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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

My Comments:

ad Item 3a) making public governance work for the post-2015 development agenda;

Paper by Ms. Margaret Saner, Ms. Hyam Nashash and Ms. Rowena G. Bethel (E/C.16/2013/2)

**Comment 1:**

Include the role of Supreme Audit Institutions in providing for public accountability (see United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/66/209<sup>1</sup>, December 2011 and UN/INTOSAI Symposium Conclusions, Feb.2013<sup>2</sup>), f.ex. in point 35.

**Comment 2:**

While the paper recognizes the need to integrate human rights and development goals, I would recommend linking and highlighting the rights-based approach to development more strongly (see HRBA Portal<sup>3</sup> and Panel on Human Dignity, 2011).

**Comment 3:**

*„During the second half of the 20th century, much progress has been made in promoting the idea of human rights, in developing a universal normative framework with legally binding rights of human beings and corresponding obligations of states, and in creating effective monitoring bodies and procedures able to assess the actual state of human rights implementation in all countries of our globe. It is exactly our improved monitoring capacity ... which enables us to realize how large is the gap between legal commitments and the factual situation on the ground.”<sup>4</sup>*

I recommend developing a stronger link between human rights monitoring bodies and monitoring of development goals.

ad Item 3b) stakeholders accountability in public governance for development;

Paper by Mr. Jan Ziekow and Mr. Francisco Longo (E/C.16/2013/3)

**Comment 4:**

Section II, Point 5. is mainly based on Bovens, 2005. I suggest to include more updated research by Bovens, particularly I would suggest to include a paragraph on the three main purposes of public

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=%20A/RES/66/209](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=%20A/RES/66/209) (Last Accessed March 18, 2013)

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.intosai.org/fileadmin/downloads/downloads/5\\_events/symposia/2013/17\\_E\\_Conclusions.pdf](http://www.intosai.org/fileadmin/downloads/downloads/5_events/symposia/2013/17_E_Conclusions.pdf) (Last Accessed March 18, 2013)

<sup>3</sup> <http://hrbaportal.org/the-human-rights-based-approach-to-development-cooperation-towards-a-common-understanding-among-un-agencies>

<sup>4</sup> Panel on Human Dignity, 2011: 32

accountability - constitutional, democratic, learning (see Bovens 2007a, Bovens 2007b, Bovens 2010 and Bovens, Schillemans and `T Hart 2008).

**Comment 5:**

Include the role of Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) in providing for public accountability and the opportunities for collaboration between citizen engagement and SAIs.

ad Item 3c) creating an enabling environment for the post-2015 development agenda

Paper by Mr. Bin Hao and Mr. Siripurapu Kesava Rao (E/C.16/2013/4)

**Comment 6:**

Include the critical role of **Supreme Audit Institutions** in improving public accountability supporting the post-2015 development agenda, for example under point 46. Challenges.

**Comment 7:**

At the same time there needs to be concern for strengthening other institutions providing for democratic, constitutional and learning accountability (see Bovens 2007a, Bovens 2007b).

ad Item 4) Review of the UN Programme in Public Administration

Review of the United Nations Programme in Public Administration (E/C.16/2013/5)

**Comment 8:**

I miss any activities supporting the strengthening of Supreme Audit Institutions accountability (see United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/66/209<sup>5</sup>, December 2011 and UN/INTOSAI Symposium Conclusions, Feb.2013<sup>6</sup>).

**Comment 9:**

Section II Proposed activities for 2012-2013.

I suggest to include a publication on the role of Supreme Audit Institutions in making public accountability work for the post 2015 development agenda.

How can SAIs contribute to better public accountability supporting the post-2015 development agenda? What lessons do they have to offer for the development of public accountability? What will be their role in measuring public performance within a multi-stakeholder development framework?

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<sup>5</sup> [http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=%20A/RES/66/209](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=%20A/RES/66/209) (Last Accessed March 18, 2013)

<sup>6</sup> [http://www.intosai.org/fileadmin/downloads/downloads/5\\_events/symposia/2013/17\\_E\\_Conclusions.pdf](http://www.intosai.org/fileadmin/downloads/downloads/5_events/symposia/2013/17_E_Conclusions.pdf) (Last Accessed March 18, 2013)

How can SAIs contribute to creating an enabling environment for the post-2015 development agenda?

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