

**31st January 2012**  
**FINAL**  
Activity Brief  
United Nations Project Office on Governance

**Expert Group Meeting (EGM)**  
**Co-hosted with Asia-Pacific Women's Information Network (APWINC) on UNPOG toolkit**  
**on The Role of e-Government and Gender Equality in the Asia-Pacific Region**

**Background**

The delivery of public services online, as well as the interactive nature of e-Government through the Internet has also opened a new perspective on women's participation in the public sector. Thanks to the participatory communication process and easier access to information, e-Government is expected to provide greater opportunities for women and contribute to achieve the UN Millennium Development Goals by promoting gender equality and empowering women. With this belief, the two issues of gender mainstreaming and ICT application in the public sector have been placed at the top of many development research agenda in recent years.

However, particularly in the Asia Pacific region, not many researchers have taken a view on combining the two aspects of gender and e-government together and explore the role of e-government in the promotion of women's rights. Why is it crucial for women to have an open channel of participation in the public sector decision-making process and how does the e-Government help in this endeavour? What are the conditions required to fully benefit from such technological advancement? What are the concerns specific to the Asia Pacific region?

To this end, UNPOG and consultants initiated a study in 2011(September) on the role of e-Government and gender equality in the Asia-Pacific region. The study reviewed:

- a) Academic and development institutions literature on this topic;
- b) Indicators of gender development and progress used by both academia and development institutions;
- c) Guide & tool kits developed to assist governments to assess their progress in this area;
- d) Undertook a regional survey (with some reference from other regions such as Africa and Latin America) of government progress, key issues in implementation and an assessment of the toolkit being developed; and,
- e) Developed a toolkit that governments can utilise to assess their progress in gender mainstreaming and e-government.

The study has been completed and at present under internal peer review. To ensure wider and greater ownership of the toolkit, it is proposed that UNPOG and APWINC (a leading research institute on gender and ICTs) host a one day EGM of key regional academic and development partners such as UN Women, ADB, UNDP, ITU, ESCAP around the 13<sup>th</sup> February 2012 to share and review the tool-kit as well as seek guidance and support for the next steps, such as a regional workshop to formally launch the toolkit. UNPOG and/or APWINC will not finance travel, DSA and/or honorariums for any of the participants to the EGM. MOPAS as co-sponsor to the event will finance honorariums for 5 Korean participants from the Korean Academia and civil society.

## **Objectives**

UNPOG and APWINC will host an EGM to review and share the toolkit with key academia and development partners in the Asia-Pacific region.

In particular, the meeting aims to achieve the following objectives

- To share and get feedback on the toolkit
- For UNPOG to gauge buy-in and commitment on utilising the toolkit
- Seek guidance and partners for future follow-up activities such as the Regional workshop to formally launch the event

## **Regional Coverage**

Experts from each organization will share their view and comments on the toolkit as well as their commitments on how to disseminate and utilise this tool kit in the region

## **Partnerships**

Initiator and supporter of the project will be the UNPOG with APWINC. Each participant from UNDP, ESCAP, UN Women, ADB, ITU and Ministry of Public Administration and Security (MOPAS, ROK) will share their own programmes and knowledge in this area and their assessment of the toolkit.

## **Methodology**

UNPOG will co-host with APWINC a one day EGM (13<sup>th</sup> February 2012). UNPOG and/or APWINC will not finance travel, DSA and/or honorariums for any of the participants to the EGM. MOPAS as co-sponsor to the event will finance honorariums for 5 Korean participants from the Korean Academia and civil society.

The event itself should be a full day with the following proposed agenda-  
Morning:

- a. Session 1- a presentation on the report
- b. Session 2- Feedback from participants on the report

Afternoon

- c. Session 3- Way forward and open discussion
- d. Session 4- planning for the regional event and outcomes- it is proposed that UN Women and a focal point from the Korean Ministry of Gender be moderators of this session.

## **Output**

- Endorsement of the toolkit
- A strategy and partnerships on disseminating the toolkit in the region
- A joint plan for a regional workshop on formally launching the toolkit
- Up-loading the tool-kit on-line

**Budget : (estimate cost shared by co-organizers and MOPAS)**

**UNPOG INPUTS**

UNPOG, as the principal co-organizer of the international conference, will provide: Lunch, Coffee, Snacks (for break sessions x 2) and Dinner for the estimated 15-20 participants, the list of attendees is in Annex A  
Estimated cost-

- US\$ 25 per person for 10 people at Lunch –  $25 \times 10 = \text{USD\$ } 250$   
*(The morning and lunch session will only consist of participants from International Organizations)*
- US\$35 per person for 25 people at Dinner-  $35 \times 25 = \text{USD\$ } 875$
- Coffee and Snacks- US\$ 200

**Total Sum requested  $250 + 875 + 200 = \text{USD\$ } 1,325$**

**Other Support**

Overall coordination of the EGM including 1) identification of key participants 2) preparation of the EGM agenda; and 3) development and update of public documentation including aide memoire, agenda, programme and participants, and posting of these document on the UNPOG website and UNPAN.

**APWINC INPUTS**

APWINC, as a co-organizer of the EGM, will provide: cost of the venue, costs of audio-visual facilities and publication.

Venue: Sookmyung Women's University  
Centennial Hall 6th Fl. Room # 608  
Sookmyung Women's University  
Chengpa-Ro 47-Gil 100, Yongsan-Gu  
140-742 Seoul, Korea

**MOPAS INPUTS**

MOPAS as the sponsor of the EGM, will provide honorariums for 5 Koreans participants from Korean Academia and civil society organisations.

- **Honorarium:**
- **$\text{USD } 268 \times 5 \text{ persons} = \text{USD\$ } 1,340$**
- **Backdrop expenses:**
- **$\text{USD } 134 \times 1 = \text{USD\$ } 134$**

**Total amount: USD\$ ,474**

## ANNEX PROGRAMME

<b>Morning</b>  (CLOSED: participants from the international organizations)	Registration	09:00 - 09:30	Registration of participants
	Session 1	9:30 - 11:00	Challenges and trends on the application of e-government in achieving MDG 3 (based on the report)
	Session 2	11:00 - 12:00	Partnership for Development amongst the International Organizations, the need for greater collaboration in achieving MDG 3
<b>Lunch Break</b>		12:00 - 1:30	TBC
<b>Afternoon</b>	Session 3	13:40 - 14:30	A presentation on the report
	Session 4	14:30 - 15:10	Feedback from participants on the report and response from APWINC
	Session break	15:10 - 15:20	
	Session 5	15:20 - 16:00	Way forward and open discussion
	Session 6	16:00 - 16:40	Introduction and planning for the regional conference and expected outcomes
<b>Closing &amp; Group photo</b>		16:40 - 17:00	All participants

**EGM on the UNPOG**  
**Publication on Role of e-Government to Promote Gender Equality**  
**in the Asia Pacific Region**

**LIST OF INVITED EXPERTS**

	<b>Category</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Position/ Dept.</b>	<b>Status</b>
1	IO	Mr. Vijay Parmar	UNPOG	Senior Governance & Public Administration Expert	Confirmed (co-organizer)
2	Academia	Prof. Dongju Choi	APWINC	Director/Professor	Confirmed (co-organizer)
3	IO	Ms. Anne-Isabelle Degryse-Blateau	UNDP Policy Center		Confirmed
4	IO	Ms. Julia Broussard	UN Women China Office	Country Programme Manager	Confirmed
5	IO	Ms. Eunice Smith	UNESCO China Office	Gender Focal Point	Confirmed
6	IO	Ms. Shireen Lateef	ADB Manila	Senior Advisor (Gender)	TBC
7	IO	Mr. Kilaparti Ramakrishna	UNESCAP Regional Office, ROK	Director	Confirmed
8	IO		ITU		TBC
9	IO	Mr. Utak Chung	Korean National Commission for UNESCO	Assistant Secretary-General	Pending
10	Gov		MOPAS		TBC
11	Gov	Ms. Hyun Joo Hong	MOGEF	International Cooperation	Confirmed
12	Public	Ms. Soo Young Park	KOICA	International Development Cooperation	Confirmed
13	Public	Dr. Jong Sung Hwang	Info Seoul, Seoul Metropolitan Government	Executive Director	Confirmed
14	Public	Dr. Eun Kyung Kim	Korea Women's Development Institute	Director, International Development Cooperation	Confirmed
15	Quasi-gov	Dr. Jung Ah Cho	GWDC Gyeonggi Women's Development Center	Executive Director	Confirmed
16	NGO	Dr. Soon Young Jung	Global Gender Initiative	Executive Director	Confirmed
17	Academia	Prof. Eun Mee Kim	Ewha Women's University	Dean/ Professor, School of International Studies	Confirmed