**Proclamation No. 760/2012**

**A PROCLAMATION ON THE REGISTRATION OF VITAL EVENTS AND NATIONAL IDENTITY CARD**

**WHEREAS,** establishing a system of registration of vital events plays a key role in planning political, social and economic developments, in providing different social and economic services to citizens and in making the justice administration expedient and effective;

**WHEREAS,** it has become necessary to create accessible, comprehensive and compulsory registration system on the basis of which citizens can effect proper and timely registration of vital events;

**WHEREAS,** the issuance of national identity cards to citizens has become important for the protection of national security, and for providing efficient services to citizens by the public and private sectors;

**NOW, THEREFORE,** in accordance with Article 55 sub-article (1) and (6) of the Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, it is hereby proclaimed as follows:

**CHAPTER ONE**

**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

1. **Short Title**

This Proclamation may be cited as the “Registration of Vital Events and National Identity Card Proclamation No. 760/2012”.

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2. Definitions

In this Proclamation unless the context otherwise requires:

1/ “vital event” means birth, marriage, divorce or death, and includes adoption, and acknowledgement and judicial declaration of paternity;

2/ “register of civil status” means a register wherein particulars of vital events are recorded in accordance with this Proclamation;

3/ “officer of civil status” means an officer assigned to register vital events in accordance with this Proclamation;

4/ “declarant” means a person who has the responsibility to declare a vital event for registration in accordance with this Proclamation;

5/ “principal residence” means the place where an individual resides that satisfies the provisions of Article 183 to Article 191 of the Civil Code;

6/ “appropriate federal organ” means an organ established by the Council of Ministers regulation with respect to the registration of vital events or the issuance of national identity card;

7/ “appropriate regional organ” means a regional organ established or designated pursuant to Article 5 of this Proclamation;

8/ “administrative office” means an office of a region’s lowest level of administrative hierarchy where the registration of vital events carried out;

9/ “national identification number” means a number used to identify an Ethiopian from other individuals;

10/ “attainment of majority” means attainment of the age of eighteen years, and includes emancipation;

11/ “region” means any state referred to in Article 47(1) of the Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and includes the Addis Ababa and Dire Dawa city administrations;

12/ “person” means any natural or juridical person;

13/ any expression in the masculine gender includes the feminine.
3. **Scope of Application**

This Proclamation shall apply:

1/ to any Ethiopian with respect to the registration of vital events; and
2/ to any Ethiopian who has attained majority with respect to the issuance of national identity card.

**CHAPTER TWO**

REGISTRATION OF VITAL EVENTS

**SECTION ONE**

ORGANS FOR REGISTRATION OF VITAL EVENTS

4. **Federal Organ**

An appropriate federal organ shall be established by regulation of the Council of Ministers to direct, coordinate and support the registration of vital events at national level and to centrally organize and keep records of vital events.

5. **Regional Organ**

An appropriate regional organ shall be established or designated by each region to direct, coordinate and support the registration of vital events at regional level and to transfer records of vital events to the appropriate federal organ.

6. **Officers of Civil Status**

1/ Regions shall cause the assignment of an officer of civil status for each administrative office.
2/ An officer of civil status assigned pursuant to sub-article (1) of this Article shall, in accordance with the provisions of this Proclamation and regulations and directives issued hereunder:

   a) register vital events;
   b) send copies of records of vital events to the relevant organs;
   c) issue a certificate of registration of vital event to the concerned person;
   d) properly preserve records of vital events and secure their confidentiality;
   e) create awareness among the community on the registration of vital events;
   f) carry out other functions assigned to him by the appropriate regional organ.
7. **Ethiopian Embassies and Consulates**

1/ The Ethiopian embassies and consulates shall serve as administrative office for Ethiopians residing in foreign countries; and the head of the consulate or an embassy staff assigned by the ambassador shall act as an officer of civil status.

2/ Registration of vital events with respect to Ethiopians residing in a country where there is no Ethiopian embassy or consulate shall be carried out in accordance with directive to be issued by the appropriate federal organ in consultation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

8. **Vital Events on Board Ethiopian Ships**

1/ An Ethiopian ship shall serve as administrative office for the registration of birth or death that occurs on board; and the captain of the ship shall act as an officer of civil status.

