



Federal Law No. 10 of 2022 on Regulation of Registration of the Births and Deaths

We, Muhammad bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates,

- After perusal of the constitution; and
- Federal Law No. 1 of 1972 on the functions of the ministries and the powers of ministers, and its amendments;
- Federal Law No. 17 of 1972 regarding the citizenship and passports, and its amendments;
- Federal Law No. 5 of 1985 promulgating the UAE Civil Transactions Law, and its amendments;
- Federal Law No. 35 of 1992 promulgating the Criminal Procedures Law, and its amendments;
- Federal Law No. 1 of 1992 promulgating the Civil Procedures Law, and its amendments;
- Federal Law No. 28 of 2005 on personal status, and its amendments;
- Federal Law No. 11 of 2008 regulating the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, and its amendments;
- Federal Law No. 18 of 2009 regulating registration of the births and deaths;
- Federal Law No. 1 of 2012 regarding the care of children of unknown parentage;
- Federal Law No. 3 of 2016 on Rights of the Child "Wadeema" Law, and its amendments;
- Federal Decree Law No. 4 of 2016 on the medical liability;
- Federal Law No. 2 of 2019 on use of the information technology and communications in the health fields;
- Federal Law No. 13 of 2020 on public health;
- Federal Law No. 10 of 2021 regulating the cemeteries and burial procedures;
- Federal Decree Law No. 31 of 2021 promulgating the Crimes and Penalties Law;
- At proposal of the Minister of Health & Prevention, and approval of the Cabinet;

We issued the following decree-law:

Article (1)

Definitions

In implementing the provisions of this Decree Law, the following words and expressions shall have the meanings assigned to each of them, unless the context requires otherwise:

Country: The United Arab Emirates (UAE)

Ministry: Ministry of Health & Prevention

Minister: The Minister of Health & Prevention

Citizen: Everyone who has the nationality of the Country in accordance with the legislations applicable in the country

Health Authority: The federal or local government health authority, as the case may be, being concerned with regulating the health affairs.

Concerned Department: The organizational unit concerned with registering the births and deaths and issuing the birth and death certificates in the health authority or in any other authority specified by a decision of the Cabinet.

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Committee: The Births and Deaths Committee in each health authority, which is established by virtue of the provision of Article (20) of this Decree Law.

Health Facility: Every place which is prepared and licensed to conduct a medical examination on the patients, provide the medical health advice to such patients, assist in diagnosing their diseases, treatment, nursing, residence of the same for their treatment, or perform any duty related to the prevention, treatment or rehabilitation, whether it is owned or managed by a natural or arbitrary person.

Competent Court: The court within whose jurisdiction the incident of birth or death takes place, the court in whose jurisdiction the headquarters of the health authority undertaking the birth or death procedures is located, or the legally competent court in the cases other than those cases, in accordance with the legislations in force in this regard.

Compound Name: The name composed of two words, one of which is not proper on its own to be a name of a person.

Double Name: The name composed of two words, one of them on its own, or both, is proper to be a name of a person.

Live Newborn: The newborn showing any definite sign of life after he/she is expelled from the maternal body, whether the birth is vaginal or by caesarean section, regardless of the duration of pregnancy.

Dead Newborn: The newborn not showing any definite sign of life after he/she is expelled from the maternal body, whether the birth is vaginal or by caesarean section, provided that the pregnancy period is not less than one hundred and eighty (180) days.

Death: The complete certain and reliable death, either by a complete and final irrevocable cessation of the circulatory and respiratory functions, or by a complete and final irrevocable cessation of the functions of the entire brain, so that the doctors decide that this cessation is irrevocable, in accordance with the accurate medical standards issued by a decision of the Minister, or death by a judgment in which a final judicial ruling is issued to consider the absent or missing person to be dead. The day of delivery of the judgment of death of the absent or missing person shall be considered the date of his death.

Registry: The standard national registry at the Country level and the registry established in the local health authority in accordance with the provisions of this Decree Law.

Article (2)

Application

The provisions of this Decree Law shall apply to the following:

- 1- Cases of the births and deaths in the country
- 2- Cases of the births and deaths of the citizens abroad and the persons determined by a decision of the Minister.

