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# Civil Registration and Data Integrity

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## Country overview

Independence: 1990

Total Area: 824 292 square kilometer

Population Density: 2,5 person  
per square kilo meter

Regions: 14

Population Size: 2, 4 million  
(Census 2011)

Urban Population: 45, 7 %

Population growth: 2,4%

Income category: Upper middle income





## Mandate: Department of Civil Registration:



Registration of births and issuance of birth certificates



Registration of deaths and issuance of death certificates



Registration of marriages Authorization of Marriage Officers



ID cards Production



Registration of divorces (Ministry of Justice-High court)



## PRINCIPLES OF IDENTIFICATION

- ❖ **Inclusion**
  - ✓ Universal and accessibility
- ❖ **Design**
  - ✓ **Robust**, secure, responsive and sustainable
  - { **unique, secure and accurate identity**
  - { **trustworthy**
- ❖ **Governance**
  - ✓ Building trust by protecting privacy and user rights





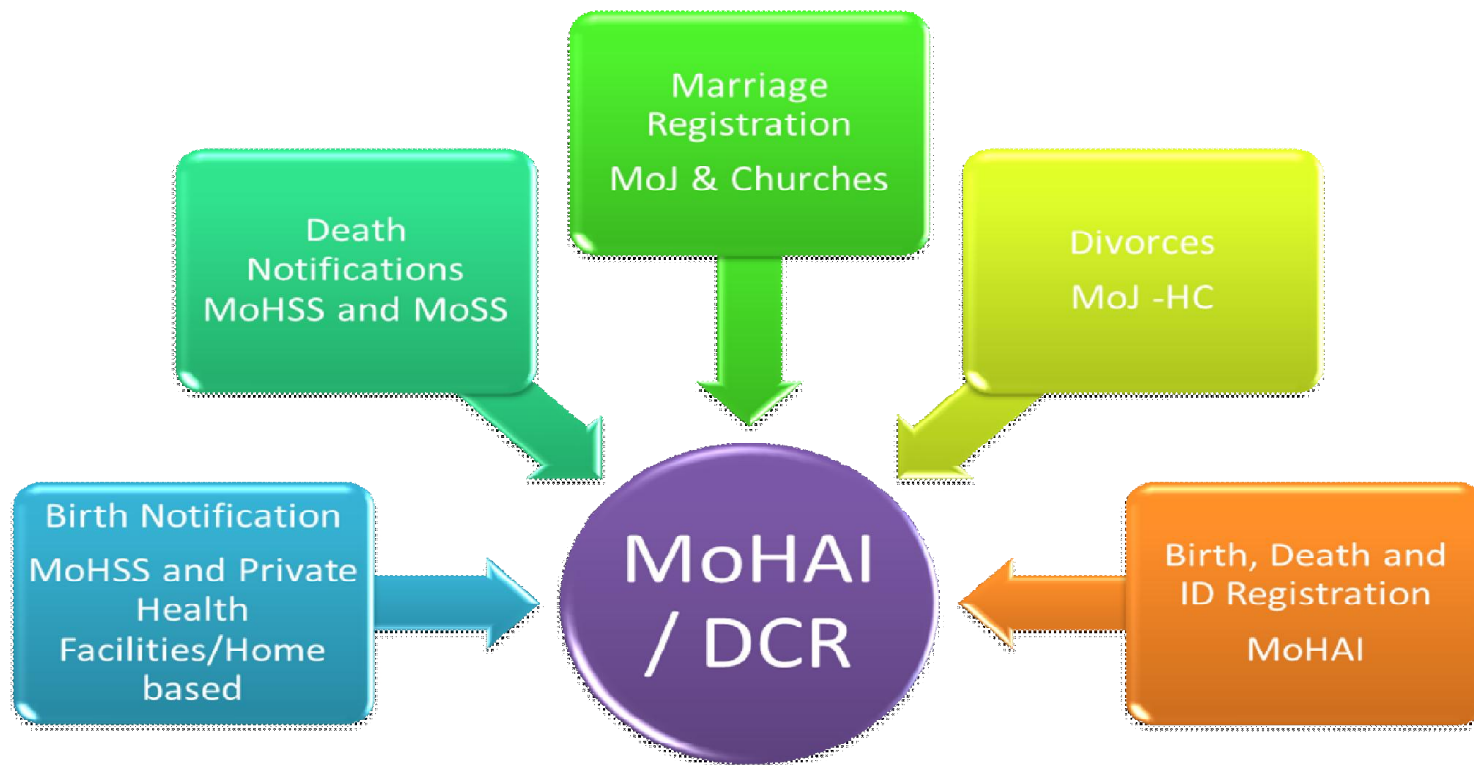
## RATIONALE OF PRESENTATION

- ❖ Namibia has faced major challenges of legacy records which had to be managed (within the framework of the law), without jeopardizing data integrity, in order to address some of the past injustices
- ✓ Consequence: the e-government policy cannot be rolled out if citizens have “multiple” or “duplicate” identities
- ✓ Share our experience and shed light on the complexity of dealing with legacy records in low resource CR settings, and
- ✓ Provide some examples of initiatives launched to ensure data quality and integrity



