



## **DPADM Monthly Update to CEPA Members: October 2011**

### **1. United Nations e-Government Survey highlighted in BBC radio interview**

Haiyan Qian was interviewed this week about the technological and social benefits of electronic governance as part of a radio documentary for the BBC World Service about electronic governance in India. The United Nations e-Government Survey was highlighted throughout the interview as Haiyan Qian was asked to explain what it is, how the ranking is compiled and where India ranks in relation to other nations. This growing interest in the Survey reflects the increasing uptake and impact of e-government and e-governance globally. The next edition of the United Nations e-Government Survey will be released in December 2012.

### **2. The Sixth Internet Governance Forum (IGF)**

The sixth Internet Governance Forum (IGF), whose main theme was “The Internet as a catalyst for change: access, development, freedoms and innovation”, took place in Nairobi, Kenya from 27 to 30 September 2011. Since its inception, IGF’s cross cutting theme has been ‘development’ and, this year, renewed emphasis on this theme generated discussion that highlighted the significance of Internet governance for development as a core element of the development agenda linking new forms of access, economic developments, innovations and new freedoms and human rights. While the main sessions were organized to maximize the opportunity for open and inclusive dialogue and the exchange of ideas amongst all stakeholders, 122 workshops, best practice forums, dynamic coalition meetings and open forums were held around the main themes of the forum and the broad mandate of the IGF. DESA, through the DPADM, provides substantive and administrative support to the IGF as part of the UN commitments to follow up on the WSIS decisions. A detailed note on the sixth IGF will be submitted to the USG soon.

With 2,032 badges issued to participants, the Nairobi meeting had the highest attendance of IGF meetings held so far; 125 governments were represented and 68 media representatives accredited.

### **3. Expert Group Meeting on e-Procurement**

A “Knowledge Guide on E-Procurement”, to be issued by DPADM both online and off-line, is one of the many outcomes of an expert group meeting (EGM) on “Electronic Procurement: Towards Transparency and Efficiency in Public Service Delivery” that was held by the e-Government Branch of DPADM in New York, 4 -5 October 2011. At the meeting experts agreed that e-procurement may not completely eradicate corruption, but that it can provide a relevant contribution, so that transparency, accountability, fairness and effectiveness are achieved in service delivery and, in addition, provide considerable savings and additional resources for addressing development goals.

The meeting was attended by the top experts on e-procurement from the World Bank, the African Development Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Pan-European Public Procurement Online (European Union), as well as by the Korean Procurement Service, the Italian Public e-Procurement System (CONSIP) and the USA Public Procurement Office. Contribution to Peace Keeping Missions Training.



DPADM has been contributing to the training of our peace-keeping mission staff in legal, contractual and procurement procedures. This important exercise, conducted by the Department of Management and the Headquarters Committee on Contracts (HCC), aims to strengthen the capacities of our human resources in the field and delegate HQ authority in these matters. As part of that exercise, DPADM/DESA has contributed to training more than 17 peace-keeping missions around the globe, most recently in UNTSO (Jerusalem) and UNIFIL (Lebanon).

#### **4. Participatory Elements and Accountability of Kenya's Development Strategy Strengthened through Knowledge Management Training**

The next steps to strengthen participatory elements, accountability and the knowledge management of Kenya's development strategy were agreed upon as a result of training conducted by DPADM's IRA, Mr. Ulrich Graute, on 5 and 6 October 2011, at the invitation of Kenya's National Economic and Social Council, the Ministry of Planning and other key partners.

The goal of this capacity building workshop was to strengthen their human resources, which is key to the management of Kenya's development strategy. Kenya's 'Vision 2030' aim is a globally competitive and prosperous nation with a high quality of life by 2030. Knowledge Management is essential not only for the management of this long-term national strategy but also for the related engagement of citizen.

#### **5. DPADM and UNDP Collaboration on Post-2015 UN Development Agenda.**

DPADM and UNDP's Democratic Governance Group Bureau for Development Policy agreed to work together to provide substantive input with a unified vision for consideration by DESA's task force on the Post-2015 UN Development Agenda. The agreement was reached at a meeting initiated by DPADM Director, Haiyan Qian with UNDP's Practice Director, Geraldine J. Fraser-Moleketi on 18 October 2011. In addition, the directors agreed to revisit the work of their respective areas so as to shape concrete joint activities for the new biennium (2012 – 2013).

At the meeting, Ms. Fraser-Moleketi also accepted DPADM's invitation to make a presentation on behalf on UNDP at the upcoming 11th session of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration (CEPA) which will be held from 16 to 20 April 2012 under the theme "Local public governance and administration for results".

#### **6. 7th Annual FutureGov Summit 2011**

As a VIP panelist at the 7th Annual FutureGov Summit 2011 in Putrajaya, Malaysia (11- 14 October 2011), Haiyan Qian emphasized the relationship between bridging the digital divide through WSIS and achieving the MDGs to an audience of central and local government officials, and representatives of academic institutions and the business community. Participants from developing countries expressed appreciation to Haiyan Qian for highlighting these issues and for reminding the wider community of the importance and value of achieving the MDGs.