Article (3)

Registers of registration of the births and deaths

1. The Ministry shall create a standard national register to register the births and another register to register the deaths at the Country level. Also, each health authority, within the limits of its competence, shall create two other registers, one is for registering the births and the other one is for registering the deaths. The executive regulations of this Decree Law shall specify the following:
 - A- Data of the registers;

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- B- The supporting documents and the conditions and controls to be met for registration in the registers;
 - C- The procedures, methods and periods of keeping the registers;
 - D- The mechanisms for exchanging the data between the Ministry and other health authorities;
 - E- The methods and procedures for electronic linking between the registers of the health authorities and the standard national register.
2. The health authorities may add other data, as they deem proper, within their applicable registers.
 3. The Ministry and other health authorities shall coordinate with the concerned authorities in the Country regarding the data and statistics related to the births and deaths.

Notifying the birth Article (4)

The health facility in which the birth takes place shall inform the concerned department of this birth within seventy-two (72) hours after the time of birth. This obligation shall apply to cases of birth taking place outside the health facility, if it is made under medical supervision by the health facility.

Article (5)

- 1- If the birth took place outside the health facility and without medical supervision, the persons referred to in the order set out in this Clause shall inform the nearest health facility of such birth to establish the act of birth and shall issue a notification of the birth within thirty (30) days after date of the birth:
 - A- The child's father, if he is present or his mother;
 - B- The person in charge of the family affairs if the father is absent or died before the birth;
 - C- Any adult relative up to the fourth degree who attended the birth;
 - D- Any other persons who attended the birth or assigned by one of the newborn's parents.
- 2- The health facility shall inspect the mother and the newborn and inform the concerned department within seventy-two (72) hours after the date of issuing the birth notification.
- 3- If the health facility is notified of the birth after expiry of the period referred to Clause (1) of this Article, the health facility shall prepare a health report on the case, and the concerned person shall submit an application to the health authority which shall refer it to the committee to take the proper decision.

Article (6) Birth notification

- 1- The birth notification is considered evidence of the birth and is not considered a document to prove parentage.
- 2- The information related to the conditions and circumstances of the pregnancy is a medical secret which the health profession practitioner is prohibited from disclosing unless requested to do so in accordance with the legislations applicable in this regard. The health facility shall ensure that the confidentiality of the information and data included in the registered is maintained.
- 3- The health facility shall issue the birth notification on the condition of submitting the ID card or passport of the mother and father, if any, or ID card

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- or passport of the informant of the birth, whenever the birth takes place outside the health facility, without the need for any other documents.
- 4- The birth notification shall include the following data:
- A- The day, date in Hijri and Gregorian, shown in numbers and letters, the time and place of birth.
 - B- The newborn's gender
 - C- The newborn's name, if specified. The newborn's name may be compound or double name, provided that it shall be in compliance with the public order and the public morals.
 - D- The full name, date of birth, nationality, and religion or faith of the father and mother, as well as ID card or passport number of the non-resident father and mother, if any.
 - E- Name of the health facility in which the birth took place and name of the birth supervisor if the birth took place in a health facility.
 - F- Any other data specified by the Executive Regulations of this Decree Law.

Obtaining of a birth certificate for a newborn inside the State

Article (7)

- 1- If the birth occurs inside the State, any of the newborn's parents or whoever has legal authority over the newborn shall submit an application to the concerned department to obtain the birth certificate within thirty (30) days after date of birth. The following documents shall be attached to the application to obtain the birth certificate:
- A- Birth notification;
 - B- The marriage document (contract) or an acknowledgment of parentage of the newborn to them, to be certified by the embassy of their country or by the notary public.
 - C- ID card or passport of the mother and father, if any.
- 2- The employee in charge of entering the birth notification data and documents and issuing the birth certificate in the concerned department shall be careful in entering such data, and shall verify that the birth certificate is compatible to the birth notification.

Article (8)

- 1- The concerned department shall issue a birth certificate for every live newborn in Arabic, while another copy may be issued in English at request of the concerned parties. The birth certificate shall be handed over to one of the newborn's parents, their legal representative, or any of their relatives up to the fourth degree.
- 2- The executive regulations of this Decree Law shall specify the procedures for registration in the birth register, the controls for obtaining the birth certificate data, and the procedures for obtaining an official extract from the birth registers.