2/ The captain of an Ethiopian ship may assign an assistant officer of civil status for each voyage from among the crew of the ship.

9. **Members of Defense Forces on Active Duty**

1/ The Ministry of National Defense shall serve as administrative office for registration of death of members of the defense forces on active duty.

2/ The Ministry of National Defense shall assign an officer that shall act as officer of civil status.

**SECTION TWO**

**REGISTER OF CIVIL STATUS**

10. **Types of Register of Civil Status**

Each type of vital event shall have a separate register of civil status.

11. **Preparation of Register of Civil Status**

1/ Any register of civil status shall be prepared in the form of a bound book.

2/ A register of civil status shall be prepared in a manner that ensures its durability and its convenience for handling.

3/ The cover page of a register of civil status shall contain a label indicating the particular type of vital event and the place of registration.
4/ The information in a register of civil status shall be recorded in the official language of the concerned region and in Amharic.

12. Forms and Copies of Register of Civil Status

1/ Each registration form shall be accompanied by three detachable copies bearing identical particulars attached to a counterfoil.

2/ Copies of the record shall be detached from the main form and sent to the concerned organs.

3/ Each form, together with the copies, shall serve only for the registration of one vital event.

4/ The last page of a register of civil status shall contain an index showing the events registered according to their sequence.

5/ Each register of civil status shall be given an exclusive code during publication.

13. Preparation and Distribution of Registers of Civil Status

1/ Registers of civil status to be used by a region shall be prepared by the appropriate regional organ in collaboration with the appropriate federal organ and be dispatched to all administrative offices.

2/ Registers of civil status to be used by the Ethiopian embassies and consulates, Ethiopian ships and the Ministry of National Defense shall be prepared and distributed by the appropriate federal organ.

14. Restriction to Remove Register of Civil Status

A register of civil status may not be removed from the administrative office where it is kept unless authorized by the concerned official.

15. Safeguarding Registers of Civil Status

The organ entrusted to keep registers of civil status shall be responsible for their safeguarding.
16. Loss, Destruction and Damage of Register of Civil Status

1/ Where a register of civil status is lost, destroyed or damaged, the officer of civil status shall recompile the register by using copies of the registration forms transferred to the relevant organ in accordance with Article 45 of this Proclamation.

2/ Where a copy of registration form deposited with the relevant organ is lost, destroyed or damaged, it shall be replaced by another copy taken from the register of civil status.

SECTION THREE

PROCEDURES OF REGISTRATION OF VITAL EVENTS

SUB-SECTION ONE

COMMON PROVISIONS

17. Principle

1/ Any vital event shall be registered with necessary detail information that can be used for legal, administrative and statistical purposes.

2/ No vital event may be registered more than once.

3/ A declarant shall appear in person before an officer of civil status to have a vital event registered.

4/ The officer of civil status, after entering the vital event and related information in the register of civil status, shall cause the declarant to confirm the information as it appears in the register.

18. Period of Registration

1/ Any vital event, other than birth, shall be registered within 30 days following the date of its occurrence unless there is sufficient cause for delay.

2/ Any birth shall be registered within 90 days following the date of its occurrence unless there is sufficient cause for delay.

3/ Where the registration of a vital event is not effected within the period specified under sub-article (1) or (2) of this Article the declarant shall produce evidence to justify the delay.
19. **Entering of Particulars**

1/ Any vital event shall be registered in the register of civil status prepared and distributed in accordance with Article 13 of this Proclamation.

2/ Particulars of a vital event shall be entered in the blank spaces provided in a registration form of the register of civil status.

3/ The words used to enter particulars of vital events shall be written clearly and without abbreviation, erasure, words written over others or any other additional word.

20. **Prohibition**

No words other than the particulars specifically provided for in this Proclamation or directive issued hereunder may be entered on the forms of a register of civil status.

21. **Voiding Forms**

If, as a result of a mistake, a form has been left unutilized or if, on account of erasure or for any other cause, a recording has to be redone, the form shall be cancelled by drawing two diagonal lines forming a cross; and the phrase "Form not Utilized" shall be written on its backside.

