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Division for Public Administration and Development Management
Socio-Economic Governance and Management Branch

Report on the Expert Group Meeting on Citizen Engagement in Climate Change Governance: Citizens for a Sustainable Future

> World Civic Forum 2009 Seoul, Korea, 5 – 8 May 2009

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1. Introduction

The United Nations Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, declared 2009 the year of climate change and urged the organization's different units to integrate climate change into their respective work programmes and reflect that on their work with the member states. Along with scientists and economists, local governments around the world are advocating a comprehensive successor pact to the Kyoto Protocol – the legally binding emissions reduction regime whose first commitment period ends in 2012 – at the December 2009's United Nations climate change conference in Copenhagen, Denmark. On 15 June 2009, 700 local leaders from more than 60 countries at the Local Government Climate Change Leadership Summit in Copenhagen issued a press release stressing the need for local governments to be a part of the solution of climate problems.

It is widely agreed that citizen participation in public governance is a key strategy to minimize development challenges and maximize the benefits of development. However, global climate change is threatening socio-economic development promises of the Millennium Development Goals. The United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Resolution 55 of 2005 acknowledged the "need to deepen the participatory processes of government to ensure citizens' engagement to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration". In recognition of this necessity, the Division for Public Administration and Development Management (DPADM) under the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), is an active player in civic engagement through its work on the analysis and promotion of approaches, methodologies, and tools to advance participatory governance. More specifically, DPADM works to promote the roles of civil society in public governance processes, such as policy development, service delivery, public accountability, reform, and implementation. Within DPADM the Socio-Economic Governance and Management Branch (SGMB) focuses on the implications of climate change in governance and public administration processes.

Towards these goals, UNDESA-DPADM supported Kyung Hee University, South Korea, in its World Civic Forum 2009 initiative, held from 5 to 8 May 2009 in Seoul, Korea. The overarching theme of the forum was *Building Our Humanitarian Planet*, espoused by three sub-themes: *1. Civic Values for Global Justice*; *2. Civic Engagement in Public*

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¹ "Climate change" is often referred to as changes in climatic averages and variability brought about by anthropogenic global warming. Independently of global warming, climates change on seasonal, interannual, decadal, and multidecadal timescales. Seasonal changes are so reliable that environmental and socio-economic systems tend to be well adapted. Nonetheless, because extreme weather conditions naturally occur on interannual (e.g. floods, droughts), decadal (e.g. tsunamis), or multidecadal (e.g. earthquakes) timescales, environmental and socio-economic system can get out of synchronization. In the longer term, the distinction between "normal" climate change and that caused by global warming is harder to define. A normal climate under normal circumstances may change over a period of several decades, while "climate change" is human created excessive greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions heating up the atmosphere and causing drastic changes in climatic conditions (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change 2007, Fourth Assessment Report. www.ipcc.ch).

and Global Governance; and 3. Civic Action for the Global Agenda including Climate Change. As a reflection of the third sub-theme, SGMB organized an Expert Group Meeting (EGM) entitled Citizen Engagement in Climate Change Governance: Citizens for a Sustainable Future. The invited participants represented both public and non-public sectors at the local, national, and international levels.

Within this context, SGMB is increasingly moving towards tools and strategies that can help public institutions and policy processes address problems caused by climate change at all levels, particularly at the local level in the context of public governance. The Citizen Engagement in Climate Change Governance EGM included four days of deliberations that jointly assessed the present state of civil society participation in matters of "climate change governance" at the global, national, and subnational levels, including the community level. A dozen experts, comprised of former ministers, high level public officials from international organizations, United Nations entities, and reputed scholars, attended from around the world, including Australia, Ecuador, Germany, Italy, Korea, Morocco, the Philippines, and the United States of America.

Climate change governance is an emerging topic in the citizen engagement discourse. The EGM focused on the socioeconomic impacts of climate change on citizen engagement that reciprocate creative solutions from the bottom-up in public administration processes. Altogether twelve presentations were made encompassing broad to focused topics. Active participation from observers and attending students contributed to a rich exchange of ideas and recommendations. The need for UNDESA to boost its activities to enhance citizen engagement to cope with climate change challenges was emphasized during the EGM. Promotion of public awareness, preparedness, adaptation, and mitigation were recognized as critical to success. Over ten concrete policy and programme proposals were identified for further analysis, which will be presented by UNDESA as input to the forthcoming United Nations Climate Change Conference to be held in Copenhagen, 7-18 December 2009, as well as to ECOSOC through its subsidiary body, the Committee of Experts on Pubic Administration (CEPA).

The substantive findings from the EGM buttress the Division's analytical and normative activities to enrich its knowledge building and technical co-operation activities. The output was incorporated into The Declaration of the World Civic Forum 2009:

"Recognize that while governments are crucial in setting priorities and policies and in modeling new behavior, civil society is essential to bring about changes and innovation for improving the implementation of internationally agreed commitments, including those of the Millennium Development Goals; Advocate the need to further develop capacities, within public administration and civil society, for the attainment of the global development goals, peace, social justice, inclusive of equitable and sustainable development, food security and a permanently healthy environment; and Affirm the roles and responsibilities of educational institutions to foster the necessary capacities for building a humanitarian planet for the global agenda, including climate change".

This report on the Citizen Engagement in Climate Change Governance EGM is divided into two main sections. In section 2, the overall meeting summary is presented and in section 3, the overall recommendations are summarized.

2. MEETING SUMMARY

The forces of climate change create interconnected complexities and growing vulnerabilities of human communities. When countries move up the development ladder, intersectoral linkages become stronger, such as the agricultural sector linking with the industrial sector. As climate change affects one sector, the effect is amplified through such interlinkages to other sectors. Communities that were previously self-sufficient are becoming more susceptible to the multiplier effects of rapid climate change impacts, including natural disasters, which render existing levels of preparedness less effective. This is seen, for example, in many African nations where institutional capacity is already weak and growing climate change vulnerability makes it difficult for local governments to respond to climate change related issues. Other evidence suggests that countries with a long history of natural calamities, such as floods or droughts, have a lower level of climate change preparedness because the people are accustomed to extreme changes in their environment, such as small pacific islands that experience flash floods numerous times a year.

The objective of this EGM was to generate ideas for public managers and policy makers to engage citizens to help meet the development and governance challenges in the context of climate change preparedness. At the EGM opening speech, SGMB Chief, Mr. Roberto Villarreal, laid out key challenges, such as carbon emissions, environmental implications, economic impacts, social consequences, and development and government challenges. He stressed that the role of civic engagement is critical to face the challenges because it penetrates multilaterally and multidimensionally.

This section has two subsections. Section 2.1 presents the overall summary of the meeting. Section 2.2 further elaborates on topic specific issues based on the presentations and subsequently held deliberations at the EGM.

2.1. Overall Summary

At the opening presentation, Mr. Villarreal presented a comprehensive framework that showed how climate change is a complex, long-term, global problem intrinsically related to international, national, and sub-national levels of governance systems. It has non-linear consequences on human lives, economies, and the environment, for which the solution making process becomes complicated and time consuming.

As Fourth Assessment Report of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change stressed, there is neither enough time on hand to develop a perfect solution, nor is there enough time to focus only on a top down solution. The rate at which the climate is changing today poses unprecedented risks outside any historical experience, including rapid change in temperature, rise in sea levels, change in precipitation patterns, increased glacial and permafrost melting, and increased intensity, frequency, and length of extreme weather conditions, such as floods, droughts, and hurricanes. Such extreme climatic

conditions have already claimed hundreds of thousands of lives from 2004 to 2008, deepened vulnerability, and increased restoration costs. The world needs short-term, modular solutions that have long-term appropriateness, and most importantly, such solutions should be prepared by engaging civil society and citizens' groups from both the public and private sectors.

The participants identified that the boundaries for mitigation and disaster preparedness were less clearly defined. The estimation for many developing countries assessing the effectiveness of various preemptive adaptation measures are difficult to make. Mr. Adil Khan pointed out that since the climate change adaptation discourse was still forming, studies on adaptation costs remained sparse and funding sources contested. Lack of accepted metrics for assessing effectiveness of adaptation policies and measures limit successful citizen participation in the climate change preparedness process. Hence, DPADM has set a goal to develop a climate change and civic engagement framework. Towards this end, Mr. Villarreal proposed a vulnerability cost equation that could help assess the extent of socio-economic costs caused by climate change: VC = P * E * C, where VC is vulnerability cost, P the probability of an event occurring, E the exposure to events, and E the cost of an event.

The EGM took place in the wake of the recent global financial crisis and experts were concerned that global funding sources for climate change initiatives may be affected. Under financial stress, political realignments are shaping who in the world will bear the cost of climate change. Questions were raised and discussed on how the financial crisis may influence donor funding schemes, credit opportunities for clean development mechanisms (CDMs), and the availability of national financial capacity for long-term climate change projects. Discussion then shifted as to how in the short to medium term, baseline studies, needs assessment, and resulting strategies and action plans for climate change preparedness should be devised from the bottom up, at the city, municipal, and household levels. A call was sounded for countries to include local scientists, academics, youths, and all levels of government officials to incorporate a climate change campaign, thereby mainstreaming the issue and contributing towards capacity, knowledge, and a collaborative platform.

Ms. Boncodin emphasized that sustainable financial sources are a must for any substantial change in civic participation towards climate change preparedness. Along the same lines of financial security, Mr. Nam identified that developing countries were subject to non-tariff barriers in the realm of international trade, especially for primary commodity exports under the provision of food safety and sanitary treaty (SPS) of the World Trade Organization (WTO), which affected the poor, who were also the hardest hit by climate change. Therefore, there is a need to incorporate citizen engagement from developing countries in trade negotiations. Mr. Cho urged the outputs of the EMG to be shared in the recommendations made by UNDESA for the December 2009 Copenhagen meeting. Finally, the EGM was a great opportunity for the DPADM to learn from discussion on existing best practices, approaches, and tools for citizen engagement in climate change preparedness and adaptation.

2.2. Topic Specific Discussion

Between 7 and 8 May 2009, ten presentations were made in the EGM, where each speaker highlighted opportunities and complications for citizen engagement in climate change governance. The topics covered ranged from conceptual framework building, trade negotiation, financial sources, the role of global organizations, and youth involvement in climate change related issues. The presentations are grouped here thematically, and present the speakers' view followed by an overall discussion. The content is a synthesis of the presenters' PowerPoint slides, notes, and audio recordings collected during the meeting.

Institutional and Conceptual Framework

Key Participants

- Impact of Climate Change on Vulnerable Communities. Presenter: Mr. Adil Khan, Participatory Governance Expert
- Sustainable Environmental Policy and Global Politics. Discussant: Mr. Jongpil Chung, Professor, School of Social Science, Kyung-Hee University
- Open Discussion

This session laid out the importance of having an institutional and conceptual framework for citizen engagement in climate change governance. The main speaker, based on a background report prepared for DPADM² that laid out the nexus between climate change governance and participatory governance, Mr. Adil Khan stressed that local level participatory governance systems played a fundamental role in scaling up or down peoples' initiatives, preparation, and adaptation for climate change. Mr. Khan explored ways that climate change effects had been identified by scientific and social science communities. He then considered the people-driven development discourse in which he situated the citizen engagement framework. Drawing reference from a background paper prepared by a SGMB consultant in 2008, Mr. Khan discussed climate change and preparedness (e.g. early warning systems, shelter provisions, micro credit), adaptation (e.g. changing crop types, shifting to green energy), and mitigation (e.g. technology development) framework (preparedness, adaptation, and mitigation (PAM)) for action.

Mr. Khan explored ways the climate change could be integrated into the citizen engagement framework. The PAM framework was welcomed by the other experts as a framework for incorporating social mapping. Climate change social mapping (CCSM) was introduced as a technique for community specific consultation and risk assessment to understand the impacts caused by climate change. He stated: "Developing countries are likely to suffer more from the economic impacts of climate change, as well as being least able to adapt to new climatic conditions". Whilst developed countries pay 0.1% of GDP in losses, developing countries pay 2-3%, or sometimes as much as 15% of GDP. With

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² Habib-Mintz, Nazia (2008) "Climate change and citizen engagement", UNDESA/DPADM background paper.

such figures, CCSM empowers national and local governments to conduct meaningful climate change risk assessments.

The effects of climate change vary per community, as do national adaptation and mitigation capacities. Since climate change needs a multivariate solution process, Mr. Khan along with other experts argued that it was necessary to bring together the scientific community and civil society. Community specific knowledge should be utilized as resources in the scientific community to propose adaptable solutions. This will also help target specific financial support to improve the conditions of the people who are at the highest risk. However, Mr. Sadeque cautioned that CCSM information should not be used for social marketing or to undermine peoples' solution making processes.

Within this framework, the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are critical benchmarks for development achievements. Strategizing the MDGs within the context of climate change vulnerability is an important way to mainstream the PAM framework. Such processes will help build data collection partnerships for PAM-CCSM indicators. For example in a household survey, a climate dependency indicator could be water as an income source. This indicator will capture water related vulnerability. Hence "issues come from the bottom and solutions from the top".

In conclusion, Mr. Khan urged that without recalibration of demand-side imbalances by curbing excessive appetite for capitalism and consumerism, the supply of environmentally friendly and sensible commodities should be improved. Ms. Endo discussed how the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) has been working closely with civil society organizations to change consumer behavior. As a non-government organization (NGO) facilitator, she will be helping NGOs set up events for their advocacy work. It was widely agreed that further work was needed to clearly define the role of citizen engagement in climate change crisis scenario, especially based on who, how, and when to help. It was recognized that UNDESA/DPADM/SGMB was in a highly appropriate position to approach this need. It was further highlighted that such a framework should be proposed at the Copenhagen meeting so that it should not remain as a mere intellectual exercise, but rather be practical and measurable.

This creates inevitably the need for indicators and indexes, as discussed in the following section.

