

# United Nations Nations Unies

## Office of the Director

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REFERENCE: DPADM/10/972

14 May 2010

Excellency,

I am pleased to congratulate your organization on winning the 2010 United Nations Public Service Award in the category of "Fostering Participation in Public Policy-Making Decisions through Innovative Mechanisms" for "*A New Management Approach to Parliamentary Elections in Lebanon*", as a first-place winner. Your institution's outstanding achievement has demonstrated excellence in serving the public interest and I am sure it has made a significant contribution to the improvement of public administration in your country. It will be an inspiration and encouragement for others working for the public service.

It is, therefore, my pleasure to invite you to the 2010 United Nations Public Service Day - Awards Ceremony and Forum on "The Role of Public Service in Achieving the Millennium Development Goals: Challenges and Best Practices". This event, which will take place at the *Auditorio y Centro de Convenciones AXA* in Barcelona, Spain from 21 to 23 June 2010, will be organized by the Division for Public Administration and Development Management (DPADM) of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) in collaboration with the Directorate General for Citizen Participation of the Government of Catalonia of the Kingdom of Spain.

Over 400 participants, including the United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs and several high-level government officials from around the world are expected to attend. Participants will also include Heads of Government, ministers, senior government officials, mayors and representatives of international organizations, civil society, academia and the private sector.

H.E. Mr. Ziyad Baroud  
Minister of Interior and Municipalities  
Ministry of Interior and Municipalities  
Beirut, Lebanon

Every year on 23 June, the United Nations celebrates Public Service Day to recognize the institutional contribution made by public servants to enhance the role, professionalism, image and visibility of the public service. Therefore, high-level officials from a number of countries will deliver statements about the importance of recognizing public service, with a particular focus on how to promote a culture of innovation in the public sector. During the Ceremony, the 2010 United Nations Public Service Awards (UNPSA) winners will be recognized for their outstanding achievements. Winners of the 2010 United Nations e-Government Survey Awards, a newly established recognition for excellence in e-government, will also be acknowledged during the Ceremony.

This event will also provide the opportunity for in-depth discussion and analysis of policies and strategies, innovative practices, and tools in four key thematic areas of public administration through substantive parallel capacity development workshops and an expert group meeting, which will be held from the afternoon of 21 June to 23 June. The workshops will focus on: 1) Promoting Innovation in Public Service Delivery for Achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); 2) Engaging Citizens in Development Management and Governance for the Achievement of the MDGs; and 3) Advancing e-Government Development and Knowledge Management. Winners of the 2010 UNPSA and winners of the 2010 e-Government Awards will be invited to make a presentation about their achievements and best practices at a relevant workshop. The Expert Group Meeting will focus on "Developing Institutional Capacities of Public Administration for the Achievement of MDGs in Post Conflict and Crisis Situations: Challenges, Best Practices, and Lessons Learned in Preparedness, Prevention, and Reconstruction". A special meeting on "Sharing Knowledge among Public Service Awards Programmes" will also be organized within the context of this Forum.

In addition, a special session on participatory governance in Catalonia will be held on 21 June. This special session will give participants a unique opportunity to learn more about the innovative practices of the Directorate General for Citizen Participation of the Government of Catalonia of the Kingdom of Spain, which won the UNPSA in 2008 for the category of "Promoting Innovative Mechanisms for Participation in Public Decision-Making Processes". The event will conclude with a set of recommendations and policy options based on the findings of the parallel workshops and expert group meeting.

Kindly be advised that all participants are responsible for covering their own expenses. Moreover, if there are any other members from your institution who wish to take part in this event, kindly provide us with their contact information so that a letter of invitation may be sent to them. Please make sure to register and book your hotel online at: <http://www.unpan.org/unpsa>. Please find attached the Information Note and Aide-memoire for this event.

Further information about this event, including the programme, will be available on the United Nations Public Administration Network (UNPAN) at <http://www.unpan.org/unpsa>. Should you have any questions, kindly contact the UNPSA Programme Coordinator, Ms. Adriana Alberti, who is located at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, at [alberti@un.org](mailto:alberti@un.org), Tel. 212-963-2299; or the UNPSA Administrator, Ms. Lois Warner, at [warnerl@un.org](mailto:warnerl@un.org), Tel. 212-963-3153.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Haiyan Qian  
Director