RESOLUTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

ON THE MEASURES FOR FURTHER IMPROVEMENT OF THE CIVIL REGISTRATION SYSTEM

[Excerpts]

Over the past period, consistent and systematic work has been carried out to improve further the system of civil registration authorities (hereinafter - civil registry or ZAGS authorities) providing public services for the registration of such important events and facts like birth, death, marriage, divorce.

At the same time, the state of affairs in this field suggests that there is a set of systemic challenges and shortcomings that prevent the creation of effective mechanisms for the comprehensive and quality provision of public services to the population. In particular:

First, there is no special legislation defining the status, tasks and powers of the civil registry authorities, as well as a clear distinction between the main tasks and functions of the authorized government agencies and organizations in this area;

Second, low level of the introduction of innovative information and communication technologies into the activities of the civil registry authorities, and remaining stereotypes of paper-based environment lead to unreasonable financial costs, increasing the waiting time for citizens and to the formation of queues and, as a result, in some cases, to corruption and bureaucracy;

Third, lack of adequate inter-agency coordination between the civil registry and the internal affairs, health, custody and guardianship, self-government authorities and educational institutions does not ensure effective monitoring of unconditional and timely registration of birth and death, as well as prevention of marriage without appropriate registration and divorce prevention;

Fourth, there is no effective mechanism for control, especially remote, of the quality and efficiency of public services, the proper performance of the functional duties by the personnel of the civil registry authorities, and there is no transparent mechanism for evaluation of their activities;

Fifth, lack of broad and systematic practice of outreach provision of public services for the registration of acts of civil status, significant transport costs associated with travelling to the civil registry authorities from remote and challenging locations, insufficient level of legal knowledge and legal culture of the population lead to high risks of leaving the fact of birth of children without appropriate registration, which may adversely affect the enjoyment of economic and social rights by children enshrined in the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan, including the rights to free medical care and education.

Under the Action Strategy on the Five Priority Areas for Development of the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2017-2021, in order to increase the role and importance of the civil registry authorities in the protection of the rights and legitimate interests of citizens, and to improve the quality of public services provided to the population:

1. To determine the following as the main lines of state policy on the further reform of the institute of civil registration:

First – ensuring the protection of the personal and property rights of citizens through complete registration with the competent authorities of such events and facts as birth, death, marriage and divorce, change of family name, first name and patronymic;

Second – undertaking extensive efforts on legal advocacy aimed to raise legal awareness and legal culture of the population, strengthening the rule of law in the society, paying particular attention to the consequences of leaving the most important legal facts unregistered;

Third – active participation of the civil registry authorities in comprehensive measures to strengthen the institution of the family, preparing young people for family life, and divorce prevention;

Fourth – accelerated introduction of innovative information and communication technologies into the activities of the civil registry authorities, aimed at simplifying the procedures for the provision of public services to the population, including without visiting the authorized governmental authorities and organizations, improving the quality and efficiency of the services, creation of a single electronic archive of the acts of civil status with the possibility of obtaining archival certificates and information on the principle of extraterritoriality;

Fifth – effective coordination of the authorities performing registration of acts of civil status with local authorities, internal affairs, health, guardianship and custody authorities, self-government of citizens and educational institutions on the identification of legal facts of civil status and their timely registration;

Sixth – the use of flexible and convenient methods of provision of public services through the expansion of inter-agency electronic communication, including paired with travels to remote settlements ("mobile public services") in order to eliminate bureaucracy and corruption in this area;

Seventh – ensuring accessibility and transparency of the procedures of provision of public services by the civil registry authorities, introduction of new forms of control, including remote, over the compliance of their personnel with the rules of professional ethics and the responsibilities, quality and efficiency of registration of acts of civil status, the correctness of the calculation and recovery of state duty and other payments;

Eighth – rationalization of the rates of state duty, stamp duties and tariffs for the provision of paid services by the civil registry authorities, in order to increase the accessibility of public services for the population.

