

Session 4
4-8 April 2005

<i>Main theme: Emerging issues in revitalizing public administration</i>	
Subtopics	Major Recommendations/Conclusions
Revitalizing public administration	The Secretariat to the United Nations should deepen its analytical, advisory and technical cooperation capacities to ensure that viable options of public administration practices are identified and that the pre-conditions for their successful adaptation are clearly set out, in support of the Millennium Development Goals. The new challenge is one of finding how to work with acknowledged diverse models and traditions of organization and management of public affairs, and looking for successful policy options. This implies shared knowledge, public administration education and training, trans-border cooperation and support for international organizations.
Searching for a bottom-up approach and methodologies for developing foundations and principles of sound public administration	<p>Member States should opt for bottom-up approaches, which ensure that citizens themselves have the last word on the underlying principles, foundations, quality and effectiveness of their own public administration, and which lead to the due recognition of the diversity of national management systems.</p> <p>It is important to promote participation in public affairs and to find a sound method of assessing and alleviating the declining trust in government.</p> <p>The Secretariat should prepare a questionnaire to elicit views from the recipients of public services on what constitutes a well-performing, efficient and quality-oriented public administration. This questionnaire should be prepared with due attention to public service indicators that apply to achieving the MDGs.</p>
Promoting and rewarding innovation and excellence for revitalizing public administration and service delivery	<p>The United Nations Public Service Awards have been established to recognize and reward innovation, motivate an initiative-taking and selfless public service, and promote dissemination and replication of public administration knowledge and good practices.</p> <p>The Secretariat should improve the process of granting awards and the content of the awards by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • decentralizing, or localizing the process of nomination, evaluation and verification of submissions to regional or national levels; • focusing on and encouraging partnerships, teamwork and participation; • becoming more cognizant of: situations of selflessness in the public service, significant risks taken by public servants, the strength and resilience required in certain circumstances which go above and beyond the call of duty, as well as the innovativeness or excellence of a particular public administration practice; • compiling case studies to share the practices with public administration professionals and national counterparts; • seeking a number of additional ways to enhance the publicity and visibility of the winning practices as well as the awards themselves.

Resolution

Underscores the importance of public administration as a tool to support progress in connection with a wider concept of security to include human security, human rights and development in line with the Millennium Declaration;

Encourages countries to ratify, adopt, and implement the relevant commitments and conventions in the areas of integrity, transparency and accountability, including those related to the prevention of corrupt policies and practices;

Reaffirms the need to deepen the participatory processes of government to ensure citizens' engagement to achieve the MDGs and to encourage the Secretariat to provide the analytical tools, research capacity and advisory services to this end;

Requests the Committee of Experts on Public Administration to deepen its analysis on the relationships between State capacity, public administration and development by identifying for the benefit of interested countries successful examples, options and solutions in public administration which have facilitated the achievement of development goals, including the MDGs;

Requests the Secretary-General to strengthen the capacity and the reach of the United Nations Online Network in Public Administration and Finance (UNPAN) to serve as a vehicle for sharing knowledge, innovation and practices in public administration, particularly by associating more partner organizations from developing countries to the network;

The Secretariat to the United Nations should deepen its analytical, advisory and technical cooperation capacities to ensure that viable options of public administration practices are identified and pre-conditions for their successful adaptation clearly set out, in support of the MDGs.