treasury allocated US\$14,173,315 to the civil registration system. No specific amount from the development partners providing in-kind or other support is indicated.

Activities identified as high priorities

No high-priority activities that are identified in the national plan lack funding. Some of the upcoming priorities in the country's planning cycle for civil registration include:

- Automating all DHA offices; and
- Migrating the national ID to a new system.

Incentives for registration of vital events

Some of the incentives for recording demographic events include:

- It is necessary to allocate identity numbers and documents to individuals;
- It allows access to such benefits as opening bank accounts, accessing employment opportunities, and accessing government services such as social grants;
- A birth certificate is needed to register a child in school; and
- A death certificate is needed to settle the estate of a deceased.

Social factors affecting registration of vital events

Some of the social factors that influence the recording of demographic events in South Africa include:

- There is a lack of awareness about the provision of the *Recognition of Customary Marriages Act* by parties entering into customary marriages;
- The granting of divorces, which happens in divorce courts (under the Department of Justice and Correctional Services), is still not linked to the DHA, where registration occurs;
- Most individuals in South Africa still separate instead of divorcing, which might have implications for the protection of women's and children's rights; and
- Registration of stillbirths is still affected by cultural beliefs.

Conclusion

South Africa has benefited from a number of initiatives aimed at improving its CRVS system. These have resulted in

- greater registration of vital events;
- comprehensive CRVS legislation that is regularly amended;
- greater demand for registration documents to access social services;
- people adhering to civil registration laws through national campaigns and outreach programs;
- more civil registration service delivery points (such as hospitals, mobile units, and Thusong service centres);
- improved turnaround times for birth and death registrations;
- clear roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders; and
- legislated forms and well-documented processes.

The DHA was in its first year of a five-year strategic plan; birth registration is one of the priorities. The DHA registers around 74 percent of births within 30 calendar days. One key activity is rolling out birth registration procedures in more healthcare facilities with maternity wards to ensure that those who apply are verified. This is important because some public service institutions depend on official birth registration figures for planning.

Resources

Websites

Civil registration and identification:

www.dha.gov.za

Statistics South Africa: statssa.gov.za

World Health Organization (WHO) – South Africa:

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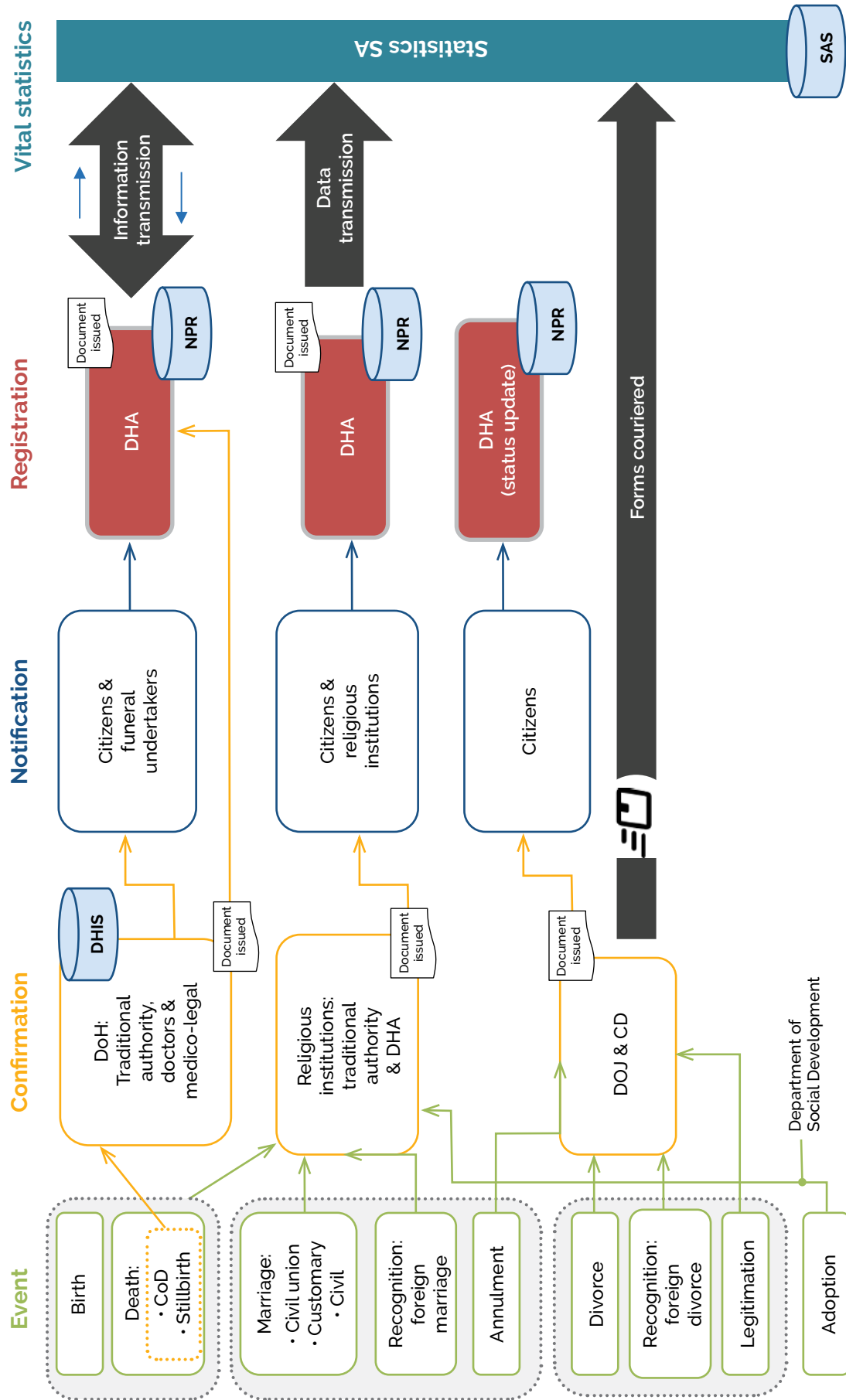
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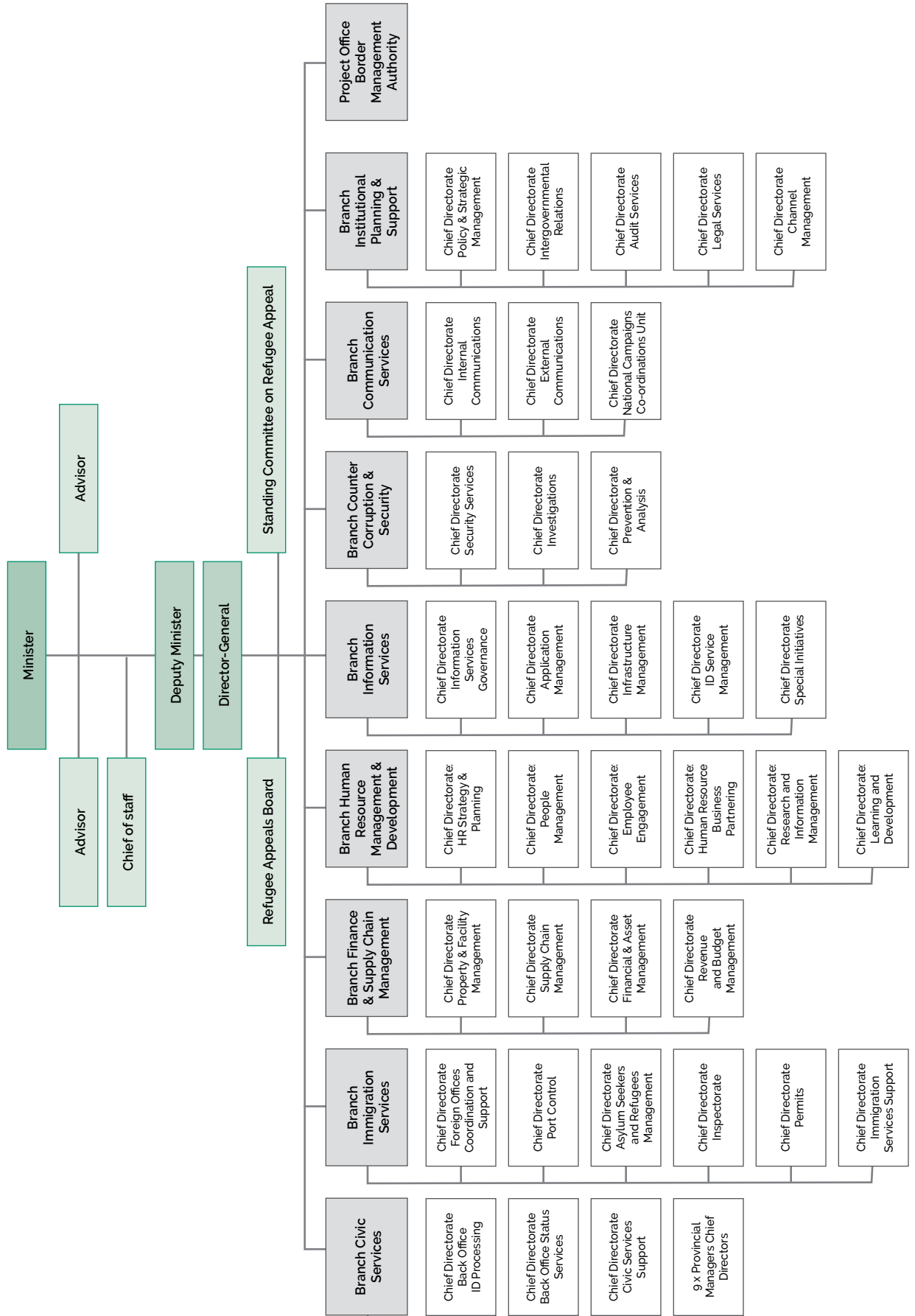
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Annex 1: Overview of civil registration, vital statistics, and ID management

