Review of the United Nations Programme

on
Public Administration and Finance

Committee of Experts on Public Administration, 16 April 2008

WHAT ARE THE MANDATES

✓**United Nations General Assembly Resolution 50/225**

✓**United Nations ECOSOC Resolution 2007/38:**
   Commemoration of the Programme's 60th Anniversary

✓**United Nations ECOSOC Resolution 2007/44**

✓**United Nations Programme Budget for the Biennium 2008-2009 (Section 9, Subprogramme 8)**

UPDATE ON MAJOR ACTIVITES

- ✓ **Normative**

- ✓ **Coordination**

- ✓ **Analytical**

- ✓ **Exchange of Best Practices**

- ✓ **Technical Cooperation**

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE

✓**Normative:**

- Participatory Governance & Citizens' Engagement in Policy Development, Service Delivery, Budgeting

- Compendium of Basic UN Terminology in Governance and Public Administration

- Review of Activities of UN Programme in Public Administration and Finance

- Public Administration Perspective on the 2007 Annual Ministerial Review theme: *Strengthening efforts to eradicate poverty and hunger, including through the global partnership for development*

- Report of the Secretary-General on Public administration and Development

- Public Service Awards/Day

- United Nations Public Administration Network (UNPAN)

- The 7th Global Forum on Reinventing Government

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE

✓ **Coordination:**

- ▪ Chairmanship of the Governance and Institutions-building cluster of the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs (ECESA).

- ▪ Facilitate the system-wide implementation of World Summit on the Information Society action lines C1, C7eGov and C11, with the participation of the multi-stakeholders.

- ▪ The organization of the Global and Regional Forums on Reinventing Government through bringing together members of the Institutional Partners Group.

- ▪ Management of the widest network of organizations in governance and public administration, UNPAN--exchange of knowledge, documentation, and training.

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE

✓ **Analytical:**

- **The World Public Sector Report**
  2007: *People matter: Civic Engagement in Public Governance.*
  2008: *Reconstructing Governance and Public Administration in Post-conflict Countries: Lessons Learned (in progress).*

- **The UN e-Government Survey 2008:** *From e-Government to Connected Governance*

WHAT   HAS   BEEN   DONE

✓ **Analytical:**

- UN E-Government Readiness Knowledge Base

- Compendium of Innovative E-Government Practices

- Innovations from Around the World:
  Success Stories of the UN Public Service Awards Winners (2003-2007)

- Guide for the Transfer and Adaptation of Innovations in Governance:
  Practical Tools and Steps

- Report of the Fifth UN Public Service Day and Awards Ceremony

- Building Capacities for Public Service in Post-Conflict Countries

- Historical Review of the UN Public Administration Programme

- UN Public Administration profiles

- Civic Engagement for Building Trust in Government

✓ **Analytical:**

Other major 2007 publications:

▪ Participatory Governance and the Millennium Development Goals

▪ Auditing for Social Change: A Strategy for Citizen Engagement in Public Sector Accountability

▪ Opportunities and Challenges of Civic Engagement in Socio-Economic Policies in the Arab Region

▪ Report on the Networking and Capacity-building for Poverty Alleviation through Community-based Development: Environmental Degradation in the Central Asian Southeast Asian Regions

▪ Toolkit on Civic Engagement in Public Policies

▪ Online Training Course on Results-based Monitoring and Evaluation

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE

✓ **Analytical:**

Ad Hoc Expert Group Meetings:

- Building Trust through Civic Engagement
- Public Service Capacity-building
- Public Service Capacity Building for Post Conflict Recovery and Development
- Managing Knowledge to Build Trust in Government

✓ **Exchange of Best Practices:**

▪ **UN Public Service Awards:** In 2008, the PSA will be presented at the UNHQ on 23 June. The sixtieth anniversary of the UN Programme in Public Administration and Finance will also be celebrated on this date.

Awards in three categories:
1) improving transparency, accountability and responsiveness in public service;
2) improving the delivery of services;
3) fostering participation in policymaking decisions through innovative mechanisms.

Six new products were developed to increase awareness about the PSA:
1) New UNPAN featuring all information related to the awards in 6 UN official languages

2) A new online database designed to facilitate online applications

3) Users' guidelines for the online Awards database
4) A follow-up questionnaire devised to gather past winners' experience

5) A new brochure on the Awards, and

6) UNPSA Newsletter

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE

✓**Exchange of Best Practices:**

▪**UNPAN**: registered the highest number of visitors among DESA's websites.

▪**The 7th Global Forum on Reinventing Government: Building Trust in Government** concluded with the "Vienna Declaration on Building Trust in Government." The 8th Global Forum will be held in 2009.

▪**InnovMED** seeks to promote good governance and a culture of innovation within the public sector though the dissemination and adaptation of pioneering initiatives in public administration in the Euro-Mediterranean Region.