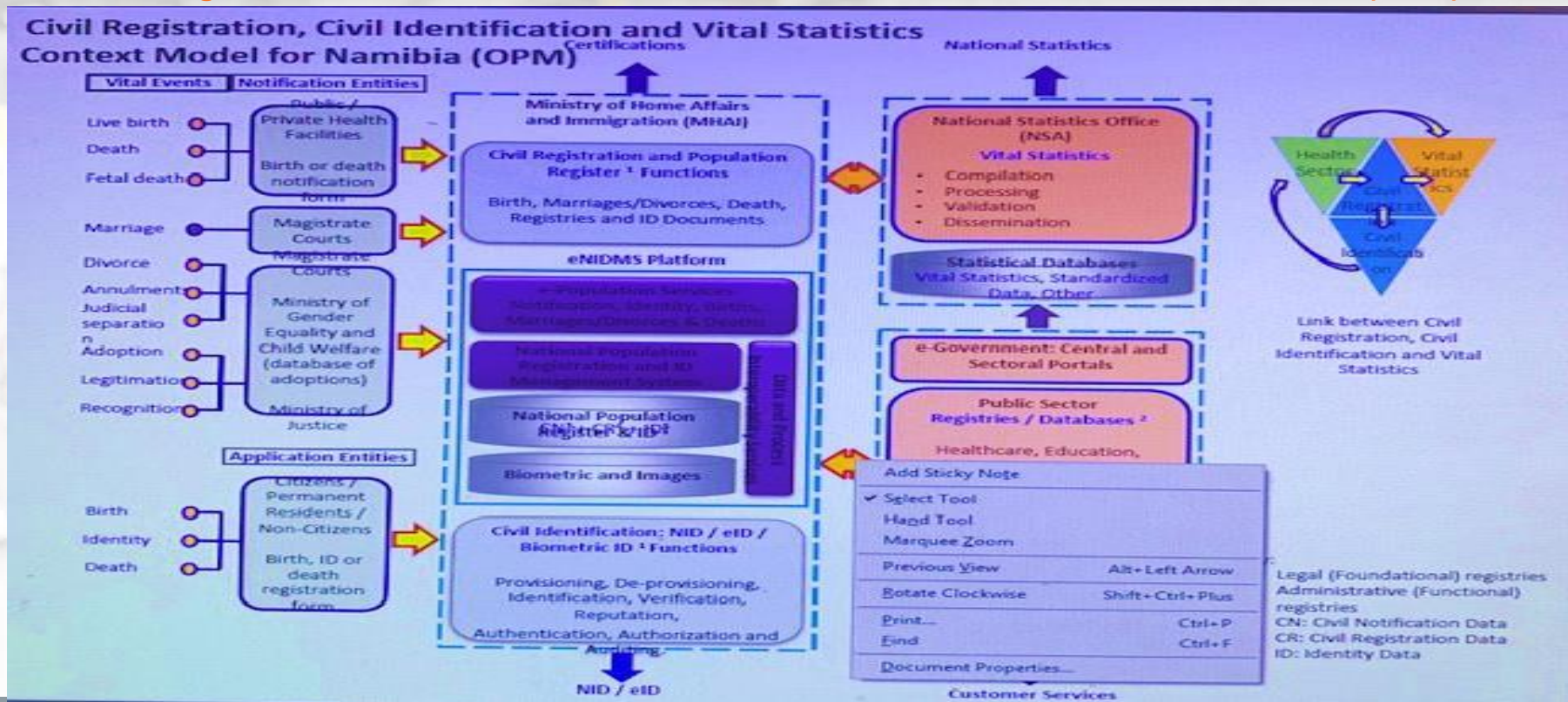


## INSTITUTIONAL ROLE PLAYERS IN CIVIL REGISTRATION AND CIVIL IDENTIFICATION





## Civil Registration, Civil Identification and Vital Statistics Context Model for Namibia (OPM)



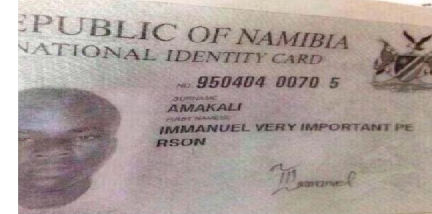
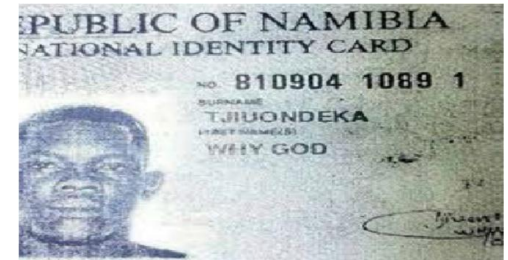


## CIVIL REGISTRATION PRIOR TO INDEPENDENCE

*Fragmented and non-inclusive civil registration laws prior to independence in 1990*

- ✓ resulted in majority of the population not being registered
- ✓ Scattered manual birth registers
- ✓ In 1978 a compulsory ID resident card were issued ( South West Africa ID card) ( in most case with no source documentation) ( Poor public perception as it was used for controlling purposes by Apartheid Government)

For Namibian who were residing in exile during struggle were issued with repatriation by UN upon return







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## CASE SCENARIOS

- ✓ Discrepancies between birth record and ID record –*which one is the correct reflection?*
- ✓ Multiple birth records with discrepancies –*which one is the correct one?*
- ✓ Incorrect of parents particulars –many persons have been registered with non –biological parents –*how to prove maternity and paternity after death?*
- ✓ Declared supposedly wrong date of birth at the time of birth registration, got records with different dates of birth (repatriation or baptism card), which presented by the correct record. –*what are the implications?*

