

## UNITED NATIONS

## ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL



## LIMITED

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SECOND INTER-AMERICAN SEMINAR ON CIVIL REGISTRATION

Organized by the United Nations, through its Statistical Office, the Bureau of Technical Assistance Operations, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Latin American Demographic Centre, in co-operation with the Government of Peru, the Inter-American Statistical Institute, the Inter-American Children's Institute, the Pan American Health Organization and the Inter-American Civil Registration Association

Lima, Peru, 30 November to 11 December 1964

## GENERAL OUTLINES OF THE ORGANIZATION OF A CIVIL REGISTRATION SERVICE IN LATIN AMERICA

(English summary)

Presented by

the Inter-American Children's Institute

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The conclusion is reached that although there are many points of difference between countries (relating in some cases to individual characteristics of the political or institutional system of the various countries, or to their geography) with respect to their civil registration services, they all have certain features in common, and could be co-ordinated on broad lines so as to achieve greater uniformity on the services provided and the data furnished.

Only thus can there be an improvement in statistical data, which constitute the essential basis for all social and economic planning.

For this purpose technical bases need to be worked out for the preparation of draft legislation to modify the various existing civil registration services. Such draft legislation should take into account:

- 1. Guidance and advice from experts in law and in statistics, of the two main branches of learning that govern the work of civil registration.
- 2. The short-term and long-term purposes that can be served by the operation of the civil registration services (institutes that can make use of them).
- 3. Technological advances, especially mechanization, that facilitate the operation of the services.

Such a meeting of qualified and experienced persons, as the Second Inter-American Seminar on Civil Registration is a particularly suitable occasion for undertaking such a task, especially since the working papers include a suggested outline of minimum requirements for such a service.

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