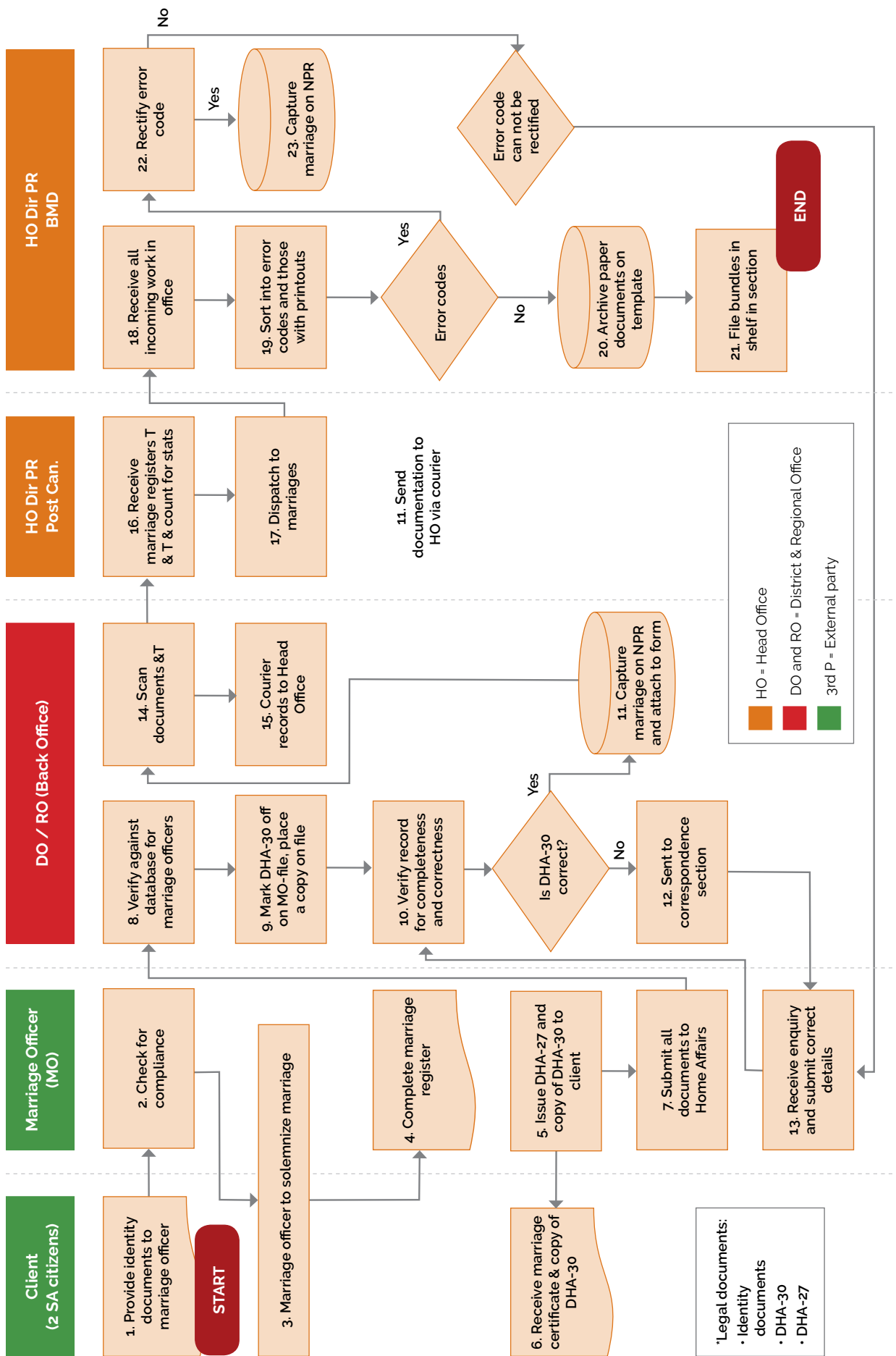


Source: Maluleke, R. 2019. South Africa's Progress in Civil Registration. Note that the original figure has been recreated for inclusion in the present publication. The original figure was published in English here: id44africa.com/2019_event/presentations/Inf1/1-Risenga-Maluleke_Statistics-SA.pdf, and includes the logos of Statistics South Africa and National Development Plan 2030.

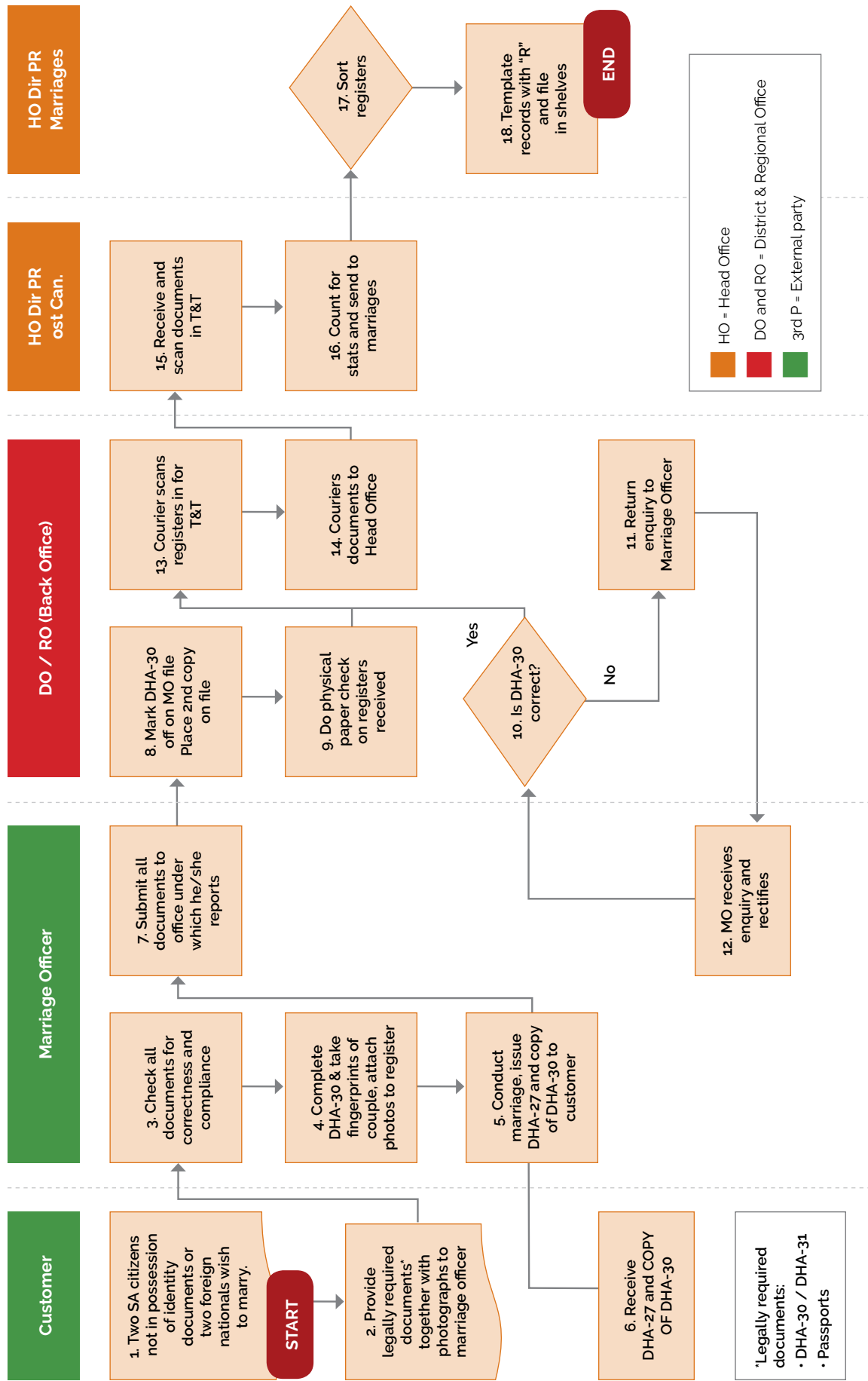
Annex 2: Department of Home Affairs organizational chart



