

## **Workshop III: Public Administration Reform and Management Innovation in Developing Countries**

**(Department of Economic and Social Affairs, UNDESA)**

The functions and role of the State have been transformed substantially. The general configuration of its responsibilities has changed and this has introduced important modifications both in the policy arena and in the State's requirements for high-level skills, qualitatively and quantitatively. Overall, the role of the State has shifted, to varying degrees, from controlling the economy to steering it, from direct production of goods and services to the provision of an “enabling” environment for economic development, and to the promotion of an enabling framework for private enterprise and individual initiative.

This workshop will explore in light of the General Assembly Resolution on Public Administration and Development (Res50/225) and the Millennium Goals for Development the challenge of reforming public administration and management innovation in developing countries. While reforming Public Administration for improved performance has been a preoccupation of most countries, it is considered an absolute necessity and prerequisite for sustainable development in developing countries. The task is even more daunting because developing countries are not a homogeneous entity. One more daunting issue in relation to reforming Public Administration in developing countries, especially those in Africa, is that while the countries are in the process of mastering the traditional bureaucratic models of Public administration, they are being required to introduce modern and probably more complicated ones. For purposes of focused discussion, the aspects of Public Administration reform that the Panel will explore and discuss are the following: Civil Service reform and Human Resource Development, Management Innovation, Rebuilding Public Administration in Post-Conflict Countries, Cooperative Delivery of Public Services.