



DPADM Monthly Update to CEPA Members: December 2013

1. E-xperience Conference Generating Positive Feedback and Requests for Technical Cooperation from Member States

The Office of the President of Colombia and its Ministry for Information and Communication Technology, with substantive support from DPADM /UNDESA, organized the Conference “E-xperience”, which focused on new frontiers for e-Government from 26 to 27 November 2013 at the Planetarium of Bogotá. Over 300 high-level participants from countries in Latin America, CIVETS (Azerbaijan, Egypt, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Vietnam and Turkey), OECD and GEALC network, as well as local government officials, members of academia and media participated. Mr Vincenzo Aquaro, Chief, eGB/DPADM, opened the Conference, recalling that sustainable development requires the transformation of government as a whole, including government’s leadership and capacities to continuously adapt to new and evolving demands from citizens. He highlighted the role of DESA as a global hub for innovation in public governance; promoting knowledge sharing of innovative approaches and practices in public management, particularly in the area of e-government. During the two-day event, participants engaged in workshops, innovative exercises and plenary sessions with renowned international experts to share knowledge and new trends in e-government, including how to enhance transparency and efficiency of the State, considering key foundations for sustainable development. The Conference, a part of the Project "Centre for Innovation on e-Government Development" funded by the Government of Colombia in partnership with DESA and UNDP, generated positive feedback and specific requests for technical cooperation from various Member States such as Brazil, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama and Uruguay. Most of these countries confirmed that their national policy is guided by the UN e-Government Survey. Colombia confirmed satisfaction with the Centre for Innovation on e-Government and confirmed its intention to extend the project for another year.

2. Preparation for the 9th Internet Governance Forum (IGF)

Messrs. Chengetai Masango and Deniz Susar from the IGF Secretariat, DPADM/DESA respectively, undertook an assessment mission to Turkey from 25 to 27 November 2013. The mission assessed the country’s capability of meeting the standard requirements for hosting the 2014 IGF focusing on: (i) confirming the political support by the Ministry of Transport, Maritime Affairs and Communication; (ii) communication of the Host Country Agreement (HCA) with the concerned Government representatives, particularly with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Information and Communications Technologies Authority and National Police that will be in charge of the security for the venue; (iii) assessing the proposed venue and the adequacy of the available facilities to host the meeting considering the complexities of Internet infrastructure to support the anticipated load. They also met the Acting Resident Coordinator of the UNDP Turkey Office and appraised him on their mission, informing him Turkey’s consideration as a potential host of the 2014 IGF. The mission noted that the Turkish Government was eager and willing to meet all the requirements in order to host a successful forum. A detailed assessment report will be prepared and the final decision will be communicated to the Ministry of Transport, Maritime Affairs and Communication of Turkey in the first half of December 2013.



3. UNPOG receives Iraqi delegation on study tour

On 3 December 2013, UNPOG welcomed a delegation from Iraq that was on a week-long study tour in Seoul to learn about the e-governance strategies and practices. The delegation included director-generals and CIOs from the Iraqi National e-Governance Steering Committee and was led by Mr. Adil Ignaish Matloob, Advisor to the Minister of Science and Technology. The study tour, which was organized by the UNDP Seoul Policy Center focused on, among others, the standardized business process systems and comprehensive blueprint for enterprise architecture, including components such as the enterprise architecture repository and run-time application platform. During the visit, UNPOG made presentations on: (i) the background and major past and forthcoming activities of the Project Office, including a tentative project proposal to assist Iraq's e-governance capacity building; (ii) methodologies and latest trends of the biannual UN e-Government Survey; and (iii) up-to-date innovative cases and emerging trends in mobile public service delivery.