- 2. To take into consideration that under the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. UP-5415 of 13 April 2018 "On the Measures Aimed at the Fundamental Improvement of the Activities of Organs and Institutions of Justice in the Implementation of the State Legal Policy" starting from July 1, 2018, the civil registry authorities shall be entrusted to *khokimiyats* of districts (cities), and the functions on coordination of law enforcement practice, methodological support of the activities of the civil registry authorities, maintenance of the information system "Single Electronic Archive of the Civil Registry" and administration of the civil registry archives shall be assigned to the Agency for Public Services under the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan.
 - 3. To establish that according to the division of duties and responsibilities:

Khokims of districts (cities) shall provide overall supervision over the activities of the civil registry offices and marriage registration offices (hereinafter, "civil registry offices"), strengthening the material and technical base, remuneration of labor and material incentives for the personnel of the civil registry offices;

Deputy *Khokims* of districts (cities) — chairs of women's committees of districts (cities) shall bear personal responsibility for undertaking measures on strengthening the family, prevention of divorces, timely registration of birth and marriage, advocacy and awareness;

Director of the Agency for Public Services under the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be responsible for effective coordination of law enforcement practice, methodological support of the civil registry offices, technical support and maintenance of the information system "Single Electronic Archive of the Civil Registry", as well as for management of the civil registry archives;

Heads of the civil registry offices of districts (cities) shall bear personal responsibility for the legitimacy of the civil registry records performed.

- 4. To approve the Program of Comprehensive Measures on the Further Improvement of the Civil Registration System under Annex 1.
 - 5. From July 1, 2018, to cancel the state fees for:

notarial certification of marriage contracts and child-support agreements;

judicial consideration of claims on the acknowledgment (establishment) of paternity/maternity, as well as on the establishment of the time of birth of the child.

- 6. To maintain the current procedures for the supply of the civil registry authorities, consular institutions of the Republic of Uzbekistan abroad and citizens meetings with controlled-issue watermark forms of certificates by the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan.
 - 7. To establish that starting from July 1, 2018:

Forty percent of the funds received from the stamp duty and accumulated on the special treasury account of the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan, as well as from the paid services provided by the civil registry authorities shall be stored on the specially created treasury accounts of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, *khokimiyats* of districts and the city of Tashkent, and shall be used solely for the activities aimed at strengthening the material and technical base, monthly increments for the length of service and for class ranks to the personnel of the civil registry offices, as well as for monetary incentives for them (personal increments in the amount of up to 100 percent of the basic position salary and bonus);

The use of funds accumulated on the specially created treasury accounts shall be administrated by the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, *khokimiyats* of districts and the city of Tashkent in the manner defined by the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

8. The Ministry of Health and the Ministry for the Development of Informational Technologies and Communications of the Republic of Uzbekistan together with the ministries and agencies concerned:

From January 1, 2019, to establish an electronic exchange of information on birth and death with the civil registry authorities, and to introduce the single procedures for the issuance of a unified electronic statement of birth and death with a unique identification code;

By January 1, 2019, to establish an automated information system for the registration of women of fertile age and prenatal care from the earliest stages until the delivery of a child, and to ensure integration with the information system of the "Single Electronic Archive of the Civil Registry."

10. To define that:

By January 1, 2018, the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall implement non-reimbursable transfer of parts of the buildings and premises used by the civil registry offices, as well as of the equipment, tools, documents and other property belonging to them, to *khokimiyats* of districts (cities), in due course;

A part of the transferred buildings and premises used by the civil registry offices shall retain by the justice institutions for their use;

The further use for other purposes and transfer of ownership over the buildings and premises of the civil registry offices transferred to *khokimiyats* of districts (cities) shall be permitted solely upon approval by the Agency for Public Services under the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

11. To establish local commissions on the identification of unregistered cases of birth, death and on ensuring subsequent registration with the civil registry authorities led by *khokims* of districts (cities) on the basis of the model membership under Annex 2.