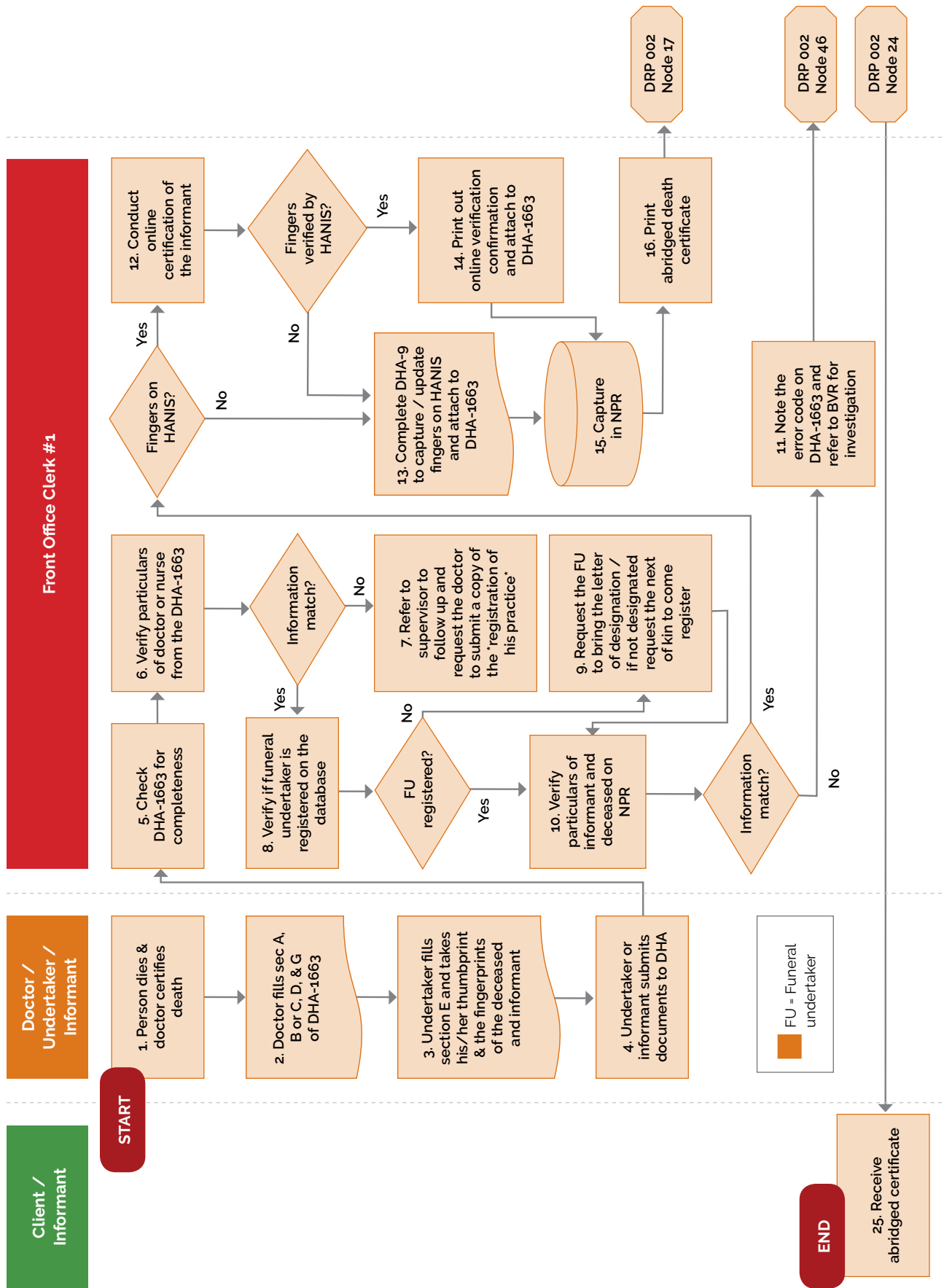
Annex 3: Registration of a civil marriage and a civil union marriage between two South African citizens who have South African identity documents