22. **Confirmation and Approval of Records**

1/ A declarant of birth, marriage, divorce or death shall confirm, by signing, the validity of particulars entered in the register of civil status.

2/ Any person who has acknowledged his paternity shall confirm, by signing, the validity of particulars entered in a register of civil status.

3/ Any person who adopted a child shall confirm, by signing, the validity of particulars entered in the register of civil status.

4/ The officer of civil status shall finally approve, by signing, the registration of a vital event upon ascertaining the completeness of the records.

23. **Signature**

If a person required to confirm the particulars entered in a register of civil status in accordance with Article 22 of this Proclamation cannot sign, he shall affix on the registration form his finger print instead of signature.
24. Particulars of Records of Birth

The records of birth shall contain the following particulars:

1/ the child’s full name, sex, date of birth, place of birth, type of birth (whether single or more) and aid rendered during birth;

2/ the child’s parents full name, date and place of birth, principal residence, marital status, citizenship, religion, ethnic origin and, if they are alive, their signatures;

3/ where the declarant is other than the parent of the child the declarant’s full name, relation with the child, sex, date and place of birth, principal residence and signature;

4/ name and signature of the officer of civil status, seal of the administrative office and date of registration; and

5/ other necessary information as may be determined by the appropriate federal organ.

25. Particulars of Records of Birth of Abandoned Child

The records of birth of an abandoned child shall contain:

1/ the name given to the child, sex and estimated age of the child and the date and place where the child was found; and

2/ a phrase “abandoned child” on the backside of the registration form.

26. Obligation to Declare Birth

1/ The birth of a child shall be declared by the father or mother of the child, in their default, by the guardian of the child or, in default of guardian, by the person who has taken care of the child.

2/ Where the child is abandoned or his parents are unknown, any person who knows such condition shall have the duty to report same to the nearest police or other relevant government organ.
1/ A police officer or any other government organ which has received a report in accordance with sub-article (2) of this Article shall have the duty to declare the birth to the officer of civil status of the nearest administrative office within three days from the date of receipt of the report.

27. Name of a Child

1/ The officer of civil status, prior to the registration of birth, shall enquire the name given or intended to be given to the child from the declarant.

2/ Where the name of the child is not disclosed or the name given is contrary to the law or custom, the officer of civil status shall himself choose a name for the child.

28. Place of Registration of Birth

1/ The place of registration of birth of a child shall be the nearest administrative office to the principal residence of the parents.

2/ The place of registration of birth of an abandoned child or child whose parents are unknown shall be the nearest administrative office to the place where the child was found.

29. Birth in a Health Institution

Where birth takes place in a health institution, the head of the institution shall forthwith prepare a certificate containing the relevant particulars specified under sub-article (1) and (2) of Article 24 of this Proclamation and give such certificate to the person having the duty to declare the birth in accordance with Article 26 of this Proclamation.

SUB-SECTION THREE
REGISTRATION OF MARRIAGE

30. Particulars of Records of Marriage

The records of marriage shall contain the following particulars:

1/ the couples’ full name, date and place of birth, principal residence, citizenship, ethnic origin and religion;

2/ the date, place and form of the marriage;

3/ the couples’ signature;
31. Obligation to Declare Marriage

1/ Where marriage is celebrated before an officer of civil status, the officer of civil status who observed the marriage ceremony shall immediately register the marriage.

2/ Where marriage is celebrated by religious or customary ceremony, the couples shall present to an officer of civil status, for registration, the evidence of the marriage referred to in Article 33 of this Proclamation.

32. Place of Registration of Marriage

The place of registration of marriage shall be the place where the couples have jointly decided, the place where either of the couples had used to reside or the principal residence of the parents or close relative of either of the couples.

33. Evidence of Religious or Customary Marriage

Where the marriage is celebrated by a religious ceremony or customary practice, the religious institution or the elders who have observed the marriage shall immediately provide the couples with evidence of the marriage containing the following:

1/ the names, ages and principal residences of the couples;

2/ the date and place of the marriage; and

3/ the names and principal residences of the witnesses.