For the local commissions:

By July 1, 2019, to perform a complete inventory intending to identify unregistered facts of birth, death, and based on the findings of the inventory to ensure targeted registration of the facts of birth and death in accordance with law;

In its activities to pay particular attention to the identification of children without a birth certificate, and to abide by the principles that "No child shall be left unregistered" and that "Birth registration is a legal basis for the realization of the rights of children and prevention of statelessness."

12. For the Agency for Public Services under the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan:

By January 1, 2022, to finalize digitalization of civil status records stored in the civil registry authorities, forming of a unified electronic archive fund of the civil registry for the subsequent integration with the information system "Single Electronic Archive of the Civil Registry";

To conclude contracts with legal entities for the delivery of labor on the entry of the civil status records data into the informational system "Single Electronic Archive of the Civil Registry" in the civil registry offices;

From September 1, 2018, together with the Central Bank and the Ministry for the Development of Informational Technologies and Communications of the Republic of Uzbekistan to finalize the introduction of the mechanism of electronic payment (billing) for the state fees, stamp duties, and other payments;

From January 1, 2019, together with the State Center for Personalization under the Cabinet of Ministers and the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Uzbekistan to introduce the practice of assigning personal identification numbers to newborns upon the registration of a birth certificate.

- 13. To exempt until July 1, 2021, from customs duties (except for customs fees) scanning equipment, server hardware and other equipment, parts and components not produced in the Republic of Uzbekistan, that are imported for the purpose of digitalization of the civil registration records, creation of the system of electronic inter-agency coordination, in accordance with the lists formed in due course.
- 14. For the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan within two weeks to adopt a resolution on the approval of:

regulations on the civil registry authorities and class ranks of personnel of the civil registry offices;

categories and tariff coefficients for the remuneration of personnel of the civil registry offices under the single wage grid;

the amount of monthly increments for the length of service to personnel of the civil registry offices having class ranks;

the amount of extra payment for class ranks to the basic position salary of personnel of the civil registry offices.

- 15. For the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan together with the ministries and agencies concerned, to submit proposals to the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan on amendments to the legislation arising from this Resolution within two months.
- 16. Control over the implementation of this Resolution shall be imposed on the Prime Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan, A.N. Aripov; the First Deputy of the State Counselor to the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, B.M. Mavlonov; and the Minister of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan, R.K. Davletov.

President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh. MIRZIYOEV

City of Tashkent June 12, 2018 № PP-3785

ANNEX 1 To the Resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. PP-3785 of June 12, 2018

THE PROGRAM of Comprehensive Measures on the Further Improvement of the Civil Registration System

No.	Action	Form of	Period of	Executive in		
110.	Acuon	Implementation	Execution	Charge		
	I. Improvement of the legislation in the field of civil registration					
1.	Development of the draft Law "On the	Draft Law	October	Ministry of		
	Acts of Civil Status," defining:		2018	Justice, Women's		
	the powers of the bodies registering acts			Committee,		
	of civil status;			Supreme Court,		
	the procedures of registration of birth			Ministry of		
	(establishment of paternity, adoption),			Interior, Ministry		
	registration and dissolution of marriage,			of Health,		
	death);			ministries and		
	recovery, change, correction, appending			agencies		
	of records of civil status acts, change of a			concerned		
	family name, first name and patronymic,					
	filling of records of civil status acts;					
	repeated issuance of birth certificates and					
	other information, archival transcripts,					
	reporting of the civil registry authorities,					
	consular institutions of the Republic of					
	Uzbekistan abroad and citizens meetings;					
	the procedures of inter-agency					
	informational electronic communication.					
2.	Development of the draft Law on the	Draft Law	October	Ministry of		
	introduction of amendments to the Code		2018	Justice,		
	of the Republic of Uzbekistan on			Ministry of		
	Administrative Responsibility, providing			Health, Ministry		
	for administrative responsibility of:			of Interior,		
	officials of the civil registry authorities			Supreme Court,		
	for unlawful refusal to register acts of			ministries and		
	civil status and for violation of the			departments		
	periods for registration;			concerned		
	officials of healthcare institutions for late					
	registration of birth and death, for the					
	correctness and accuracy of filling in a					

