



DPADM Monthly Update to CEPA Members: June 2012

1. DPADM Holds June Divisional Meeting

On 5 June, 2012, DPADM held its divisional meeting. Ms. Haiyan Qian gave a presentation on the Divisional Roadmap to United Nations Public Administration Country Studies (UNPACS) where conceptual, analytical, and implementation framework of the division for UNPACS was discussed. The logistics and the coordination for the United Nations Public Service Day Aware Ceremony were also discussed.

2. In-house Seminar on Modernizing Bureaucracy

On 29 May 2012, DPADM hosted an in-house seminar with Professor Prahlad K. Basu on the subject of “Modernizing Bureaucracy in Developed & Developing Countries.” Professor Basu shared his views on the evolution and current state of a few successful models of public service bureaucracies.

He presented the cases of the USA, UK, France and Japan, and highlighted the bottlenecks of improving public service delivery in India. Among the key factors that contribute to efficient bureaucracies, according to Professor Basu, are: (1) the existence of public administration schools and training of professional civil servants, (2) performance targets for public services and linking these targets to promotion/demotion of civil servants, (3) merit-based hiring, and (4) replacing permanent contracts of public servants with 4-5 years renewable contracts. These factors help in creating a culture of excellence, integrity and professionalism that prevent corruption in the public service.

Professor Basu argued that the bottom line of all modernization efforts should be to replace privilege by performance, hierarchy by participation, procedures by achieving results, and regulations by development and better governance, including e-governance.

3. DPADM Participates in the Africa Governance Forum (AGF VIII)

The Chief of PACB participated in the Steering Committee Meeting of the eighth Africa Governance Forum (AGF VIII), in Arusha, Tanzania. This participation resulted in agreement where UNDP is joining DPADM in the workshop on “Leadership Capacity Development for Improved Delivery of Public Services in Africa Using Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs)” in Addis Ababa in July. UNDP will fund 10 countries to participate in the workshop. And in addition, DPADM will organize a meeting in New York with UNDP/RBA to collaborate in capacity building in Public Administration in Africa.

4. Capacity Workshop in Cotonou, Benin

Alphonse Mekolo, an Inter Regional Advisor, travelled to Cotonou, Benin to facilitate the Capacity building workshop on the theme: “Values and Behaviors: What are the values needed for governance for the development of African Countries”. The Workshop was attended by Ministers responsible for Public Service in Africa and Senior Public Servants. Requests were expressed for further



collaboration with the Conference of African Ministers of Public Service (CAMPS), the Africa Public Sector Human Resource Managers' Network (APS-HRMnet) and the Africa Association for Public Administration and Management (AAPAM). These requests will be further discussed with the Chair of CAMPS who is the Minister Responsible for Public Service in Kenya and the President of the APS-HRMnet, who is the Permanent Secretary in the Office of the President in Tanzania when they come to New York for the UN Public Service Day, Award and Forum on 25 June 2012.

5. Global Centre for ICT in Parliament Undertakes a Mission to Haiti

DESA through DPADM's Global Center for ICT in Parliament carried out a mission to Haiti. Armin Plum of CDO led the mission to assess Haitian Senate in an ICT strategic framework and to advise Haiti on the overall assessment of its ICT in Parliament. A second follow up mission is planned in coming weeks to be lead by Inter-Regional Advisor, Richard Kerby. These two missions will strategically contribute to the modernization and strengthening of the legislative institution in Haiti.

6. The United Nations Public Service Day, Awards Ceremony and Forum 25 – 27 June 2012

The 2012 United Nations Public Service Day Awards Ceremony was held on Monday, 25 June 2012 in the General Assembly Hall. Over 400 participants, including several high-level government officials from around the world were attended.

To mark the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Public Service Day, DPADM presented the Sound of Harmony Cultural Concert showcasing Chinese traditional and contemporary dance and music on 25 June 2012 at 5:30 p.m. in the General Assembly Hall.

The 'Spotlight on Chinese Calligraphy and Ink Painting Art Exhibition' featuring exceptional examples of Chinese art and calligraphy was on display at the second balcony of the General Assembly Hall, prior to the concert.

The theme of the Forum is "Innovation and Citizen Engagement for Effective Governance." As part of the Forum, four parallel high-level capacity-development workshops, one of which has been organized in partnership with UN-WOMEN. A high-level ministerial roundtable was also held on the last day of the Forum.

The ultimate goal of this Forum is to build a shared understanding among governance actors of what policies and strategies, practices and tools Member States can adopt to make public administration more effective, transparent, accountable, participatory and citizen-centric to promote sustainable development.

More information on all the activities of the three day event could be found at <http://www.unpan.org/tabid/1527/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

7. Bilateral Meetings held during the 2012 United Nations Public Service Day and Awards

Over the 3 day period of the United Nations Public Service Day and Awards, Haiyan Qian invited several Member States representatives to seek their views on the effectiveness of discussions and presentations of the workshops during the occasion with the aim of improving both in the future. The



various delegations felt that the organization of the substantive workshops was an improvement on the previous forum, with the discussions enhancing the presentations made.

Additionally, Haiyan Qian, humbly accepted congratulations of behalf of DPADM with regards to work on the United Nations eGovernment Survey as well as responded to questions on the same.

The following are the lead members of various Member States delegations that held discussions with Haiyan Qian.

- Ms. Shariffa Al-Meskary, Director, International Relations and Information, Information and Awareness Division, Information Technology Authority, Oman.
- Mr. Peter Heijkoop, Executive Director, Universal Financial Management Solutions Pty Ltd.
- Ms. Johanna Pimiento, Director of the eGovernment Programme (CIO equivalent), Colombia
- Ms. Karen Tan, Director, Public Communications Division, Ministry of Information Communication and Arts, Singapore.
- Mr. Mohamed Ali Al-Qaed, CEO of the eGovernment Authority of Bahrain.
- Rep. Jleana Palaco, Senior Adviser, Digital Government Secretariat, Costa Rica.