4/ the evidence or the names and principal residences of witnesses of the marriage, as the case may be;

5/ name and signature of the officer of civil status, seal of the administrative office and date of registration; and

6/ other necessary information as may be determined by the appropriate federal organ.
SUB-SECTION FOUR
REGISTRATION OF DIVORCE

34. Particulars of Records of Divorce

The records of divorce shall contain the following particulars:

1/ the full name, date and place of birth, principal residence, citizenship, ethnic origin and religion of each divorcing partner;

2/ the date and place of conclusion of the marriage and the date of divorce;

3/ a reference to the decision of the competent court on the divorce;

4/ the name and signature of the officer of civil status, the seal of the administrative office and date of registration; and

5/ other necessary information as may be determined by the appropriate federal organ.

35. Obligation to Declare Divorce

The divorcing partners or one of them shall present the decision of the competent court on the divorce to an officer of civil status for registration of the divorce within the period specified under sub-article (1) of Article 18 of this Proclamation.

36. Place of Registration of Divorce

The place of registration of divorce shall be the nearest administrative office to the place where the divorce took place.

37. Evidence of Divorce

Any court which has rendered decision on divorce shall forthwith provide copies of the decision to the divorcing partners.

SUB-SECTION FIVE
REGISTRATION OF DEATH

38. Particulars of Records of Death

The records of death shall contain the following particulars:

1/ the full name, title, sex, age, occupation, principal residence, citizenship, ethnic origin and religion of the deceased;
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<td>Obligation to Declare Death</td>
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<td>1/ Any person who used to live with the deceased shall declare the death for registration.</td>
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<td>2/ In the absence of persons used to live with the deceased, his relatives by consanguinity or affinity, close neighbors or any person who knows his death shall declare the death for registration.</td>
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<td>3/ Any police which has received a report on the death of a person by accidental or unknown cause and whose identity is not known shall declare the death for registration within three days following the date of receipt of the report.</td>
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<td>Death of Member of Defense Force on Active Duty</td>
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<td>The death of a member of defense force on active duty shall be declared, for registration, by the commanding officer of his unit to the officer assigned by the Ministry of National Defense to act as an officer of civil status.</td>
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<td>41.</td>
<td>Death Occurring in Common Dwelling Place, Prison or Health Institution</td>
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<td>1/ If a person dies in a boarding school or in any other common dwelling place, the person who is in charge of such institution shall declare the death for registration within five days.</td>
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<td>2/ If a person dies in prison or if a death sentence is executed, the head of the prison shall declare the death for registration within five days.</td>
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<td>3/ Where a death occurs in a health institution or a corpse is brought to it for examination, the head of the institution shall forthwith prepare a certificate of death containing the name, sex and date of birth of the deceased, the date, place and cause of death and other related information and give the certificate to the person having the responsibility of declaring the death for registration pursuant to Article 39 of this Proclamation.</td>
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42. Death of Several Persons by Calamity

Where several persons die simultaneously due to a calamity, the death of a person who disappeared thereafter shall be registered upon presentation of evidence issued by the organ that have investigated the occurrence of the calamity and the presence of that person among the victims during the calamity.

43. Place of Registration of Death

1/ The place of registration of death shall be the nearest administrative office to the principal residence of the deceased.

2/ Where the identity or principal residence of the deceased is unknown, the place of registration of death shall be the nearest administrative office to the place where his corpse was found.

3/ The place of registration of death referred to in Article 41(1) of this Proclamation shall be the nearest administrative office to the institution declaring the death.

44. Absence

1/ Any person who has, upon lodging an application to the competent court in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Civil Code, obtained a judicial declaration on the absence or death of a person shall present the copy of the judgment, for registration of death, to the officer of civil status of the nearest administrative office to the last principal residence of the person whose absence or death has been declared.

2/ The records of death entered in accordance with sub-article (1) of this Article shall be cancelled where the officer of civil status receives another judgment rendered by a competent court revoking the previous judgment declaring absence.

SECTION FOUR
COPIES AND CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION OF VITAL EVENT

45. Transfer of Copies of Records

1/ Where the registration of a vital event is completed, the officer of civil status shall send three copies of the registration form to the appropriate regional organ within 30 days following the date of registration.
2/ The appropriate regional organ shall send two of the copies of the registration form it has received in accordance with sub-article (1) of this Article to the appropriate federal organ within 30 days following the date of receipt.