3.	medical certificate of birth, as well as a medical certificate of death, including perinatal; officials of the guardianship and custody authorities, healthcare institutions and administration of the institution hosting the child for not undertaking measures to register the birth of a foundling. Development of a draft Decision of the Government providing for: revision of criteria determining the number of employees of the civil registry authorities, as well as the introduction of an additional staff unit in the civil registry authorities - an archives keeper, because of the creation of a single electronic database of the acts of civil status; cancellation of the requirement for manual filling of stamp certificates with the introduction of the procedures of filling it only in block letters using information and communication technologies.	Draft Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers	July 2018	Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Finance, ministries and agencies concerned
4.	Revision of the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 387 of November 14, 2016, "On the Approval of the Rules of Registration of Acts of Civil Status" and Instructions on the Procedures for Keeping Records in the Civil Registration Authorities (reg. No. 2547, December 31, 2013), providing for: registration of birth of a child after a year from the date of his/her birth by an application of either parent; the procedures for the exchange of the documents of civil status issued by authorized institutions of a foreign state for the documents of civil status of the Republic of Uzbekistan; introduction of corrections and appending of the record of the death act by an application of relatives of the deceased person and persons concerned; the procedures of electronic coordination of the civil registry authorities with other civil registry and state authorities through the "Single Electronic Archive of the Civil Registry."	Draft Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers	July 2019	Ministry of Justice, ministries and agencies concerned
5.	Development of draft Regulations for the Civil Registration Archives, providing for:	Draft Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers	July 2019	Ministry of Justice,

	purpose, tasks, functions, organization of activities, rights and duties of the civil registry archive; rules of maintenance, preservation and operation of the archive fund; the period for issuing and consideration of archival information.			Ministry of Finance, The Agency "Uzarhiv"
6.	Revision of the fees for additional services by civil registry authorities with the aim of improving access of the population to public services (extra fees for expedited issuance of archival transcripts and information in order to eliminate corruption).	Order of the Minister of Justice	July 2018	Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Finance
7.	Approval of the membership of the local commissions on inventory and identification of unregistered cases of births, deaths and their subsequent registration with the civil registry authorities.	The decision of the <i>Khokim</i> of the district (city)	July 2018	Council of Ministers of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, khokimiyats of districts and the city of Tashkent, ministries and agencies concerned
]	II. Implementation of modern informatio activities of the civi			ologies into the
8.	Creation of an automated information system for the registration of women of childbearing age and management of pregnancy from the early stages to the birth of a child. Ensuring the integration of this system with the information system "Single Electronic Archive of the Civil Registry."	Action plan	December 2018	Ministry of Health, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior, Ministry for the Development of Informational Technologies and Communications
	Creation of an automated information system for the registration of women of childbearing age and management of pregnancy from the early stages to the birth of a child. Ensuring the integration of this system with the information system "Single"	l registry authori	ties December	Ministry of Health, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior, Ministry for the Development of Informational Technologies and

