



DPADM Monthly Update to CEPA Members: September 2011

1. United Nations Development Group (UNDG) meeting

At the request of the Director, the Chief of PACB/DPADM attended an ad hoc meeting on Libya organised by the UNDG-ECHA Working Group on Transition on Thursday, 8 September 2011. The meeting was briefed about the evolving situation in Libya, the up-coming needs assessment mission and the Libya Recovery Trust Fund. It was noted that Libya faces (i) most critical needs, (ii) immediate critical needs, and (iii) long term needs, all areas in which UNDESA has competence and advantage including: social services, and public administration including civil service reform and the whole priority area of governance and institutional development. A needs assessment mission, composed of relevant UN agencies, will go to Libya soon after the Security Council has taken necessary decisions concerning the new Authorities in the country. DPADM will continue to monitor and brief the USG accordingly.

2. Possible cooperation with the Ministry for Regional Cooperation, Israel

Upon invitation from the Ministry for Regional Cooperation of the Government of Israel, DPADM's IRA, Mr. Jonas Rabinovitch represented DESA at the 1st Regional Conference on Regional Cooperation, in Tel-Aviv, Israel. The Conference focused on three main themes namely i) Israel and the Palestinians - Walking the Line between Optimism and Pessimism, ii) The Arab Spring - Significance and Prospects for Economic Cooperation, and iii) Cross-Border Cooperation - A Foundation for Regional Stability and Prosperity. The Ministry for Regional Cooperation expressed interest to cooperate with DESA, through DPADM, particularly in the field of public administration, identifying the United Nations e-Government Survey as a global product that could be of interest to various neighboring countries.

In addition, there was significant interest in the ideas presented by the DPADM IRA on building development cooperation among Member States around issues of common interest related to e-government development and strengthening relationships between governments and civil society by the Special Representative of UNDP's Administrator at the Offices of the Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People (PAPP) and the Chief of the Coordination Unit of United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process (UNSCO). DPADM will finalize a project document and contact all interested partners as a demand-driven follow-up to this conference.

3. Possible capacity building support for the Government of Morocco

Specific proposals leading to identification of four areas of collaboration were presented by DPADM IRA Mr. Ulrich Graute as part of the outcome of a needs assessment mission, which was undertaken to explore the possibility of capacity building support as part of the institutional reform process launched by the King of Morocco, Mohammed VI. The four areas of collaboration include: i) development of a scheme for capacity building in the regions, ii) development of the administrative culture at the level of local and regional authorities iii) promotion of ethical behaviour and good governance and, iv) improving the management of training centres.

UNDP Morocco expressed interest to support the first three above-mentioned areas of cooperation, while the Ministry of the Interior is optimistic that it will find financial support for the fourth area from a French partner institution.



4. Future collaboration with the Government of Pakistan

At the request of the Government of Pakistan, through the United Nations Secretary-General Special Envoy for Assistance to Pakistan to the Director, DPADM sent an IRA, Mr. Alphonse Mekolo to take part in the 'Institutional Capacity Building' workshop in Ankara, 8-9 September 2011, which was organized by the Friends of Democratic Pakistan (FoDP) under the leadership of the Government of Pakistan. The DPADM IRA made a presentation on the work of DPADM focusing on Institutional Capacity Building during the plenary session and held sideline working sessions with representatives of the National School of Public Policy and the National Vocational and Technical Education Commission of Pakistan. The presentation was very well received and the work of DPADM was highly recognized by the members of FoDP and other participating UN agencies. The meeting concluded by agreeing that the role of DESA through DPADM on building the capacity of public institutions for an effective and efficient Public Sector in Pakistan is important and needed.

Following the workshop, the Special Envoy came to NY and met with the Director of DPADM for the following purpose: i) expressing great appreciation for DESA's valuable contribution to the workshop and also the accommodation to his last-minute invitation; ii) confirming the future collaboration between DESA through DPADM and the Government of Pakistan, namely assisting the Government to enhance the capacity of public servants through short-term and long-term training and education; iii) confirming that the collaboration will be undertaken in partnership with FoDP members.

5. Collaboration between the Government of Mali, UNDP Mali, and DESA in support of the National Poverty Reduction Strategy

UNDP Mali will provide financial support for the engagement of DESA in the Fourth Phase of the project to support the "Observatory for Human development and the Fight against Poverty" in the period 2012-2015. DESA through DPADM will provide support in supervising the project and in the capacity building for staff of the observatory and other partners on subjects like the evaluation of public governance policies. This was the result of a mission undertaken by DPADM/DMB's IRA, Mr. Ulrich Graute, to re-establish a working relationship with the Government of Mali and UNDP, explore possible future collaboration and evaluate the state of project implementation. A second meeting will be held in Bamako in November which will include other potential donors such as the World Bank and ADB to discuss these new proposals and their financing. The new project is expected to start in early 2012.

6. DPADM Meets With Microsoft on Meter 3.0

DPADM's Director together with the Chief of the e-Government Branch and two IRA's Messrs Jonas Rabinovitch and Richard Kerby met Microsoft's Account Manager to the UN, Mr. Paul Hengeveld, to discuss METER¹ 3.0. The Director explained that DPADM was in the process of adding the necessary content to convert METER 2.5 to METER 3.0, noting that this task will be completed by March 2012. She expressed appreciation for the technical support already provided by Microsoft and further indicated that the Division would welcome Microsoft to share its expertise in outreach of the product. Mr. Hengeveld was keen on launching METER 3.0, stating that Microsoft will continue to provide support in the future.



7. DPADM Divisional Meeting 2011

Building on the recent one-to-one meetings the Director held with all staff of the Division, DPADM held its first divisional meeting for 2011. All staff, including interns, attended this meeting which covered feedback from the above-mentioned one-to-one meetings, updates on personnel, recognition of staff work and the work undertaken by DPADM over the past year, the outcomes of the OIOS Report, the further development of the Division's major new initiative the "UN Public Administration Country Studies" (UNPACS), and the launch of DPADM's new Intranet site and e-Library.