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE

✓ **Exchange of Best Practices:**

Eighteen other major meetings were held:

- Second World Summit on Information Society--Implementation Consultation Meeting on Action Lines: C1, C7e-Gov and C1International and Regional Cooperation
- Seventh Interregional Consultative Meeting of UNPAN
- International Seminar on Citizen Participation in Public Management
- International Round Table on the Economic and Social Council of Bolivia
- Building National Capacities for Conflict Prevention: Review and Sharing of Experiences
- Panel on Accountability from the Bottom
- Panel on Emerging Parameters of Global Governance and Reform of Public
- Administration at the 20th Congress IIAS
- Panel on Public Accountability: A Space for Supreme Audit Institution and Civil Society Participation, at the 19th Congress of the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions
- Dialogue on Civil Society Engagement in Public Accountability
- World Urban Forum III side event on "Fighting Urban Poverty: Which Participatory Approaches?"
- Arab Regional Workshop on "Opportunities and Challenges of Civic Engagement in Socio-Economic Policies"
- Special Meeting of the Network of Innovators in Governance in the Mediterranean Region
- The first meeting of the Steering Committee of the Network of Innovators in Governance in the Mediterranean Region

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE

✓ **Exchange of Best Practices:**

▪ Meetings of UNDESA Secretariat and the International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration on Standards of Excellence in Public Administration Education and Training for Effective Public Service

▪ Capacity-building for Peaceful Management of Conflict in Central American and Caribbean States

▪ International Training Courses on the Implementation of the Ibero-American Charter for Public Service

▪ International Seminar on the Implementation of the Ibero-American Charter for the Public Service: Selected Country Experiences

▪ Programme on Leadership, Ethics, Accountability and Professionalism in the Public Sector (LEAP) Capacity-building for Public Officials Regional Seminar in Central Asia

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE

✓ **Technical Cooperation:**

▪ In 2007, DPADM conducted over 100 technical cooperation projects in the following fields: *Improvement of transparency and accountability; decentralized governance; participatory and equitable governance; post-conflict governance; ICT application to governance; and governance for poverty alleviation.*

▪ Five Training workshops were organized: *International Workshop on e-Access for All; UNPAN e-Information management training for new members; Fifth UNPAN e-Knowledge Management Training Workshop; Training workshop/consultation on capacity-building for the management and mediation of conflict; Regional Workshop on the "Poverty-environment nexus: building institutional capacity"*

▪ DPADM backstops a number of regional centers: *The Global Centre on e-Parliaments in Rome; The UN Centre for Regional Development in Japan; The UN Project Office on Governance in Korea; The International Centre of Innovation and Exchange in Public Administration in Bahia, Brazil.*

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE

✓ **Technical Cooperation:**

Major ongoing projects:

- Strengthening Parliaments' Information Systems in Africa: A Regional Capacity-building Initiative
- Training Programme on Peacebuilding and Good Governance for African Civilian Personnel in Ghana
- Africa Governance Inventory Initiative
- Caribbean Regional Technical and Advisory Support Facility
- e-Government for Enhanced Service Delivery: Lesotho
- e-Human Resources Management Project in the Public Administration for Morocco
- Enhancing the Official Website of the Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
- Integrating Saint Lucia Information Systems
- Computerization of the motor vehicles registry and driving licenses issuing procedures in Belize
- Web enabling of the financial Management system for the Government of Jamaica

WHAT DO WE PROPOSE TO DO in 2008-2009

Themes of the Multi-Year Agenda adopted by the Committee:

▪2007: Participatory governance and citizens' engagement in policy development, service delivery and budgeting

▪2008: Capacity-building for development, including post-conflict reconstruction of public administration and crisis/disaster management

▪2009: Building transparency, accountability and trust, including leadership development through information and communications technology (ICT) tools

▪2010: Governance, pubic administration and the UN Development agenda

WHAT DO WE PROPOSE TO DO in 2008-2009

New emerging priorities identified under the 2008 theme of "Building governance and public administration capacities for development" as per CPC's recommendations:

- Developing standards of excellence in public administration education and training partnership wit IASIA through enhancing the capacity of public administration schools and institutes to attune government and public service leaders to the challenges facing the world in various regions and countries

- Improving back office management to make government operations more transparent, accountable and trustworthy through the application of ICT tools

- Building capacity in participatory governance approaches, strategies for civil society engagement and tools for policy formulation and implementation

- Building transparency, accountability and trust in government in the context of the UN Development Agenda and the UN Convention against Corruption through work related to civil service reform, public sector ethics and public accountability

- Reconstruction of public administration capacities after crisis and/or conflicts

WHAT DO WE PROPOSE TO DO in 2008-2009

Servicing to Intergovernmental and Expert Bodies:

- General Assembly & Economic and Social Council:
Substantive servicing of meetings and preparation of parliamentary documentation