3/ An Ethiopian embassy or consulate shall send three copies of the registration form to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs within 30 days following the date of completion of the registration of a vital event.

4/ The Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall send two of the copies it has received in accordance with sub-article (3) of this Article to the appropriate federal organ within 10 days following the date of receipt.

5/ The Ministry of National Defense shall send two copies of the registration form of the death of a member of defense force on active duty to the appropriate federal organ.

6/ The captain of an Ethiopian ship shall send two copies of the registration form to the appropriate federal organ within 30 days following the date of completion of the registration of a vital event.

7/ The appropriate federal organ shall send one of the copies of a registration form it has received in accordance with this Article to the Central Statistics Agency within 30 days following the date of receipt.

46. Preparation of Certificate of Registration of Vital Events

1/ A certificate of registration of vital events shall contain the particulars entered in the register of civil status pursuant to the relevant provisions of this Proclamation.

2/ Certificate of registration of vital events shall be prepared in the official language of the concerned region and in Amharic.

47. Issuing Certificate of Registration of Vital Events

1/ A certificate of registration of birth shall be given to the person who has declared the birth in accordance with this Proclamation.

2/ A certificate of registration of marriage shall be prepared in two copies and be given to each spouse.

3/ A certificate of registration of divorce shall be prepared in two copies and be given to each divorcing partner.
4. A certificate of registration of death shall be given to the person who has declared the death in accordance with this Proclamation.

5. A certificate of registration of vital event shall be issued upon payment of service fee prescribed by regulation issued hereunder.

6. Any person whose certificate of registration of vital event is lost or damaged shall have the right to get a replacement certificate upon payment of the prescribed service fee.

48. Probative Value

The certificate of registration issued in accordance with Article 47 of this Proclamation shall have equal probative value as the records of the register of civil status.

SECTION FIVE

CORRECTION OF RECORDS OF REGISTER OF CIVIL STATUS

49. Clerical Mistakes

1. The officer of civil status shall, at the request of an interested party, make corrections involving clerical mistakes in the particulars of a register of civil status.

2. Where the correction involves cancellation of word or number, the cancellation shall be carried out in a manner that the word or number remain legible.

3. Where the correction affects all copies of the registration form, the officer of civil status shall give notice of same to all bodies which have already received such copies.

50. Other Corrections

Corrections in particulars entered in a register of civil status, other than those involving clerical mistakes, may not be corrected except by virtue of a judgment given by a court.

51. Application for Correction

An application for the correction of particulars entered in a register of civil status may be made to a court by the public prosecutor, officer of civil status or any interested person.
52. Judgment of Court

1/ The court may, upon examining the application submitted to it in accordance with Article 51 of this Proclamation, decide on the correction of the previous record or the drawing up of a new record.

2/ A judgment rendered pursuant to sub-article (1) of this Article shall have equal probative value as the register of civil status until the record is corrected or a new record is drawn up in accordance with Article 53 or Article 54 of this Proclamation.

53. Manner of Entering Corrections

1/ The particulars the correction of which is decided by the court shall be cancelled in the register of civil status, provided that they shall remain legible.

2/ The particulars which replace them or which are added in the register shall be entered on the back of the registration form, with a reference to the judgment of the court.

3/ The officer of civil status shall, with reference to the judgment of the court, give notice of the corrections to all organs which have already received copies of the registration form.

54. Drawing up a New Record

1/ Where the correction of a record entails substantial changes, the court may order the annulment of the record and the drawing up of a new record in its place.

2/ Where a correction is made pursuant to sub-article (1) of this Article:

   a) the previous registration form shall be cancelled and a reference to the judgment of the court and the new record shall be made on its back side;

   b) a reference to the judgment of the court and the previous record shall be made on the back side of the new registration form.

3/ Where a new record is drawn up pursuant to this Article:

   a) copies of the registration form shall be sent to the relevant organs in accordance with Article 45 of this Proclamation;

   b) a replacement certificate of registration shall be issued to the interested person in accordance with Article 47 of this Proclamation.
CHAPTER THREE

NATIONAL IDENTITY CARD

55. National Identity Card Issuing Organ

An appropriate federal organ having the powers and duties to issue national identity card shall be established by regulation of the Council of Ministers.

