UN Public Administration Programme

Division for Public Administration and Development Management (DPADM)
UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)

DPADM Monthly Update to CEPA Members: August 2011

1. ECOSOC adopts 2011 CEPA resolution

ECOSOC last week adopted the resolution of the Report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration (CEPA) on its tenth session (2011) on public administration and development, which requires the Secretariat (DESA), through DPADM, to: continue to support the development of the United Nations Public Administration Network (UNPAN) and the United Nations Public Administration Country Studies (UNPACS); promote the United Nations Public Service Awards (UNPSA); and enhance support, analysis and technical cooperation for capacity-building in the public sector, particularly with reference to e-government, post conflict countries and post disaster situations. (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish)

2. DPADM invited to contribute to a new project on Poverty Reduction

The Government of Mali and UNDP recently requested DPADM to undertake an assessment mission to Mali to determine the support DPADM could provide for a new phase of project development on poverty reduction, and to explore further collaboration among DESA, UNDP and the Government of Mali. Of particular note is that the Government of Mali is currently preparing an "Observatory for Sustainable Human Development and the Fight against Poverty" for the period 2012-2015.

DPADM has been assisting the Government of Mali through the technical cooperation project MLI08001. A recent evaluation issued by the Government of Mali revealed the value of support from DESA in the past and an explicit recommendation to revitalise the collaboration between the Government of Mali and DESA.

In view of above, an assessment mission to Mali will be carried out by DPADM IRA Ulrich Graute in September 2011.

3. Information sharing with UNU

On 8 August 2011, at the request of the United Nations University (UNU), the UNPAN Management Unit (UMU) of DPADM held a meeting on e-learning and other knowledge management products of the Division with Mr. Jean-Marc Coicaud, from UNU in addition to Mr. Didier Louvel, from iCognis, a French company specializing in dynamic websites; and Marie-Hélène Féron, from Artesi Île-de-France, a French agency that promotes the development of ICTs in the region of Paris who were visiting UNU and were interested to learn more about UNPAN.

During the meeting, UMU briefed the group on some of the major products of the Division, such as the United Nations Public Administration Network (UNPAN), its Online Training Centre, the UN E-Government Survey, and the UN Public Service Day.

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4. DPADM invited to collaborate on Institution Capacity Building

The Government of Pakistan and UNPA recently requested DPADM to explore possible avenues of further collaboration and partnership in institution capacity building in Pakistan and to participate at Institution Capacity Building Workshop of the Friends ofDemocratic Pakistan (FoDP) in Ankara on 8-9 September 2011.

The objective of the Workshop is to share and build on the experiences of flagship institutions and model partnerships and also to explore new partnerships with institutions in Pakistan. The Workshop and further collaboration comes at an opportune time as institution capacity building is key for strengthening democracy in Pakistan.

The Group of Friends of Democratic Pakistan (FoDP) is an open forum for cooperation initiated by the Government of Pakistan which includes 22 countries and observers.[1]

An assessment mission to Pakistan and workshop participation will be carried out by DPADM IRA Alphonse Mekolo in September 2011.

[i]The countries and observers are: Australia, Canada, China, Denmark, Egypt (joined 2010), France, Germany, Iran, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland (joined 2011), Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States, European Union, Asian Development Bank, Islamic Development Bank, United Nations, and the World Bank.

5. Progress on Finalizing the UN e-Government Survey 2012

Progress has been made in finalizing the outlines for the UN e-Government Survey 2012. The survey will explore how e-government usage may help strengthen the social dimension of sustainable development through the use of ICT in public sector social and economic development programmes. The 2012 edition has a new chapter on public information regarding *e-environment issues* that measure availability of alerts, news and search features, online information on air quality, water quality and energy and other e-services to promote environment-related information and services. Based on an analysis compiled for the survey, DPADM will report on how countries provide information to promote awareness and support citizen engagement in climate change, marine protection, natural resources, biodiversity, agriculture, natural disasters and other key areas. In addition, the survey will explore how ICT may help bridge the digital gap by improving public access to information and services, enhancing user satisfaction and strengthening coordination of government agencies.

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6. DPADM to Design a New USB e-Library

DPADM is designing a new USB e-Library called "Publications of the United Nations Public Administration Programme". It provides users with an interface, much like a website, in an offline format, to view the Division's publications. The featured publications could be viewed both as pdfs and "flip books". This is an ongoing and updatable product which will reduce publication cost and streamline the Division's publication by developing electronic distribution through major online platforms, including Apps and eBooks.