Article (9)

In the case of submitting an application to obtain a birth certificate after the date specified for so in accordance with the provisions of this Decree Law, the concerned department shall accept and refer the application to the committee to decide on such application in accordance with the controls and criteria specified in the decision of formation the committee.

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Article (10)

Obtaining a birth certificate for a citizen outside the State

- 1- If the birth of a citizen occurs outside the State, any the newborn's parents shall notify the Country diplomatic mission of the birth incident under a birth certificate issued by the competent authority in the country in which the birth took place, within the period specified by the Executive Regulation. If the birth could not be reported by the parents, the notification shall be made by whoever has the legal authority over the newborn.
- 2- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation shall inform the competent authorities within the country of the birth cases reported by diplomatic missions in accordance with the legislations applicable in this regard.
- 3- Any of the parents of, or whoever has legal authority over, the newborn may obtain a birth certificate for the newborn outside the Country from the concerned department, in accordance with the birth certificate issued outside the Country and certified by the diplomatic mission, after being ratified by the competent authority inside the State.
- 4- Whenever the birth takes place in a Country in which there is no diplomatic mission, or in any of the other cases of abroad births not indicated in this Article, these birth cases shall be reported to the nearest accessible diplomatic mission or to the concerned department in such Country, as the case may be.
- 5- The executive regulations of this Decree Law shall regulate the terms, conditions and procedures for obtaining a birth certificate for a citizen born abroad, in the cases in which it is not possible to inform the diplomatic mission of the birth.

Article (11)

The birth notification and birth certificate for a newborn of an unknown father

- 1- The health facility shall issue the birth notification to the newborn of unknown father based on the mother's data through her ID card or passport.
- 2- The concerned department shall issue the birth certificate for the newborn of unknown father based on a judicial order issued the competent court, including the newborn's name and nationality, based on the mother's declaration in accordance with the legislations applicable in this regard.
- 3- Notation shall be made in the birth registry under the competent court order, without this being indicated in the birth certificate.

Article (12)

Birth notification and birth certificate for a newborn of unknown parents

- 1- As soon as the health facility receives a newborn of unknown parents, it shall issue a birth notification of such newborn, as well as the medical report on that newborn's health status.
- 2- The concerned department shall issue a birth certificate for, and register, a newborn of unknown parents, with the births registry at request of the Foster Home at which the newborn is placed, after taking all the procedures established in the legislations applicable in the country.

Article (13)

Notifying the death occurrence

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- 1- In the case of death inside the health facility, the health facility in which the death occurred shall inform the police station which is responsible for taking the procedures established in the legislations applicable in this regard, while the health facility shall also inform the concerned department of the death within a period not exceeding seventy-two (72) hours after the time of death.
- 2- In the case of death outside the health facility, the police station which is responsible for taking the procedures prescribed in the legislations applicable in this regard shall be notified, and the concerned department shall be notified of the death after a medical diagnosis thereof.

Article (14)

Death notification

The death notification shall include the following information:

- 1- The day, date in Hijri and Gregorian, shown in numbers and letters, the time and place of the death.
- 2- The dead person's full name, gender, nationality, religion or faith, age, profession and residence.
- 3- The cause of death.
- 4- The informant's full name, age, nationality, profession, capacity and signature.
- 5- Any other data specified by the Executive Regulations of this Decree Law.

Article (15)

Registration in the deaths registry and issuance of the death certificate

- The concerned department shall issue the death certificate in Arabic, while another copy may be issued in English at the request of any of the relatives of the deceased up to the fourth degree or the person legally in charge of the deceased. The death certificate shall be handed over to any of them.
- The Executive Regulations of this Decree Law shall specify the procedures for registering in the deaths registry, the controls for obtaining, and data of, the death certificate, and the procedures for obtaining an official extract from the death registry.

Article (16)

Reporting of the stillbirth

The health facility in which the stillbirth incident occurs shall inform the concerned department of the incident within a period not exceeding seventy-two (72) hours after the time of the stillbirth incident.

Article (17)

Stillborn notification

The stillborn notification shall include the following information:

- 1- The stillborn parent's full name, nationality, religion or faith, age, profession and residence, if they are known.
- 2- The cause of death.
- 3- Number of days of existence of the stillborn in the uterus (days of pregnancy)
- 4- Any other data specified by the Executive Regulations of this Decree Law.