56. Obligations to Obtain National Identity Card

1/ Any Ethiopian who has attained majority shall have the obligation to obtain national identity card.

2/ Any parent or guardian of an Ethiopian minor shall cause the registration of such child on his family register.

57. Registration for National Identity Card

1/ Any Ethiopian who has the obligation to obtain national identity card in accordance with Article 56(1) of this Proclamation shall get registered at the place and within the period notified by the appropriate federal organ.

2/ The registration made in accordance with sub-article (1) of this Article shall contain the following information of the person registered:
   a) full name including grandfather;
   b) special identification, if any;
   c) parents’ full name and citizenship;
   d) date and place of birth;
   e) sex and marital status;
   f) principal residence and occupation;
   g) ethnic origin and religion;
   h) photograph and finger print; and
   i) other necessary information as may be determined by the appropriate federal organ.

3/ Notwithstanding sub-article (2)(h) of this Article, a disabled person who cannot give his finger print shall be registered in the presence of the appropriate officer by other means of verification.

4/ The appropriate federal organ shall carefully ensure the identity of a person registering for national identity card.
5/ The appropriate federal organ shall have the power to make inquiries and to demand the production of relevant evidences to verify the identity of the person to be registered.

6/ The registered person shall confirm the veracity of the information provided in accordance with sub-article (2) of this Article.

58. Issuance of National Identity Card

1/ The appropriate federal organ shall issue a national identity card to an Ethiopian citizen who has furnished the full information specified under Article 57(2) of this Proclamation and effected payment of the service fee prescribed by regulation issued hereunder.

2/ A national identity card to be issued in accordance with this Article shall have the quality of lasting for the period of its validity referred to in Article 59 of this Proclamation, have security features and contain the following particulars:
   a) the full name including grandfather, sex, date and place of birth, principal residence, photograph, fingerprint and signature of the holder;
   b) national identification number and identity card number; and
   c) issuance and expiry date.

3/ The appropriate federal organ, before issuing national identity card, shall ensure that the registered individual has not already received a national identity card.

4/ The appropriate federal organ, before assigning a national identification number, shall ensure that the number is not already assigned to another citizen.

5/ An Ethiopian who has not obtained a national identity card by getting registered within the period notified by the appropriate federal organ shall, unless he proves the existence of force majeure, be required to make payment of additional service fee prescribed by regulation issued hereunder, for issuance of the identity card upon late registration.

59. Validity Period and Renewal of National Identity Card

1/ A national identity card shall be valid for ten years from the date of its issuance.

2/ A national identity card shall be renewed upon the expiry of its validity period.
60. Obligations of the Holder of National Identity Card

1/ The holder of a national identity card shall:
   a) keep the identity card with care and always carry it with him;
   b) show the identity card when requested by the concerned body;
   c) inform the appropriate federal organ within 15 days of any change in the particulars of the identity card;
   d) present the identity card to the appropriate federal organ for renewal upon the expiry of its validity period.

2/ Any Ethiopian who has changed his nationality shall forthwith return his national identity card to the appropriate federal organ.

3/ The person whose national identity card is cancelled in accordance with Article 61 of this Proclamation shall return the identity card to the appropriate federal organ.

61. Cancellation of National Identity Card

1/ Where it is proved that a national identity card is issued on the basis of fraudulent or false information provided during registration, the identity card shall be cancelled without prejudice to criminal liability of the holder.

2/ Any Ethiopian whose identity card is cancelled pursuant to sub-article (1) of this Article shall obtain a national identity card upon getting registered anew.

62. Loss or Damage of National Identity Card

1/ Any person whose national identity card is lost or damaged shall apply to the appropriate federal organ for issuance of a replacement upon attaching with his application:
   a) in case of loss, an evidence of a report made to the police; or
   b) in case of damage, the damaged identity card.
Chapter Four
Accessibility of Information

63. Exchange of Information

1/ Information collected in relation to registration of vital events and national identity card shall properly be stored in a central data base kept by the appropriate federal organ so that the information collected for one purpose may also be used for the other.

2/ The appropriate federal organs established in accordance with Article 4 and Article 55 of this Proclamation shall exchange information kept in accordance with sub-article (1) of this Article.

