



DPADM Monthly Update to CEPA Members: February 2013

1. DPADM's Mission to the Kingdom of Morocco

The Government of Morocco recently requested DESA, through DPADM, to play an active role in the development of their new National e-Strategy 2014 – 2019. In addition, they requested DESA's assistance towards developing an Open Data platform and to help to arrange study tours to the Republic of Korea, the Kingdom of Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates. The requests were made during an advisory mission undertaken by DPADM's IRA, Mr. Richard Kerby, as part of the ongoing support that DESA has provided Morocco over the last three years. Mr. Kerby is currently finalizing the project document in consultation with CDO.

2. Meeting with the Brazilian Court of Audit

In the context of a courtesy call to Mr. Wu Hongbo, USG, DESA by Minister Augusto Nardes, President of the Brazilian Court of Audit, Federative Republic of Brazil and the head of the Organization of Latin American and Caribbean Supreme Audit Institutions (OLACEFS) of INTOSAI, DPADM and the Brazilian Court of Audit agreed to look for ways to work together. Since both DPADM and OLACEF work on initiatives to promote citizen engagement in audit, they agreed to discuss further how to enhance the effectiveness of SAIs by engaging citizens as their "eyes and ears on the ground" in remote places and to incorporate standards and practices of citizen engagement as part of performance audits of public institutions. They also agreed to look for ways to incorporate the advice of external auditors for safeguarding monies earmarked for financing sustainable development.

3. Second Round of Evaluations for 2013 United Nations Public Service Awards (UNPSA)

After completion of the first round of evaluation for initiatives nominated for the 2013 United Nations Public Service Awards (UNPSA) on 30 January 2013, DPADM/DESA has requested selected nominees to submit supporting documents of the same. The submission period is open from 1 to 28 February 2013 and all initiatives that do not submit the required documents within this period shall be disqualified from further review. Of the 458 nominated initiatives selected after the first round of evaluation, 251 were selected for the second round which is scheduled for March 2013. These represents 42% of the total nominations received this year and 55% of the initiatives evaluated in the first round. After the second round, a third and final round of evaluations will be conducted by a sub-committee of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Public Administration (CEPA). Announcement of award winners will be made in May 2013 and the awards ceremony will be held on 27 June 2013 during celebration of the designated United Nations Public Service Day on 23 June 2013.

4. Potential Partnership Opportunities for Capacity Building in Developing Countries

DPADM's Senior Governance and Public Administration Officer, Mr. Vyatcheslav Cherkasov, separately met with the governance team of the ESCAP, led by Mr. Murata, Deputy Executive Secretary, and with the senior management group of the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA), led by Mr. Pirapong Saicheua, Deputy Permanent Secretary, from 6 to 7 February 2013. He appraised both teams on the Division's work emphasizing citizen engagement and



participation which he explained enhances direct citizen participation in national decision-making processes and that it could progressively enable citizens to influence development planning and public policies. He further talked about the Division's development of the Open Government Data tool kit and Measurement and the Evaluation Tool for E-Participation Readiness (METEP) and solicited their interest in cooperating towards development and utilization of both in future capacity building programmes and projects in developing countries.

5. Internet Governance Forum (IGF) 2013 Preparation

In preparation for the 8th Internet Governance Forum (IGF), DPADM's, Senior Governance and Public Administration Officer, Mr. Vyatcheslav Cherkasov, and Mr. Chengetai Masango from the IGF Secretariat visited Jakarta and Bali, Indonesia from 28 January to 5 February 2013, to gauge the host country's capabilities of hosting the 2013 IGF. After meeting officials from relevant institutions including the national and local governments, civil society, private sector and the Internet community, the representatives concluded that Indonesia has the facilities, resources and the political will to host the IGF. However, to ensure adequate financial resources for the event, the host country indicated their need to fundraise and set tentative dates to convene the 8th IGF for 22 to 25 October 2013.

6. The Government Summit

DPADM/DESA and the Government of the United Arab Emirates co-organized the Government Summit, the first meeting on governance in the Gulf Region from 11 to 12 February, 2013 in Dubai under the overall theme "Leading Government Services". The Summit included a Ministerial Roundtable on "Innovation in Public Governance, a Ministerial Perspective" and three parallel workshops focusing on "Innovation in Public Governance: Perspectives from United Nations Public Service Awards (UNPSA) Winners" and on the sub themes of; (i) innovation in regulatory reform and administrative simplification for effective service delivery; (ii) innovation in public governance through networks and partnerships; and (iii) innovation in e-services. Each workshop featured a speaker from DPADM and a past UNPSA winner. The Summit was attended by over 2500 government officials from the Arabic Region.

Prior to the Summit, both parties organized a capacity building workshop on Innovation in Public Governance to showcase and discuss the work and ideas of the Division on the United Nations E-Government Survey, United Nations Public Administration Network (UNPAN), United Nations Public Administration Country Studies (UNPACS) and UNPSA. The pre-Summit workshop was attended by over 250 government officials from the UAE.

At the close of the summit, the DPADM team, led by Mr. Vincenzo Aquaro, Chief, eGB/DPADM/DESA was invited to meet with the Minister of Cabinet Affairs, Prime Minister's Office of the Government of the UAE who expressed appreciation for their substantive contribution towards the overall organization of the event, and requested further support from DPADM/DESA in upcoming activities.

7. ID World Abu Dhabi 2013

DPADM/DESA's IRA, Mr. Richard Kerby made a presentation on the use of Open Data as a foundation for electronic identity card (e-ID) data at ID World Abu Dhabi 2013 which was held



from 11 to 12 February 2013. E-ID is a tool currently used by many countries as the primary identification within the country. It is a prime gatherer of information and knowledge that could be reused in many electronic or mobile applications. As a result of the presentation, the Emirates ID Authority expresses an interest in having closer cooperation with DESA through DPADM and has requested a follow-up meeting to discuss common issues with the hope of developing a joint project.

8. In-House Seminar on e-Government and Open Government Data in Japan

On 15 February 2013, DPADM held an in-house seminar on e-government in Japan with presentation by Mr. Kenji Hiramoto, Executive Advisor for CIO of Japan, Mr. Takashi Wada and Mr. Shuichi Tashiro from Information-Technology Promotion Agency of Japan. They shared with DPADM staff on the evolving development and strategy of e-government and open government data in Japan, as well as some of their best practices and challenges. This was a follow-up activity initiated by the Government of Japan following the visit of the first-ever national Government Chief Information Officer (GCIO), Mr. Koichi Endo in October 2012.

9. Expert Group Meeting “Transfer and Adaptation of Innovative Practices for Improved Public Service Delivery in LDCs”

DPADM/DESA convened an ad hoc Expert Group Meeting (EGM) titled “Transfer and adaptation of innovative practices for improved public service delivery in Least Developed Countries (LDCs)”, from 25 to 26 February 2012, in New York City, United States. Experts discussed the implementation strategy for the new project launched by DPADM/DESA in early 2013 which aims to build the capacity of the public sector in LDCs so as to deliver quality services equitably through the transfer and adaptation of innovative public administration practices. The experts recommended that DESA and its implementing UN partners, namely, UNODC, UNHABITAT and UN Women, should implement the project by using a collaborative governance approach. This approach proposes to involve actors from the government, private and civil sectors of the LDCs that will be benefitting from the project while prioritizing those innovations in public service delivery that are best suited to assist the recipient LDCs to achieve the MDG targets. They further recommended that, in identifying relevant innovations, specific attention should be paid to simplicity, cost effectiveness and sustainability of recommended innovations as well as those innovations that have enhanced potential to employ local human capital and encourage ownership on the part of the local counterparts.