Article (18)

Death of a citizen outside the Country

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- 1- If the death of a citizen occurs outside the country, any of his relatives who are with him in that Country shall inform the diplomatic mission of the death.
- 2- The diplomatic mission may be notified of the death by anyone who is not indicated in paragraph (1) of this Article.
- 3- The death certificate shall be issued by the competent authorities in the Country in which the diplomatic mission is located and be certified by that mission and the competent authority in the Country, under which a death certificate is issued from the Country.

Article (19)

Unknown (unidentified) deceased

The unidentified deceased shall be registered in the deaths registry together with a notation in the remarks box under decision by the Public Prosecution in this regard, which includes the forensic doctor's report. The Executive Regulations of this Decree Law shall specify the data to be provided in the deaths registry.

Article (20)

Births and Deaths Committee

- 1- A committee shall be created in every health authority, to be called "Births and Deaths Committee", and shall be formed by a decision of the head of the health authority.
- 2- A decision shall be issued by the Minister in coordination with the health authorities regarding the Committee's responsibilities and the controls and criteria for the Committee's work.

Article (21)

Change in the data of the birth and death certificate and records

- 1- Any change to the data of the birth and death certificates or the records shall be made only as per a final court ruling issued by the competent court and the concerned department shall register - in the remarks box - the information of such ruling.
- 2- The Committee may correct the material errors based on the supporting documents, and the reasons and justifications for correction shall be notated in the records.

Penalties

Article (22)

Whenever the person assigned to report the birth case fails to report it within the time prescribed under the provisions of this Decree Law shall be punished with a fine not exceeding AED 5,000 (five thousand UAE Dirhams).

Article (23)

Anyone who knows a death case by virtue of his kinship or profession and does not report it intentionally or covertly shall be punished with a fine not exceeding AED 15,000 (fifteen thousand UAE Dirhams).

Article (24)

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Anyone who deliberately registers a live newborn or stillborn baby in the registers more than once shall be punished with a fine not exceeding AED 15,000 (fifteen thousand UAE Dirhams), while the court shall rule to delete the duplicate entry.

Article (25)

A sentence of imprisonment for a period of no less than one (1) year and a fine of no less than AED 100,000 (one hundred thousand UAE Dirhams) and not more than AED 500,000 (five hundred thousand UAE Dirhams) or either of these two sentences shall be imposed on whoever commits any of the following:

- 1- Intentionally provides incorrect data or resorts to fraudulent methods or illegal means with the intention of registering a live newborn or stillborn baby in the records; the court shall rule to cancel the entry proved to be incorrect.
- 2- Any change in the data contained in the births or deaths registers without a final ruling issued by the competent court.
- 3- Intentionally destroys or causes destruction or loss of a record of the births or deaths, or any of its documents.

Article (26)

Imposition of the penalties stipulated in this Decree Law shall not prejudice any more severe sentence stipulated in any other law.

Article (27)

The birth and death certificates and the official extracts from the births and deaths registers issued under this Decree Law shall be the official documents to prove the birth and death occurrences.

Article (28)

Forms

The Executive Regulations shall specify the forms of the records, notifications and certificates stipulated in this Decree Law.

Article (29)

Fees

At proposal of the Minister and proposal of the Minister of Finance, the Council of Ministers shall issue a resolution specifying the fees required for implementing the provisions of this Decree Law.

Article (30)

Executive Regulations

Upon proposal of the Minister, the Council of Ministers shall issue the executive regulations of the provisions of this Decree Law.

Article (31)

Repeals

- 1- The federal Law No. 18 of 2009 on organizing registration of the births and deaths shall be repealed. In addition, every provision that conflicts or contradicts with the provisions of this Decree Law shall be repealed.

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- 2- The resolutions, laws and rules issued before the effective date of the Decree Law shall continue in force, as long as they do not conflict with the provisions of this Decree Law, until promulgation of resolutions, laws and rules replacing the same pursuant to the provisions of this Decree Law.

Article (32)

Publication and effectiveness of the Decree Law

This Decree Law shall be published in the Official Gazette and shall be effective thirty (30) days after the date of its publication.

Muhammad bin Zayed Al Nahyan
President of the United Arab Emirates

Issued by us at the Presidential Palace in Abu Dhabi
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