

Working Group II

eGovernment and ICT for Development

Rapporteur: Prof. Turksel Kaya Bensghir

Break-out Group II:

- Chair: Giuseppe Maria Armenia
- Rapporteur: Turksel Kaya Bensghir
- Secretariat Resource Person: Mr. Vincenzo Aquaro
- Presenters: Adriana Alberti, Richard Kerby, Jonas Rabinovitch
- Friend of Rapporteur: Jonas Rabinovitch, with support from Adriana Alberti and Elida Reci

Members of Break-out Group II:

- Ms. Rowena G. Bethel (Bahamas)
- Mr. Alexandre Navarro Garcia (Brazil)
- Mr. Giuseppe Maria Armenia (Italy)
- Ms. Dona Scola (Moldova)
- Dr. Paul Oquist (Nicaragua)
- Ambassador Walter Fust (Switzerland)
- Dr. Palouki Massina (Togo)
- Prof. Türksel Kaya Bensghir (Turkey)

Discussions

- Activities Theme 1: e-Government as an enabler of Collaborative and Open Governance for Sustainable Development
- Activities Theme 2: Institutional Frameworks and Leadership for e-Government development and government transformation.
- Activities Theme 3: Innovation in service Delivery and e-Government.
- Strengthening Collaboration with CEPA Members

1. The WG began by acknowledging the important challenges posed by a fast-changing global environment, which demands policy responses from Governments, Private Sector and Civil Society. An "Inventory of Concerns" was outlined and discussed.

 Attention was drawn to an increasing policy vacuum at a global level concerning the proliferation of cyber-crime, requiring urgent policy attention at the international level.

3. In response to the proposal for the UN to promote a Resolution regarding cyberspace as a global public good, the Secretariat briefed the experts on the role of each international organization in tackling different areas of cybersecurity and highlighted the cooperation among them — the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD), Committee and Internet Governance Forum (IGF) with specific mandates in charge of these issues.

4. The Group also acknowledged the importance of promoting access to the internet as a civil right. In parallel with major global issues associated with the internet, within each country, there are crucial challenges and opportunities to engage communities.

5. In this regard, the Working Group / CEPA Members acknowledged the need to enhance collaborative governance and enact specific legislation and procedures to expand usage of ICT and e-Government potential to become a catalyst for transformative change.

6. With connection to the social role of ICTs and e-Government development, particular emphasis was made on the relevance of policies promoting a "socio-techno policy approach", given the fact that challenges and opportunities do have a multi-disciplinary nature. This means that e-Government is not just about technology, but should encompass an overriding policy concern with much needed tools and processes.

- 7. The Working Group discussed the growing gap between e-Government policy design and e-Government policy implementation.
- 8. The Working Group also acknowledged the importance of promoting partnerships and networking with institutions which would have a track record and comparative advantages in specific areas, such as the European Union Platform, ITU, Broadband Commission, Regional Commissions, Sub-Regional Bodies and other organizations that could bring selective added value to this process.

1) The Working Group 2 commended the Division for the excellent work carried out in the area of e-government over the past year, particularly what the E-Government Branch has done as an "immense assistance to countries, including assisting with solutions".

2) The Working Group recommended labelling better the "knowledge hub" of the Division in the area of e-government and innovation through increased strategic communication, outreach and awareness raising.

3) It recommended that the Secretariat further invest in transformative public administration and governance for sustainable development at national and local levels by designing new tools and approaches, including in partnership with the private sector and civil society;

4) The Working Group / CEPA Members acknowledged the "international relevance" of the UN e-Government Survey and requested EGB/DPADM to work as actively as possible to disseminate widely the contents of the Survey in all Regions and throughout all 193 Member States, Parliaments and other relevant institutions.

5) CEPA members can be more involved and contribute of EGB's core activities by participating to the e-Government events like conferences, workshops etc., and by contrubuting to virtual network platforms, such as the United Nations Public Administration Network.

6) The Working Group / CEPA Members agreed to support the mandate of EGB/DPADM. This will be done by utilizing their networks, contacts with Members of Parliament, knowledge experts, contacts with national governments, UN Missions, strengthening contacts with newly industrialized countries, parliaments and other constituents, including the promotion of "buy-in" from these institutions and champions to raise funds for EGB activities.

7) The Working Group / CEPA Members agreed to support the mandate of EGB/DPADM. This will be done by utilizing their networks, contacts with Members of Parliament, knowledge experts, contacts with national governments, UN Missions, strengthening contacts, and other stakeholders, including the promotion of "buy-in" from these institutions and champions to raise funds for EGB activities.

8) The Working Group / CEPA Members recommended that the Secretariat continue its invaluable work in the three thematic activities, and encourage knowledge transfer of innovative practices among countries to promote transformative government.

THANK YOU...