



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT FOR PROGRESS ORGANIZATION (CEPO)

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Press Release

CEPO URGES MINISTRY OF INTERIOR TO MAKE CIVIL REGISTRY DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE IN THE STATES.

The Community Empowerment for Progress Organization (CEPO) is calling upon the National Ministry of Interior to make civil registry documents available in all state departments for citizen easy access to the documents and other information related to the civil registry.

Many South Sudanese living in states has been facing difficulties in accessing information and other documents that are related to the civil registry in all institutions that are established by law. Citizen get it hard to access civil registry documents in the states institutions; it's not easy to access Birth certificates, National Identity cards, marriage and death certificates amongst other in the states departments.

The process of getting civil registry documents like National Identity card sometimes takes more than two months before you obtained your documents in Lakes State.

CEPO observe that only divorce certificates are being issued in the Courts while marriage and death certificates are currently not accessible in relevant institutions apart from marriage certificates issued by the Churches. In Lakes State, children born in the hospitals are still being given age assessment in the state Ministry of health rather than securing official birth certificate.

This inaccessibility of the documents and community ignorant has made some community members to go for age assessment certificate after incident of girl elopement or pregnancy in expanse of securing rights to fine perpetrator with five cows in the High Court and other customary courts in the State.

The article 6 (3) of Civil Registry Act 2018 said that the civil registry shall establish offices at national, state and County level with functions issuance of identification cards, confirmation of marriage and divorce certificates. We encourage South Sudanese Nationals to obtain birth certificates and identification cards of their children as soon as possible.

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