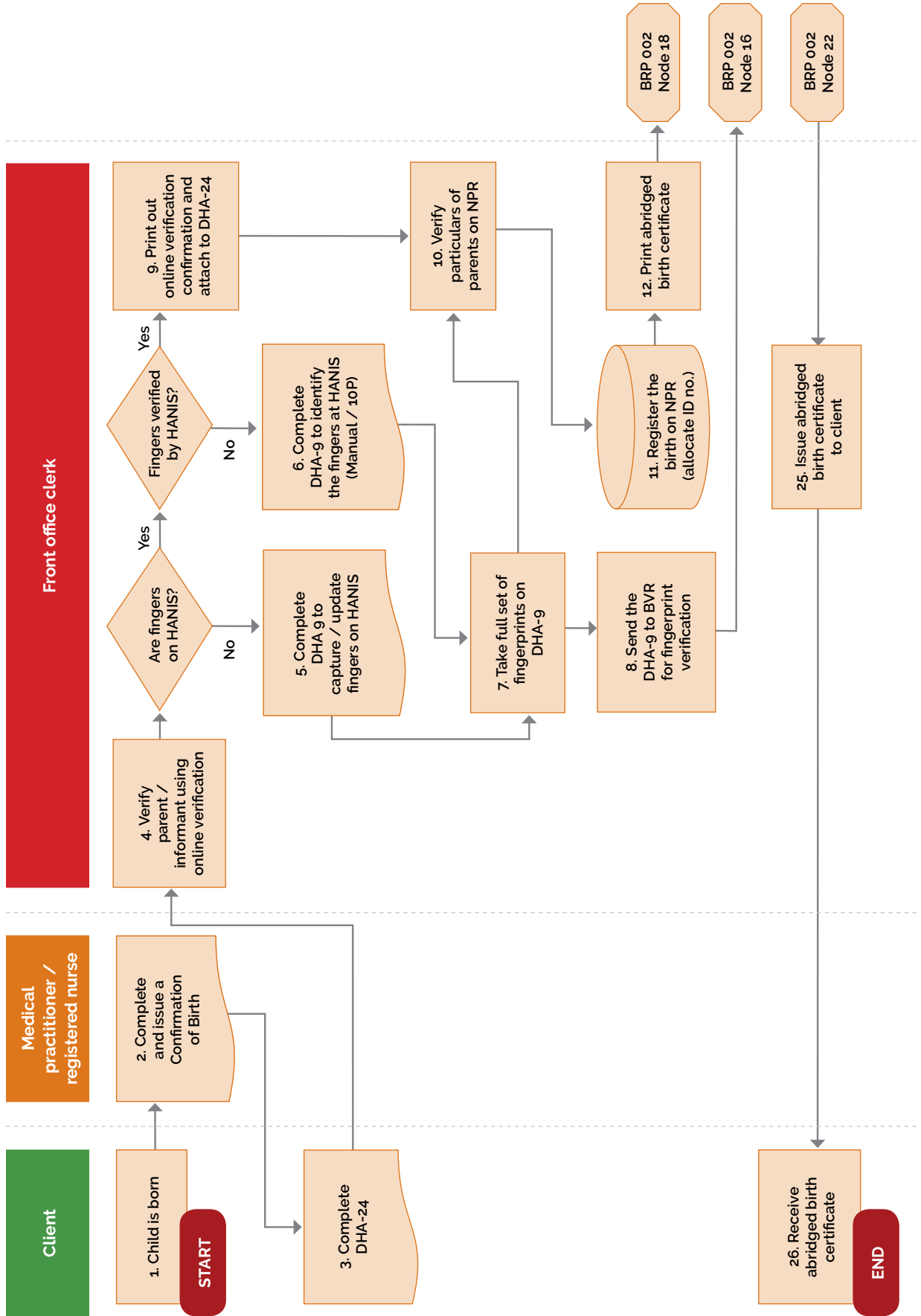
Annex 4: Solemnization and registration of a civil marriage and civil union marriage between two persons, neither of whom has identity documents issued under the *Identification Act, 1997*



Annex 5: New death registration process with DHA-1663 (DRP 001)



Annex 6: Birth registration process





Endnotes

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- 15 All unregistered births in the year following the occurrence of the event.
- 16 Completeness of registration means the current number of demographic events (births or deaths) divided by the estimated number of demographic events (births or deaths). A complete registration or 100 percent completeness is achieved when every demographic event that occurred in the population of a given country (or region) during a specific period has been recorded in the system.
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