4. Supervision Mission in Support of Capacity Development and Modernisation Programme for Sustainable Development in Togo

On 5 December 2013, the Prime Minister's Office in Togo organized a Restitution Workshop as part of the country's ongoing programme formulation on capacity development and state modernization. The Workshop was opened by the Minister for Development and Planning and was attended by the Ministers of Economy and Finance, Social Affairs, Justice, the Secretary-General of Government and the Secretary-General of the President's Office. Permanent Secretaries and Chiefs of Cabinet of the line ministries and representatives of the private sector and civil society also attended. DPADM's IRA, Mr. Alphonse Mekolo attended the workshop as part of DESA's supervisory role over the programme and made a presentation on Sustainable Development Goals.

5. UNDESA and ESCWA Join Forces to Promote E-Government Development

Jordan, through the Ministry of ICT, hosted a regional workshop jointly organised by DPADM/DESA and ESCWA on e-Government Best Practices from 2 to 5 December 2013. It provided a forum for over 100 senior level officials from the Arab region and across the world to discuss trends, achievements and challenges in implementing e-government initiatives. Participants represented shared experiences, challenges, achievements and best practices encountered with the aim of enhancing the development of e-government initiatives in their respective regions. In addition, e-government leaders in the Arab region identified areas of cooperation between stakeholders and partners towards development of joint initiatives. Ms. Elida Reci, Governance and Public Administration Officer and Mr. Richard Kerby, Inter-Regional Adviser represented DPADM at the Workshop which forged a partnership with ESCWA for future work on e-government development through the exchange of best practices and dissemination of tools and mechanisms.

6. Measurement and Evaluation Tool for Engagement and e-Participation (METEP)

DPADM made a presentation on the Measurement and Evaluation Tool for Engagement and e-Participation (METEP) developed by the Development Management Branch (DMB), at a National Capacity Building Workshop held in Baku, Azerbaijan from 3 to 5 December 2013. The Workshop focused on Developing Capacity for e-Participation: Engaging Citizens in Development Policy and Decision-making Processes through Information Communication Technologies (ICTs). METEP aims at building a comprehensive policy assessment instrument, using ICT-aided public engagement



technologies, to assist Member States in assessing the existence of measures to engage citizens more directly, in the national planning and public policy making processes at all stages, starting from public problem definition to the evaluation of policy outcomes. The workshop was organized by the Ministry of Information and Communication in cooperation with the UNDP Country Office, the Ministry of Economy and Industry and the Civil Service Commission under the President.

7. Capacity Building Workshop on “Innovation and Performance Evaluation in Africa’s Public Service: The Role of Human Resource Managers”

As part of the efforts of DPADM’s PACB Branch and within the framework of implementing the Development Account Project on Strengthening Public Sector Human Resource Management Capacities in Africa, a Capacity Building Workshop on “Innovation and Performance Evaluation in Africa’s Public Service: The Role of Human Resource Managers” was conducted in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 11 to 13 December 2013. It was hosted by the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia’s Ministry of Civil Service and organised by DPADM in collaboration with ECA. The workshop provided a platform for ministers responsible for public service, public sector human resource managers and human resource management experts to discuss how innovation in the public service can be promoted and sustained as well as raise the attention of the important role of human resource managers towards this. The activities undertaken by the Africa Public Sector Human Resource Managers’ network were evaluated and a road map prepared outlining the way forward with the aim of making the network an organization capable of bringing together human resource managers in Africa’s public sector, both physically and virtually, to exchange ideas and best practices so as to find innovative ways of addressing challenges in the public sector. Public service ministers and human resource managers were tasked to improve service delivery especially with regard to achievement of MDGs and national development work by promoting innovation in the public service.

8. ECLAC Seminar on “Policy Development: e Government, Results-based Management and Participatory Planning”

At the invitation of ECLAC, eGB/DPADM’s IRA, Mr. Jonas Rabinovitch delivered the keynote address and presented and discussed the UN e-Government Survey as well as a panorama of regional e-government trends at an ECLAC sponsored seminar on “Policy Development: e Government, results-based management and participatory planning”, held in Santiago, Chile, from 16 to 17 December 2013. Senior officials from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Peru and Republic of Korea, among others, participated in the Seminar. During his presentation, Mr. Rabinovitch highlighted two objectives: 1) strengthening cooperation with ECLAC on e-government development; and 2) e-government cooperation with Member States in the region.

