



## Decree 955 of 2002

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DECREE 955 OF 2002

(May 10)

"Whereby the intersectoral commission for the management of vital statistics is created."

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA,

in exercise of his constitutional and legal powers, particularly those conferred upon him by paragraphs 11 and 17 of Article 189 of the Constitution and Article 45 of Law 489 of 1998,

CONSIDERING:

That, in accordance with Article 2 of Decree 1151 of 2000, the National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE) is the governing body of the national statistical information system, whose fundamental mission is to guarantee the availability, quality, and impartiality of strategic statistical information for the social, economic, and political development of the country;

That DANE, as coordinator of the national statistical information system, must also integrate national and territorial statistical services, in accordance with the principle of regulatory centralization and administrative decentralization;

That the National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE) is working jointly with the Ministry of Health, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO), the National Civil Registry, the Superintendency of Notaries and Registries, the National Planning Department (DNP), the National Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences, the National Institute of Health, the Colombian Institute of Family Welfare (ICBF), the Technical Investigation Corps (CTI) of the Attorney General's Office, and Profamilia, with the aim of improving the "civil registration and vital statistics system";

That as of January 1, 1998, Colombia has a new civil registration and vital statistics system, which is operating throughout the national territory;

That for the civil registration and vital statistics system to function, it is necessary to create an intersectoral commission for the management of vital statistics, with the purpose of developing the system's operational process and inter-institutional coordination among the entities involved in it;

That Article 45 of Law 489 of 1998 empowers the National Government to create intersectoral commissions for the coordination and overall guidance of certain public functions and services,

DECREES:

ARTICLE 1—Creation of the intersectoral commission. The intersectoral commission for the management of vital statistics is hereby created as a consultative and advisory body with the purpose of strengthening and maintaining the civil registry and vital statistics system. [See Article 45 of Law 489 of 1998](#), [See Resolution 4050 of 2002 of the National Registry](#).

ARTICLE 2—Composition. The intersectoral commission for the management of vital statistics shall be composed

of: The Director of the National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE), or his delegate, who shall

chair it. The Minister of Health, or his delegate.

The National Registrar of Civil Status, or his delegate.

The Superintendent of Notaries and Registries, or his delegate.

The Director of the National Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences (INML y CF), or his delegate. The Director of the National Institute of Health (INS), or his delegate.

The Director of the Colombian Institute of Family Welfare (ICBF), or his or her delegate. The Director of the National Planning Department (DNP), or his or her delegate.

The Director of Profamilia, or his or her delegate.

The head of the Technical Investigation Corps (CTI) of the Attorney General's Office, or his delegate.

Paragraph.-The intersectoral commission for the management of vital statistics shall have decision-making power and may invite public officials, private individuals, international organizations, and representatives of other institutions involved in the civil registry and vital statistics system to its deliberations, as it deems necessary, in accordance with the specific topics to be discussed.

ARTICLE 3.-Functions. The intersectoral commission for the management of vital statistics shall have the following functions:

1. Establish procedures to ensure the functioning of the civil registration and vital statistics system throughout the country.
2. Guide the administration and operation of processes specific to the civil registry and vital statistics system.
3. Coordinate inter-institutional development among entities involved in the civil registry and vital statistics system.
4. Define inter-institutional responsibilities and commitments.
5. Establish the parameters for protecting, promoting, and regulating the development of the civil registration and vital statistics system. Establish guidelines for evaluating and monitoring the system throughout the country.
6. Discuss and approve the activities and projects presented by the inter-institutional working groups, with the aim of achieving the comprehensive development of the system with the cooperation of the institutions involved in the civil registry and vital statistics system.
7. Promote and implement the necessary changes to the system in order to have an updated, universal, efficient, and timely mechanism that meets the country's needs in the field of statistical information.
8. Strive to improve the quality, coverage, and timeliness of civil registration and vital statistics.
9. Ensure the coverage, quality, and timeliness of medical certification with regard to births and deaths.
10. Recommend the formation and operation of vital statistics committees at the territorial level.
11. Perform any other functions deemed relevant to the development and operation of the civil registration and vital statistics system.

ARTICLE 4—Meetings and quorum. The intersectoral commission for the management of vital statistics shall meet in the city of Bogotá at least twice a year, upon convocation by the Director of the National Administrative Department of Statistics or his delegate.

The commission shall meet validly when at least six of its members are present. Decisions and recommendations shall be adopted by a simple majority of those present.

ARTICLE 5-Technical committees. By means of resolutions of the National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE), technical discussion committees may be established with the invitation of other public bodies and individuals for the assessment, discussion, proposal, monitoring, evaluation, and active participation of the sectors involved in the civil registry and vital statistics system in specific matters related to the subject matter of this decree.

ARTICLE 6-Technical Secretariat. The technical secretariat of the intersectoral commission for the management of vital statistics shall be the responsibility of the National Administrative Department of Statistics, through the official appointed by the head of that office, and shall perform the following functions, without prejudice to any others that may be assigned to it in accordance with its nature:

1. Convene meetings of the intersectoral commission for the management of vital statistics, as instructed by the director of DANE.
2. Prepare and sign the minutes of the meetings held by the intersectoral commission for the management of vital statistics and maintain its archives.
3. Monitor the implementation of the recommendations and suggestions of the intersectoral commission for the management of vital statistics.
4. Carry out the inter-institutional coordination required for the purposes of monitoring and implementing the recommendations of the intersectoral commission for the management of vital statistics.
5. Act as technical secretary for the technical discussion committees that are established, jointly and on a rotating basis with the representative of the

institution previously selected for each meeting.

6. Any other duties corresponding to the nature of this type of technical secretariat.

ARTICLE 7-Nature of guests. International organizations and individuals attending at the invitation of the intersectoral commission for vital statistics management, or the technical discussion committees established in accordance with this decree, do so in a spirit of civic engagement and active citizen participation. Their participation does not generate any kind of institutional affiliation, nor does it give rise to any remuneration or financial recognition.

The legal representative of the Pan American Health Organization PAHO/WHO or his or her delegate shall be a permanent honorary guest at the meetings of the intersectoral commission for the management of vital statistics.

Their activities shall be carried out in accordance with the principles of participation and support. They shall publicly commit to maintaining appropriate management of the information to which they have access by virtue of their participation in the meetings of the intersectoral commission for the management of vital statistics or the technical discussion committees that may be established.

ARTICLE 8-Administrative powers. Without prejudice to the provisions of this decree, the entities that are part of the intersectoral commission for the management of vital statistics shall exercise their powers without being subject to prior approval or authorization by the commission.

ARTICLE 9 - Validity. This decree shall take effect on the date of its publication and repeals any provisions that contradict it.

Publish and comply.

Given in Bogotá, D.C., on May 10, 2002.

ANDRES PASTRANA ARANGO

The Director of DANE,

María Eulalia Arteta Manrique.

NOTE: This Decree was published in Official Gazette 44802 on May 16, 2002.

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