



DPADM Monthly Update to CEPA Members: July 2012

1. UN e-Government Survey Mentioned in ‘Smart Policies to Close the Digital Divide’, Published by the Economist

The Economist Intelligence Unit published “Smart policies to close the digital divide: Best practices from around the world” and have mentioned the UN E-Government Survey and quoted Haiyan Qian on improved access due to mobile technology.

The report, based on extensive desk research and wide-ranging interviews with experts from more than ten developed and emerging-market countries, presents best practices that have been adopted by governments and the private sector globally to bridge digital divides.

2. The report of RIO+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

The outcome report on RIO+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, which was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20-22 June 2012 acknowledged that, as part of a “Common Vision”, democracy, good governance and the rule of law, at the national and international levels, as well as an enabling environment, are essential for sustainable development, including sustained and inclusive economic growth, social development, environmental protection and the eradication of poverty and hunger. It reaffirmed that to achieve sustainable development goals, institutions at all levels need to be effective, transparent, accountable and democratic.

With respect to the institutional frameworks for sustainable development, the report recognized that effective governance at the local, subnational, national, regional and global levels, representing the voices and interests of all is critical for advancing sustainable development and that the strengthening and reform of the same should not be an end in itself, but a means to achieve sustainable development.

The divisions’ work programme on governance is consistent to the areas raised in the outcome report and DPADM will make further reference in a bid to strengthen the same.

3. Meeting with Minister of Public Service and Modernization of Administration, the Kingdom of Morocco

Haiyan Qian met with Mr. Abdeladim El Guerrouj, Minister of Public Service and Modernization of Administration, the Kingdom of Morocco at his request on 10 July, 2012, to discuss the possibility of collaboration between DESA, through DPADM and the Ministry of Public Administration in light of the Ministry's current reform initiatives as well as the ministry's support for the African Training and Research Centre in Administration for Development (CAFRAD) which is a valued UNPAN Partner based in Tangier, Morocco.



4. The 2012 United Nations Public Service Day, Awards Ceremony and Forum

The 2012 United Nations Public Service Day, Awards Ceremony and Forum on “Innovation and Citizens Engagement for Effective Governance” held in New York, United States of America, from 25 to 27 June 2012 resulted in a Final Communiqué which containing a set of recommendations to Member States and the United Nations along the following respective thematic areas:

- a) Localizing public priorities and build institutional mechanisms that allow for two-way communication and active listening to engage citizens in service delivery;
- b) Promoting excellence in public service through national awards and recognition systems, i.e., naming and faming;
- c) Creating a global academy for leadership capacity-building;
- d) Implementing e-government strategies through collaborative government approaches by building partnerships with private sector and civil society which would ensure sustained investment in e-government;
- e) Improving public sector human resource capacity development for preventing corruption and engaging citizens in anti-corruption initiatives;
- f) Promoting a system to manage the transfer of knowledge among countries that are seeking for innovations and those that have already implemented innovative practices.

The recommendations were the result of active interactions and dialogue held across four parallel capacity development workshops and a ministerial round-table by over 400 government officials from 96 Member States on the respective themes of: 1) Institutions and Leadership Capacities to Innovate and Engage Citizens in Service Delivery; 2) Preventing Corruption in Public Administration: Engaging Citizens in the Fight Against Corruption; 3) E-Government: From Policy to Practice; 4) The Dividends of Women in the Frontline of Service Delivery: Good Governance and Citizen Engagement.

5. DPADM Divisional Meeting

DPADM held a divisional meeting on 10 July 2012 at which presentations were made on the following topics:

- the Post-2015 Development Agenda, highlighting themes relevant to the work of DPADM, in particular governance;
- the United Nations Public Service Day and Awards (UNPSA) 2012 – “Lessons Learned and the Way Forward”, providing assessments and recommendations, based on the feedback received, for the UNPSA and Forum, including the proposal of new categories in the area of partnership building;
- Branch/Unit Roadmaps for the United Nations Public Administration Country Studies (UNPACS), noting the relevance of UNPACS inputs to Member States as well as CEPA and the Post-2015 Development Agenda, and including an update on content development for UNPACS.

Staff actively engaged in discussion on these topics and expressed a strong preference to continue to work in collaboration across Branches and Units of the Division as well as with other internal and external stakeholders. The Director encouraged all DPADM staff to continue to work with the same positive and seamless team spirit exhibited for UNPSA - to work, think, and act as one.



6. Central America Public Service Forum: Possible Advisory Services

DPADM's IRA, Mr. Jonas Rabinovitch was invited to deliver the inaugural keynote address at the Central America Public Service Forum under the theme of "Public Governance: the Challenge of Public Participation, Accountability and Social Responsibility for Public Service in the New Millennium", held in Panama from 9-11 July.

The Forum was organized by the Directorate General of Civil Service (DIGECA) and the Central American Institute of Public Administration (ICAP). It gathered more than 300 dignitaries and senior officials from Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama.

At the Central America Public Service Forum, Costa Rica invited DESA, through DPADM to meet with the president and to undertake a mission to advise the country on the design and implementation of its new e-Government Strategy.

Panama and the Dominican Republic expressed also expressed interest in DESA's advisory services towards the implementation of their respective e-government master plans.

7. Panel on the Role of Public Administration in "The Development and Implementation of the MDGs through Social Policies"

DESA through DPADM and the Government of Mexico organized a high level panel during the 2012 International Congress of International Institute of Administrative Sciences (IIAS), in Merida from 18-22 June 2012. The panel, which was composed of recognized universities, Committee of Experts on Public Administration (CEPA) members and a DPADM representative, focused on the role of public administration in the development and implementation of the MDGs through social policies. Additionally, DPADM participated in the Plenary Session of the "Latin American Group for Public Administration" which took place during the same event, analyzing the new development and tendencies of public administration in the region.