In a separate meeting, ECLAC agreed to explore with DESA, a set of joint substantive activities focusing on: a) capacity building for e-government policy development in the region, including discussing the challenges and best practices as well as e-government in the age of open government; and b) joint development of online courses to be disseminated via the United Nations Public Administration Network (UNPAN).



9. UNPOG Roundtable Meeting on Promoting Good Governance

The UN Project Office on Governance (UNPOG) hosted a year-end roundtable meeting on “Promoting Good Governance” on 12 December 2013. The meeting was attended by 40 participants including government officials and scholars specialized in the field of public administration and international development assistance, as well as three former Heads of UNPOG. It provided a venue for UNPOG to present its activities and plans, and express appreciation to the participants for their past and on-going contribution towards its development since 2006. Dr. Moon-suk Ahn’s, Professor Emeritus of the Korea University, gave the keynote speech on good governance and participants had interactive discussions on UNPOG’s future direction and strategies.

10. Emirates ID Authority Finalizes Social Media Strategy with DPADM/DESA

Upon the invitation of the Government of the United Arab Emirates, eGB/DPADM’s IRA, Mr. Richard Kerby was on mission to Abu Dhabi from 6 to 14 December 2013 to kick-off an e-government project with the Emirates ID Authority (EIDA). Mr. Kerby helped to finalize their social media strategy and started the process of developing their open data strategy. He also had meetings with senior officers of EIDA to help define the theme and prepare its draft agenda for the 2014 E-Government Forum, which is scheduled to be held in February 2014. DPADM will be working closely with EIDA to finalize the agenda and identify the speakers and participants of the Forum.

11. DPADM Presentation to Task Force on Access to Information under the Aarhus Convention

DMB/DPADM made a remote presentation on its Measurement and Evaluation Tool for Engagement and e-Participation (METEP) at the second meeting of the Task Force on Access to Information under the Aarhus Convention. The meeting, organized by the UN Economic Commission for Europe, took place in Geneva, Switzerland from 16 to 17 December 2013. During the meeting, the Task Force followed up on the outcomes of the previous meeting to continue assisting parties, signatories and other interested States in improving public access to environmental information, including through electronic information tools. As a relevant self-assessment tool for policy-makers, METEP was introduced to assist Member States in assessing the existence of measures to engage citizens more directly, in the national planning and public policy making processes at all stages, starting from public problem definition to evaluation of policy outcomes by using ICT-aided public engagement technologies.

12. World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) in 2013

DPADM/DESA prepared and submitted inputs to the forthcoming 2013 SG’s Report on the Implementation of the Outcomes of WSIS. DESA receives an annual request for inputs from the Secretary-General of UNCTAD. DPADM/DESA reported for January to December 2013, as the leading facilitator for Action Lines C1: The role of governments and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for development; C7eGov: ICT applications - benefits in all aspects of life; and C11: International and regional cooperation. DPADM/DESA also reported as a Vice-Chair of the United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS) and administrator of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) Secretariat. As in previous years, DPADM/DESA continued its efforts to ensure the comprehensive exchange of views, information and experiences, to provide advisory service and technical cooperation assistance to developing countries, to promote policy dialogue and advocacy for



the implementation of the WSIS outcomes by a variety of UN bodies, governmental and non-governmental stakeholders and partners.

13. Meeting with Representatives of the Republic of Korea on the hosting of the 2014 United Nations Public Service Day, Awards Ceremony, and Forum

The Public Administration Capacity Branch (PACB) of DPADM held two meetings on 19 December and 20 December with representatives of the Ministry of Security and Public Administration (MOSPA) of the Republic of Korea on the hosting of the 2014 United Nations Public Service Day, Awards Ceremony, and Forum in Seoul scheduled in June 2014. The meetings served as a follow up to ongoing discussions on issues such as the Host Country Agreement, with particular emphasis on division of responsibilities and other matters relevant to the successful hosting of the event. The Republic of Korea reiterated its commitment to ensuring that the event is a resounding success.