

DPADM Monthly Update to CEPA Members: June 2011

1. Proposed partnership with Colombia's Ministry of Information and Communication

At a recent meeting with DPADM, the Colombian Minister of Information and Communication Technology, Mr. Diego Molano Vega, confirmed his willingness to establish a partnership with the United Nations to promote capacity development for the enhancement of e-government in Latin America and the Caribbean as a whole through a technical cooperation project worth approximately US\$ 800,000 per year. The meeting also resulted in the development of basic parameters in which DESA will provide substantive leadership for a project document aimed at three objectives: a) capacity development/technical cooperation; b) creation of a knowledge base and c) outreach/dissemination. In addition, the Government of Colombia agreed with the strategic directions defined by DPADM in support of e-government development, particularly UNPACS (United Nations Public Administration Framework) features such as the establishment of a CIO network, development of a knowledge base with the collection and analysis of e-government strategies and policies, as well as legal frameworks, among other features.

2. World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)

(a) Sixth Facilitation Meeting on implementing outcomes of WSIS Action Lines

DESA, through DPADM, convened the Sixth Facilitation Meeting on implementing 3 of the 11 WSIS action lines on Wednesday, 18 May in Geneva, Switzerland. The meeting provided a platform for participants to: a) exchange information and experiences; b) identify the propriety areas for implementation within the Action Lines; and c) create synergies among different stakeholders for more effective knowledge sharing and collaboration to ensure the implementation of WSIS at the international, regional and national levels as well as enable further coordination of major stakeholders' activities to support strategic planning and implementation of accessible, inclusive and participatory governments.

(b) Workshop on "Greater Government Transparency and Citizen Engagement to Promote Effectiveness and Accountability in Public Service Delivery"

DPADM in cooperation with the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), organized an international workshop on "Greater Government Transparency and Citizen Engagement to Promote Effectiveness and Accountability in Public Service Delivery" in Geneva, Switzerland, on 19 May 2011, during the 2011 annual follow-up meetings of the World Summit on Information Society (WSIS). The workshop provided opportunities for participants to share experiences and exchange practices on e/m-government with speakers in order to develop new capacities for designing and implementing successful programs and policies for better government transparency and citizen engagement and create or strengthen international networks of stakeholders and practitioners based on proven viable experiences that have enabled lasting development results in different socio-economic and cultural contexts. A report on the workshop will be prepared.



(c) IGF Open Consultations and MAG meeting

The Internet Governance Forum (IGF) held its Open Consultations and a meeting of the Multi-stakeholder Advisory Group (MAG) from 18 to 19 May 2011 at the International Labor Organization (ILO), Head Quarter's in, Geneva, Switzerland. Approximately 100 people attended the open consultations. The MAG deliberations, which mainly focused on the selection of workshops and the format of the main themes, including the selection of speakers were considered positive and resolved to finalize the programme through online collaboration. They welcomed the note asking them to continue with their work until the conclusion of the 2011 IGF to be held in Nairobi and individual members volunteered as focal points for each theme shepherding it until then.

(d) Fourteenth session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD)

While discussing agenda item 2 "Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society outcomes at the regional and international levels", it was agreed by the Commission that the mandate of the "Working Group for the improvements to the IGF" should be extended for one more year to give it time to complete its work. The meeting also adopted a draft resolution which will be sent to ECOSOC for deliberation as part of the report.

3. Contributions to the Second Phase of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) (2011-2015)

DPADM received notification of financial support to the Second Phase of the IGF from the following donors:

- (i) Finland's Ministry for Foreign Affairs indicated to the IGF Secretariat that they will contribute 215,000 Euros for the duration of the project.
- (ii) VeriSign, Inc. committed to contribute USD \$25,000 annually for 2011 and 2012 towards the IGF project
- (iii) The Internet Society has agreed to contribute to the Second Phase of the IGF but has not yet specified the amount
- (iv) The IGF Secretariat has informed DPADM that the Swiss Ministry is willing to contribute to the project but is yet to confirm the amount.

The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation has declined to support the Second Phase of IGF. They previously contributed CHF 200,000 to the first phase of IGF (2006-2010).

4. Strengthening collaboration between DESA and the Commonwealth Local Governments Forum (CLGF)

The Chief of PACB/DPADM, Mr. John-Mary Kauzya, met the Secretary General of the CLGF on Wednesday 6 June 2011, at his request. The meeting was a follow-up to



discussions held in 2010 and focussed on collaboration between DPADM and CLGF in leadership capacity building for effective local governments and the strengthening of public administration at local level for effective service delivery.