11.	receipt of response between the civil registry authorities for registration of the act of civil status. Digitization of records of acts of civil status stored since the creation of the system of records of civil status acts (XIX century) to the present (approximately more than 60 million records) and the formation of a unified electronic archive fund of the civil registry, its integration with the informational system of the "Single Electronic Archive of Civil Registry".	Organization of the events Finalization of digitalization and integration	August 2018 December 2021	Development of Informational Technologies and Communications Ministry of Justice		
12.	Extending of capabilities to enable electronic (mobile) payment of the state fee, stamp duty and other fees via electronic payment systems.	Action plan	September 2018	Central Bank, Ministry for the Development of Informational Technologies and Communications, Ministry of Justice		
13.	Development of proposals for the implementation of the system of applying for registration of marriage through a single portal of online public services.	Action plan	January 2019	Ministry for the Development of Informational Technologies and Communications, Ministry of Justice		
	Integration of electronic systems of the civil registry, healthcare and state statistics authorities for rapid exchange of data on births, deaths, marriages, divorces.		September 2018	Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Health, State Committee for Statistics, Ministry for the Development of Informational Technologies and Communications		
II	III. Strengthening human resources and ensuring the effectiveness of the civil registry authorities					
15.	Certification of heads of civil registry offices given transition of the civil registry offices under the supervision of <i>khokimiyats</i> of districts (cities).	Set of actions	July 2018	Ministry of Justice, Office of the General Prosecutor, Zhokargy Kenes of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, khokimiyats of		

				provinces and the city Tashkent
16.	Revision of curricula and training modules to improve the skills of personnel of the civil registry authorities, given the introduction of subjects on training in psychological and other non-legal disciplines and skills (stress management, conflict management, effective organization of working time).	Set of actions	July 2018	Ministry of Justice
17.	Approval of a single logo for the civil registry authorities.	Joint decision	December 2018	Women's Committee Ministry of Justice
18.	Development of requirements for a single uniform of the staff of the civil registry authorities.	Joint decision	December 2018	Women's Committee Ministry of Justice
	IV. Strengthening the material and tech	nical base of the	civil registr	y authorities
20.	marriage registration office in the city of Bukhara, civil registry offices in Shurchi,	Action plan Set of actions	within the set periods	Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Finance, State Customs Committee Ministry for the Development of Informational Technologies and Communications Ministry of Justice
	Saykhunabad districts and the city of			
21.	Almalyk. Construction of buildings for the departments of justice, centers of public services and civil registry offices in the Dustlik and Mirzachul districts, as well as construction of a modern library in Mirzachul district of Jizzakh Province at the expense of extra-budgetary funds of the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan upon the approval, as an exception, until September 1, 2018, the performance of construction and installation works with parallel development of design specifications and estimates and the establishment in the frames of the construction projects:	Set of actions	September 2018	Khokimiyat of Jizzakh Province, Ministry of Justice

as the client — engineering company	
"Unitary Customer Service" of	
Khokimiyat of Jizzakh Province;	
as the General Project Organization —	
OOO "ASILBEK POWER PROJECT";	
as the General Contractor — OOO	
"Yangi Avlod Qurilish Invest."	

ANNEX 2 to the Resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. PP-3785 of June 12, 2018

MODEL COMPOSITION

of the local commission for the identification of unregistered cases of births and deaths

- 1. Khokim of the district (city) —Head of the Commission
- 2. Deputy *Khokim* of the district (city) Chair of the Women's Committee of the district (city) Deputy Head of the Commission
- 3. Head of the People's Reception Office of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the district (city)
 - 4. Chairman of the inter-district (district, city) court for civil cases
 - 5. District (city) prosecutor
 - 6. Head of the district (city) department of interior
 - 7. Chief medical officer of the district (city) medical institution
 - 8. Head of the district (city) department of public education
 - 9. Head of the district (city) department of preschool education
 - 10. Head of the statistics department of the district (city)
 - 11. Head of the district (city) department of the "Oila" Center
 - 12. Chief imam of the district (city) (as may be agreed)
 - 13. Deputies of local *Kengash* of people's deputies (as may be agreed)
 - 14. Chairman of the district (city) division of the Youth Association of Uzbekistan
 - 15. Head of the district (city) civil registry office Secretary of the Commission.

Note: The Commission shall also include the chairmen of the citizens meeting in the respective territory.

(National database of legislation, 13.06.2018, No. 07/18/3785/1346)