Furthermore, through formal interactive discussions that were scheduled for each day of the summit and a video interview, Haiyan Qian promoted issues such as the internationally agreed development agenda which is under consideration by the UN Member States to become the



sustainable development agenda. She also reminded participants of some of the major issues faced in the implementation of e-government projects for sustainable development, namely: the digital divide (connectivity/access); how to engage citizens to use the technology; and the transformation of government in the provision of services and managing their operations.

She was encouraged to learn that FutureGov Academy has been providing training to government officials in the Asia-Pacific region using the UN E-Government Survey as a training course material to address three questions; i) what factors make up the UN e-governance, ii) how can my government improve e-governance ranking and iii) how to use the e-governance ranking to improve performance.

### **7. Possible Collaboration with “The eGovernment Delegation” of Sweden**

The Swedish government requested a meeting with DPADM director on 17 October 2011 to discuss how to tackle the digital divide with the aim of providing internet access to all Swedes particularly the 7% of the population with no access at this point. The delegation consisting of Messrs Claes Thagemark and Dano Costouvsqion also shared with Haiyan Qian that they had just produced their country’s “Digital Agenda” which they would contribute to UNPACS once the document is translated to English. The director lauded the Swedish government pointing out the importance of their work on bridging the digital divide and encouraging them to share their expertise in this area with countries around that world where citizens had less than 70% connectivity. Both parties agreed to work together on this area through advocacy, research and advisory service with possible funding from the Swedish government.

### **8. High-Level Mexican Delegation visits DPADM to Discuss E-Government and E-Governance**

A high-level delegation from Mexico led by the Vice Minister for Public Administration visited DPADM on 17th October 2011 to present and discuss their e-government and e-governance policies and practices, with emphasis on the recent reforms for e-government development including progress on public service delivery focusing on tools used by disabled people through multi-channels such as transactional public kiosks, use of mobile government and improvement of the national website search engine by using Google tools amongst other innovative applications and features. The concrete lessons learned in Mexico will be shared with countries in Latin America and other regions through the UNPAN network and will eventually feature on UNPACS. After sharing with them the latest findings on Mexico’s e-government development, the delegation acknowledged having used the U.N. E-Government Survey as a reference for policy-making and expressed appreciation for the guidance received from DPADM on e-government development in other countries.

### **9. Outreach to Member States Regarding UN Public Service Awards 2012**

From 15 September 2011 the United Nations began accepting nominations for the UN Public Service Awards scheduled to be held on 23 June 2012. As part of its strategy to raise awareness of the UN Public Service Awards 2012 programme and generate nominations for innovative projects, DESA through DPADM collaborates with multiple partners, including the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and United Nations Development Programme



(UNDP) country offices. To consolidate these efforts, DPADM conducted two information sessions for Permanent Missions to the United Nations in New York on 13 October 2011 and 27 October 2011 where Permanent Missions of Canada, Central African Republic, Finland, Italy, Namibia, the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Kenya, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Switzerland, Greece, Peru, Brazil and Romania were represented. The third and final session will be held on 10 November 2011 at Two UN Plaza, Conference Room DC2 – 1949, 19th Floor East 44th Street, New York.

#### **10. Courtesy Call from Director of the Republic of Serbia's Anti-Corruption Agency.**

DPADM's Director, Haiyan Qian hosted the Director of the Republic of Serbia's, Anti-Corruption Agency Ms. Zorana Markovic who paid her a courtesy call on 21 October 2011. Ms. Markovic briefed Haiyan Qian about the anti-corruption agency indicating that it was an autonomous and independent state body accountable to the national assembly of Serbia. Some of its main tasks, she said, included supervising the implementation of the National Strategy for Combating Corruption, the action plan for implementation of the National Strategy for Combating Corruption and sector action plans ; resolution of conflicts of interest; controlling of financing of political parties; issuing guidelines for development and implementation of integrity plans and monitoring their adoption and implementation, as well as monitoring and coordination of government bodies and international cooperation in the fight against corruption. Haiyan Qian, in giving her overview of the divisional focus areas highlighted possible collaboration in combating corruption in the areas of e-Procurement, building codes of conduct for public servants, citizen engagement in managing development programmes and other areas that DPADM has experience gained from working together with global institutions and various governments across the world. She also touched on the work being done for the United Nations Public Administration Country Studies (UNPACS), a divisional knowledge base which will provide world governments with a tool to assist them in their fights to combat corruption and improve governance.

#### **11. Presentation on Post Conflict Reconstruction and Development Toolkit**

At a meeting held in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo on 21-22 October 2011 on Post Conflict Reconstruction and Development, DESA through DPADM, by virtue of its experience in this area, was asked to continuously collaborate with Conference of African Ministers of Public/Civil Service (CAMPS) and the Africa Union Commission (AUC) on reconstructing public administration after conflict. This was one of the outcomes of a presentation made by Mr. John-Mary Kauzya, Chief of PACB/DPADM on the toolkit for reconstructing public administration after conflict that DPADM is preparing. He was also invited to make a presentation on the same subject to Ministers of the Republic of South Sudan during their workshop to be held in Mombasa from 21 November 2011. Besides the presentation, Mr. Kauzya held discussions with the CAMPS Secretariat and the officials of the Africa Union Commission (AUC) on how DESA through DPADM can collaborate with them to support rebuilding public administration in post conflict countries in Africa.