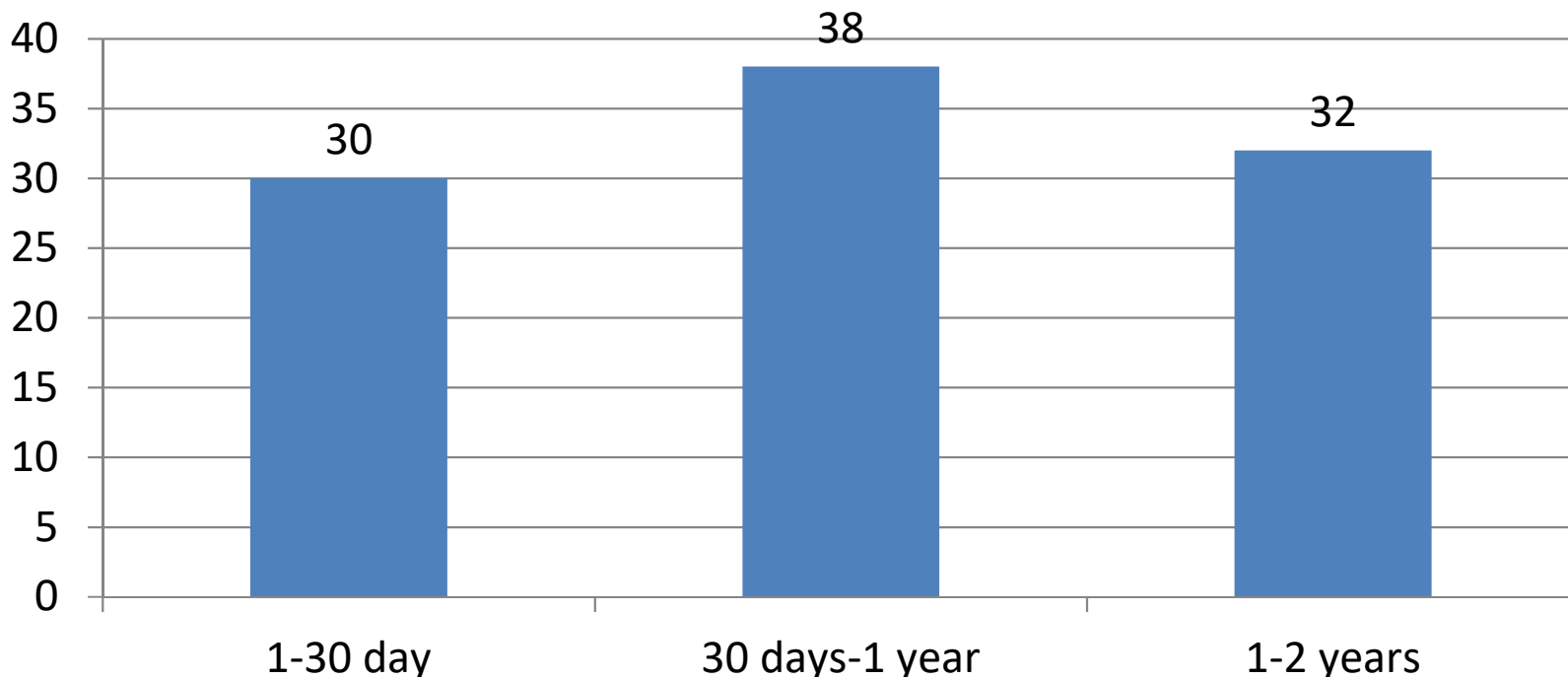


## CASE SCENARIO

- ✓ Two ID records created on the same birth record –*who is the rightful owner?*
- ✓ Dual ID records with same particulars or different particulars –*which ID was used where?*
- ✓ Declared death but still alive –*Action: proof who the right owner through fingerprint taking deceased*
- ✓ Married with incorrect property regime (*Different property regime depending where you married*)

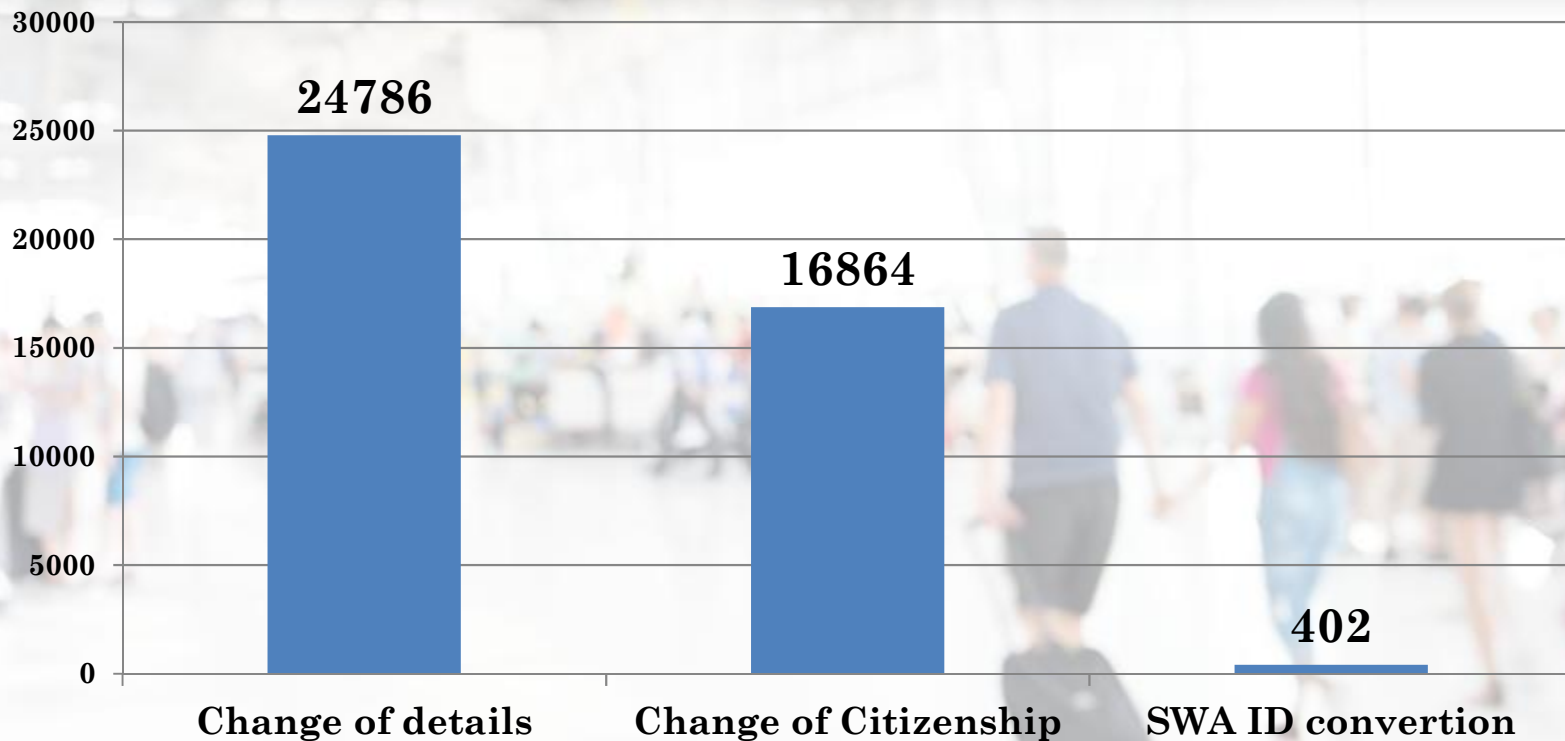


**% OF CHILDREN REGISTERED PER AGE GROUP (70 000 LIVE BIRTHS)**





## ID Statistics (2013-2017) (8, 5% of all IDs produced annually)







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## Costs associated with amending records

### ❖ Client:

- ✓ Change of surname: N\$ 1300 ( US\$ 94.00)
- ✓ Corrections on BC: N\$ 50 ( US\$ 3,5)
- ✓ Conformation letters: free of charge

### ❖ Government:

- ✓ Centralized Unit: 18 staff members recruited to process the amendment birth records according to the law and set guidelines.