Specific areas of future collaboration include:

- (i) supporting the Government of Kenya in its efforts to implement the now constitutionalised decentralization policy
- (ii) supporting the sustainability of the initiative for strengthening leadership capacities for local governance in the countries of the East African Community
- (iii) strengthening leadership capacities for local governance and poverty reduction in Africa
- (iv) the participation of DPADM in the Commonwealth Local Governments Forum Conference scheduled to take place in Kampala Uganda in March 2013 as part of the leadership capacity building for local governments in Africa.

5. Launch of Russian version of the E-Government Interoperability Interactive Course

DPADM recently launched the Russian version of the E-Government Interoperability interactive course. The translation of the course was a joint initiative of DPADM and the Institute of the Information Society (IIS), Russia. The course highlights the value of e-government interoperability and the steps required to achieve effective interoperability. It explains the standards and architecture in interoperability, and the Government Interoperability Framework (GIF) and its development. It is available at the UNPAN Online Training Centre at www.unpan.org/elearning free of charge, with government officials as its target audience, especially those from developing, post-conflict and post-crisis countries.

6. New Course on “Introduction to Citizen Engagement in Public Governance for the Realization of the Millennium Development Goals”

The United Nations Public Administration Network (UNPAN) Online Training Centre, has this week launched a new interactive course on “Introduction to Citizen Engagement in Public Governance for the Realization of the Millennium Development Goals”. The course provides an overview of the concepts, issues, tools and examples of practices and methodologies of participatory public governance that can be effective in fostering the achievement of the MDGs. Its objective is to enhance knowledge and capacities, and motivate for action. It is addressed to practitioners, including community leaders, responsible for the formulation and implementation of development policies and programmes, as well as scholars and students of public administration.



7. United Nations Public Service Awards and Africa Public Service Day

The United Nations Public Service Awards and Africa Public Service Day were celebrated in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania on 23 June as part of celebration of Africa Public Service Week held from 20 to 23 June 2011. In total, 36 awards were presented to winners of the 2011 United Nations Public Service Awards at the Mlimani City Centre and another 10 awards were presented to approximately 10 African public organizations for the Africa Public Day Service Awards at Mnazi Mmoja grounds in the city. The Public Service Week was marked with events and activities which included the following:

a. The United Nations and Africa Public Service Forum

The United Nations and Africa Public Service Forum was held from 20 to 23 June. The forum attracted over five hundred participants from seventy countries and comprised four capacity development workshops, under the theme “Transformative Leadership in Public Administration and Innovation in Governance: Creating a Better Life for all”. The topics of the workshops were as follows:

- (i) Leading with Integrity and Inventiveness in Public Governance
- (ii) Engaging Citizens and Civil Society Organizations to Promote Effectiveness,
- (iii) Accountability and Transparency in Reconstruction and Recovery Strategies after Natural Disasters
- (iv) Ministerial UN African eLeadership

The Opening Ceremony was attended by the Tanzania’s Prime Minister, Honourable Mizengo P. Pinda, Minister of State, President’s Office, Public Service Management, of Tanzania, Honorable Hawa Ghasia; Chairperson of the Pan Africa Conference of Ministers of Public Service and Minister of State for Public Service, Kenya, Honorable Dalmas Otieno Anyango; and Head, Division of Governance, Democracy and Human Rights, Department of Political Affairs African Union Commission, Dr. Mamadou Dia.

b. UNPSA Ministerial Roundtable

Individual professionalism, ethics and integrity among leaders, attention to the voice of the citizenry including vulnerable groups, the important role of ICT in implementing public policy, and the importance of a highly trained and professional public sector workforce were highlighted as areas of priority during the Ministerial Roundtable, which was facilitated by Professor Mukandara Rwekaza, Vice Chancellor of Dar es Salaam University.

The basis of discussions was the Dar es Salaam Communiqué produced as a summary of the discussions and recommendations from the four capacity development workshops of the Forum. The Forum primarily addressed the recurring challenges to governments in many parts of the world to achieve good governance in the face of a rising set of domestic and international challenges originating from multiple causes, including economic and financial crises, conflict and social unrest, environmental issues as well as natural disasters.

More details about the United Nations Public Service Awards and Africa Public Service Day Forum, the Capacity Development Workshops and the Ministerial Roundtable are available at <http://www.unpan.org/2011unpsd>