

WHO-UNDESA Technical Advisory Group on COVID-19 Mortality Assessment
Working Group 3:
Death registration and reporting systems: Lessons from the pandemic

Background

The United Nations recommended model for civil registration and vital statistics calls for every country to establish a reporting and registration system, whereby every birth and death occurring in a health facility must be reported by that facility to the civil registration officer, whose responsibilities include: (a) ensuring the accuracy of the recorded

will provide guidance for countries with incomplete or unreliable civil registration and vital statistics systems on means of estimating the true death toll from COVID-19.

In the long run, the recommendations of the Working Group are intended to be used in the build-up of nimbler, more resilient and holistic registration and statistical systems that will produce comprehensive, accurate and timely vital statistics based on universal registration of vital events and in conformity with existing international standards.

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