(Annual salary costs: N\$ 3,000,000) ( US\$217,000.00)

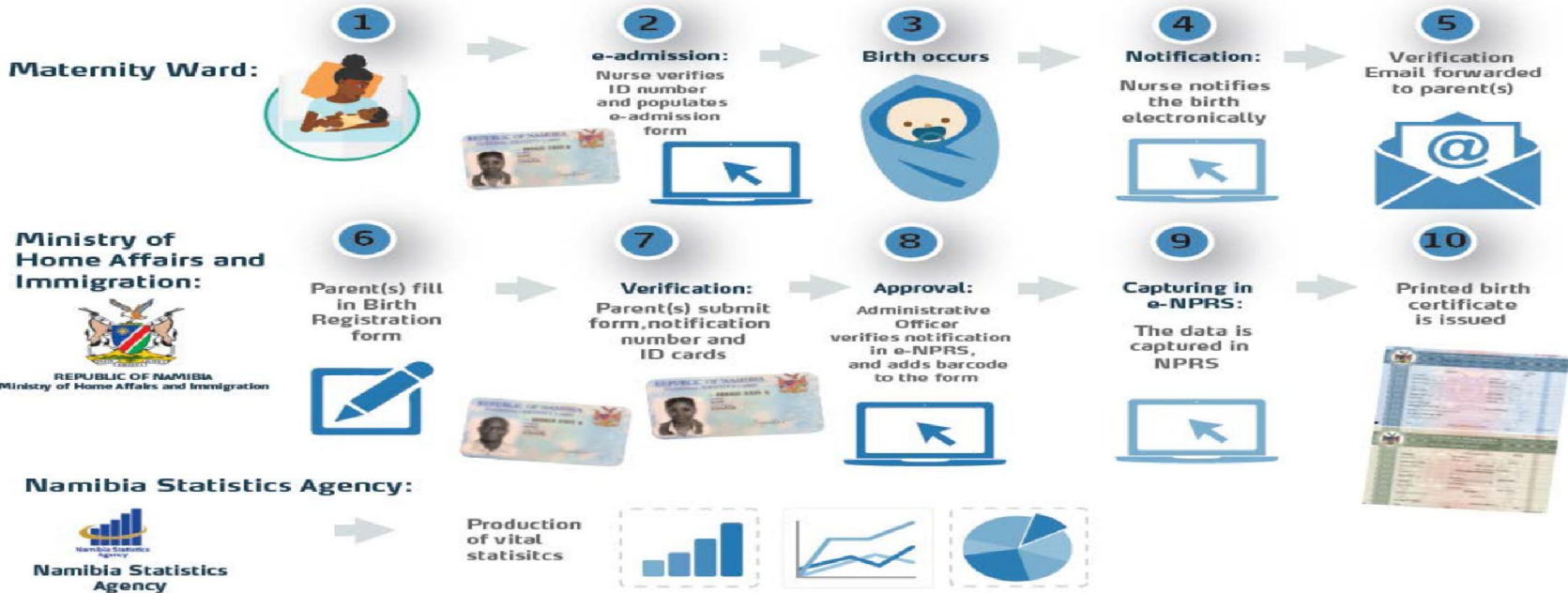
### ❖ Third parties:

Costs for authentication and verification



# Initiatives

## Process: Notification & Registration of Birth





## e death notification

Similar process with e birth notification – *role players*

- ✓ Role Players
- ✓ MoHSS
- ✓ MoSS (Police)



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## Outreach Registrations

A total of 41000 people were registered for the current financial year under mobile registrations

- ✓ Targeted Mobile Registrations (*vulnerable and previously disadvantaged*)
- ✓ School Mobile Registrations (*School learners, especilly, primary and junior Secondary Schools*)
- ✓ Joint Outreach Registrations (*MHAI, MGCW & MoHSS*)
- ✓ General Mobile Registrations (*far lying rural areas and hard to reach areas*).





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## Administrative and Legal Initiatives

- ✓ Guidelines and principles have been agreed upon and implemented.  
*Through consultations and assessment of cases, guidelines were set in order to ensure that all individual only have one legal identity (Age Committee).*
- ✓ Limitations on corrections/amendments, permission to re-construction of records, and corrections of property regime through court (*Law reform*)
- ✓ The Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA) support.  
*Through utilizing the records of e NPRS has pointed out entry errors in the system, and supported in setting up edit controls*



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# THE END

Thank you





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