- Committee of Experts on Public Administration:
Substantive servicing of the 7th and 8th session & analytical/working papers on selected issues, report on emerging trends in PA and on the Programme in Public Administration and Development

Ad-hoc Expert Group Meetings:

- Connecting Government for better public service delivery

- Assessing in formation and technology- based knowledge management in Government

- Government/civil society organizations partnership-building in post conflict situations

- Trust building through improved public accountability mechanisms

- Restructuring post-conflict governance and public administration

- Leadership capacity-building in the public sector for development

WHAT DO WE PROPOSE TO DO in 2008-2009

Recurrent Publications:

- Compendium of best practices and innovation in Public Administration
- Compendium of e/m-government innovative practices and lessons learned
- Country profiles of public administration
- UN global e/m-government readiness survey: Trends and impact of information and communications technology in development
- UNPSA report
- World Public Sector Report

Non-recurrent publications:

- Assessing information and communications technology-based knowledge management in Government
- Connecting Government for better public service delivery
- Government/civil society organizations partnership-building in post conflict situations
- Leadership capacity-building in the public sector for development
- Restructuring post-conflict governance and public administration
- Trust-building through improved public accountability mechanisms

WHAT DO WE PROPOSE TO DO in 2008-2009

Special events:

- Observance of the UN Public Service Day
- Public Service Awards Competition
- Regional Ministerial Meetings on emerging trends in Public Administration

Technical material:

- Development of Administration Newsletter
- Maintenance and Update of UNPAN and of the thematic databases
- Audio-visual resources: Training materials on CD-ROM
- Substantive servicing of inter-agency meetings
- 8th Global Forum on Reinventing Government
- Support to technical meetings organized by partner institutions

Technical cooperation:

- Advisory services: 16 Training seminars; 60 needs assessment missions; 8 manuals
- 80 Field Projects

Reform Proposal

- **Resource requirements**:

  DPADM: Initial appropriation: $13, 287.6
      Revised estimate: $13,011 (change: $-276.6)
      Post change: -1

  DESA: Initial: $158, 384.3
      Revised estimate: $163,849.5 (change: $5,464.7)
      Post change: +33

Reform Proposal

- In order to respond more effectively to its mandates, it will be necessary to streamline and strengthen the delivery of DESA 's support and services to Member States. It is proposes to reorganize and reorient the work programme of DPADM as follows:

- (A) Strengthening promotion and support for greater and more creative use of ICT to enhance governance as well as development policymaking at the country level, together with strengthened substantive support for e-governance

- (B) Increase focus on the extended development of e-tools for more efficient and cost-effective delivery of DESA'a services, including in capacity development at the national level

- (C) Strengthening capacity development support for national development strategies, including by providing direct support to national ECOSOCs as multi-stakeholder mechanisms to formulate such strategies and review their implementation

- (D) Strengthening the analytical and research capacity of DPADM to better address governance challenges in post-conflict reconstruction, as well as reform processes for maintaining peace and preventing conflicts, through strengthening institutional and human capacities for maintaining peace and preventing conflicts;

- (E) Strengthening support to UNPAN to extend it to the sub-regional and national levels, and continued support to CEPA

WHAT DO WE PROPOSE TO DO in 2010-2011

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2010-2011:

- **Main objective**:

  To promote effective, efficient, accountable, participatory and transparent public administration for the attainment of internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Declaration and in the outcomes of the major UN conferences.

- **Expected Accomplishments:**

  A) Enhanced dialogue on improved understanding of the issues related to public administration, participatory governance, capacity-building and promotion of professionalism and ethics, knowledge management for development.

  B) Enhanced knowledge and improved exchange of innovations and good practices in the area of public administration, participatory governance and knowledge management for development.

  C) Increased capacity of national Governments to strengthen participatory governance, professionalism and accountability in the public sector for improved performance, including through the use of information and communications technology.

WHAT DO WE PROPOSE TO DO in 2010-2011

- **DPADM's strategy:**

  It is based on an integrated approach comprising the provision of substantive support to the GA, the ECOSOC and the CEPA, analytical work, capacity development as well as the dissemination of best practices, experiences in information- sharing and network building

- **Expected Accomplishments:**

  A) Promoting greater awareness, common approaches, understanding and innovative policy options among Member States in key areas of public management such as: *post conflict reconstruction of public administration; engaged governance; capacity-building and promotion of professionalism and ethics in the public sector; use of information and communications technology in government and resource management.*

  B) Strengthening partnerships and cooperation with other international and regional as well as professional organizations within and outside the UN system to increase synergies among the related activities

  C) Devoting special attention to countries emerging from conflict or crisis

Comments and Suggestions

The Committee is invited to:

- Comment on the activities carried out in 2007
- Make suggestions for the implementation of activities for the biennium 2008-2009
- Endorse the strategic framework for the period 2010-2011