64. Conditions of Disclosure of Information to Other Organs

1/ Information collected in relation to registration of vital events or national identity card may be disclosed to other organs for the following purposes:

a) for national intelligence and security services;

b) for crime prevention and investigation;

c) for tax collection;

d) for administrative and social services;

e) for implementation of risk management systems of financial institutions; and

f) for other purposes authorized by law.

2/ The organ which has obtained information pursuant to sub-article (1) of this Article may not disclose the information to other organs or use it for other purposes.
CHAPTER FIVE
MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

65. Handling and Safeguarding of Information

1/ Information collected in relation to registration of vital events or national identity card shall be kept properly to make them easily accessible for use.

2/ The information shall be protected from electronically designed attacks, theft or from other similar criminal abuses.

3/ Documents containing the information shall be protected against insects, fire, moisture and other causes of damage.

4/ The documents shall be kept in a place where there is sufficient air and light to protect written data from the risk of fading and other types of damages.

66. Penalty

1/ Whosoever:

a) fails to declare vital events or to obtain national identity card in accordance with the provisions of this Proclamation or fails to observe any other requirement provided for in relation to the registration of vital events or national identity card shall be guilty of an offence and be punishable with simple imprisonment not exceeding six months or with a fine from Birr five hundred to Birr five thousand;
A) falsifies or conceals a fact in declaring a vital event or registering for a national identity card in accordance with this Proclamation shall be guilty of an offence and be punishable with simple imprisonment from one to five years;

b) makes use of forged or falsified certificate of registration of vital event or national identity card shall be guilty of an offence and be punishable with rigorous imprisonment from five to ten years;

c) forges or falsifies a certificate of registration of vital event or a national identity card shall be guilty of an offence and be punishable with rigorous imprisonment from seven to fifteen years; provided, however, that the rigorous imprisonment may extend up to twenty five years where the offence is committed by a civil servant or an official entrusted with the power to issue certificate of registration or national identity card;

d) falsifies data collected in relation to registration of vital events or national identity card by altering, modifying or deleting its content or by any other means shall be guilty of an offence and be punishable with rigorous imprisonment from ten to twenty five years;

e) damages, destroys, suppresses or unlawfully accesses the data collected in relation to registration of vital events or national identity card shall be guilty of an offence and be punishable with rigorous imprisonment from ten to twenty five years.

f) Whosoever commits other offences in violation of the provisions of this Proclamation shall be punishable in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Criminal Code.

2/ Existing organs providing services relating to registration of vital events and issuance of residential identity cards shall continue functioning until the organs to be established for the implementation of this Proclamation becomes operational within a period not exceeding two years from the effective date of this Proclamation.

67. Transitory Provisions

1/ Existing organs providing services relating to registration of vital events and issuance of residential identity cards shall continue functioning until the organs to be established for the implementation of this Proclamation becomes operational within a period not exceeding two years from the effective date of this Proclamation.
2/ Vital events registered and certificates issued on the basis of the existing laws or customary practices shall remain valid.

3/ A residential identity card issued on the basis of the existing laws or customary practices, and the period of validity of which has not expired, shall remain valid until replaced by a national identity card.

4/ A vital event not registered on the basis of the existing laws or customary practices shall, upon application of the interested person accompanied by a supporting evidence, be registered in accordance with this Proclamation and a certificate of registration of vital event shall be issued to the applicant.

68. **Repealed Laws**

1/ The provisions of the 1960 Civil Code from Article 47 to Article 153 are hereby repealed.

2/ No law or customary practice shall, in so far as it is inconsistent with this Proclamation, be applicable with respect to matters provided for by this Proclamation.

69. **Power to Issue Regulation and Directive**

1/ The Council of Ministers may issue regulation necessary for the implementation of this Proclamation.

2/ The appropriate federal organ may issue directives necessary for the implementation of this Proclamation and regulation issued in accordance with sub-article (1) of this Article.

70. **Effective Date**

This Proclamation shall enter into force on the date of publication in the Federal Negarit Gazeta.

Done at Addis Ababa, this 22nd day of August, 2012.

GIRMA WOLDEGIORGIS

PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA