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Subject: The Role of Responsive and Accountable Public Governance in Achieving the Millennium Development Goals and the post-2015 Development Agenda

The **role of responsive and accountable public governance in achieving the Millennium Development Goals and the post-2015 development agenda**, with following sub-themes:

(a) making public governance work for the post-2015 development agenda;
(b) stakeholders accountability in public governance for development;
(c) creating an enabling environment for the post-2015 development agenda.

In today's digital era of pervasive communication technologies, ITU believes that Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) are bringing public governance processes closer to ordinary people, and bringing ordinary people into public governance processes.

According to International Telecommunication Union (ITU) statistics, governance and citizen participation is considered and included in 77% or just over three-quarters of 109 National Broadband Plans in force by the start of 2013. This encouraging statistic reflects the importance of public governance and the **clear priority Governments around the world are giving to governance and citizen participation** as a means of boosting transparency and accountability, and ultimately Government efficiency in the use of resources in an era of economic constraint.

ICTs can help inform Governments about the needs and priorities of the citizens they govern. The last three decades of development work have taught us that empowering local communities is key to allocating limited resources and responding to the urgent local needs which really matter to people. E-government services can help improve the flow of communication between local authorities and the people they govern; can highlight the gaps; and increase transparency.

The social media revolution is also empowering individuals through the ability to express themselves, report wrongdoing, and take direct action. The advent of e-government services and social media represents a seismic shift in thinking and attitudes away from top-down governance, towards grassroots activism and the bottom-up expression of needs and opinions that will, in time, result in citizen-centric processes putting citizens first.

The awareness of individuals' ability to report wrongdoings should in time **improve stakeholders' accountability in public governance** and reduce corruption where it exists. ITU believes that greater availability of ICTs and access to ICTs, and in particular the broadband networks and services of the future, will help create a more transparent enabling environment for the post-2015 development agenda by improving transparency and accountability. ITU therefore respectfully requests that the UN system should not repeat any previous omission, and that ICTs

and broadband should be included in the post-2015 development agenda. ITU urges the United Nations Committee of Experts on Public Administration (CEPA) to consider the vital role of ICTs in transforming and improving public governance processes, and to ensure that ICTs are considered as a top priority in the post-2015 development agenda.