Indicators

Key Participants

- Indicators of Climate Change Initiatives and Related Social Participation. Presenter: Mr. Zahir Sadeque, Inter-regional Adviser, Division for Social Policy and Development, UNDESA
- Discussant: Mr. Roberto Villarreal, Chief, Socio-economic Governance and Management Branch, DPADM/UNDESA
- Open discussion

The scientific evidence is conclusive to justify a global urgency for solutions to problems resulting from climate change. The matter is not simple, and rightly so there is no panacea. Within this context, the key speaker for this session, Mr. Zahir Sadeque argued and highlighted how and why indicators were necessary in response to climate change related citizen engagement processes.

He discussed how effective indicators should be both process-based and outcome-based. Process-based indicators are "key stages of process leading to best/end point" and outcome-based indicators "seek to define explicit outcome/endpoint". These indicators buttress the core of successful governance systems where citizens are able to know not the number of meetings only but also the qualities of the topic discussed in the meeting. Accountability, transparency, and social inclusion at all levels of policy making and implementations need to be measured to ensure citizen engagement in the climate change process through the participatory governance process.

Climate change impacts and responses are intertwined with preexisting levels of vulnerability and the capacity for adaptation of individuals in a given community. For example, Mr. Sadeque explained that impacts from repeated flash floods affected fisherman in coastal region differently than fishermen in the mainland. Similarly, while repeated flash floods may increase the vulnerability and diminish the adaptive capacity of coastal fishermen, responses from the mainland fishermen will be different. Therefore, to address the varied effects of process-based indicators of climate change, one should start with the best available practices on citizen engagement in climate change conditions. The lessons learned from the cases need to be indexed and measured and applied as baseline information for metadata.

Mr. Sadeque argued that through indicators on biophysical, socioeconomic, legal, and regulatory-policies, citizens can identify how and when to engage themselves in climate change preparedness, adaptation, and mitigation processes. He presented broad categories of indicators — vulnerability, adaptability, impact response, and legal regulatory frameworks. These indicators, along with available information on climate change, human development, and environmental protection, will assist participatory governance systems at the local, national, and international levels to build the necessary capacity, tools, and policies against a climate change crisis.

Mr. Villarreal expressed genuine concern regarding the data collection application process. Although the idea of indicators is novel, it may be difficult but not impossible to establish a metadata set. His idea is to collect information from the subnational levels of

citizen engagement through existing statistical and institutional capacity and then build it out from there. Countries that are structurally incapable to produce their own indicators may solicit a 'coordinator' role from UNDESA/DPADM. In addition, Ms. Endo proposed that NGOs and other civil society organizations are more likely to be in a better position to collaborate in the metadata defining process and even for its collection and dissemination. They are already the main hub for citizen engagement and perhaps have already collected many such indicators. Finally, participants concluded that DPADM should include climate change governance indicators in the December's Copenhagen meeting recommendation letter. This will require financial and non-financial cooperation at all levels, from local to global, from public institutions and from civil society organizations to collect data for citizen engagement for climate change governance.

Corporate Responsibility, Civic Responsibility and Climate Change

Key Participants

- Encouraging Citizens and Private Sector Responsibility. Presenter: Ms. Heather Grady, Director of Policy and Strategy and the Trade and Decent Work Program, Realizing Rights: The Ethical Globalization Initiative
- Discussant: Ms. Magdalena Molina Riofrio, Institutional Coordinator, Constitutional Court, and former Vice Minister for Domestic and International Security of Ecuador
- Open Discussion

In this session, Ms. Heather Grady presented a compelling argument where she explained how a *good* 'business case' is a *good* 'climate change case'. Through introducing her organization, which was founded by the first female President of Ireland and the former United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Mary Robinson, she explained how many ways citizens and various social networks could be engaged in creative solutions and hold corporations accountable for 'climate justice'.

'Climate justice' was introduced as a concept to highlight the relationship between climate change and human rights. Focusing on climate justice, she advocated for civil society and respective governments to go beyond judicial processes and to use human rights standards and frameworks. The normative power of human rights to challenge climate polluters and advocate in the 'court of public opinion' is a way to influence policies and negotiations. One such success story is Sheila Watt-Cloutier, the Inuit woman from Canada who sued the US government in the Inter America Commission on Human Rights for greenhouse gas emission that had had devastating impacts on Inuit communities. Although Ms. Watt-Cloutier lost, her action became a symbol of climate justice. Ms. Grady stated: "Climate is not only a scientific reality, or an economic cost to the nations, but household level reality for the poor".

Her discussion along with the presented discussants in the meeting identified that over the last few years, there has been a noticeable improvement. This is a well-mobilized environmental community representation on the global front. Organizations, such as Climate Action Network (CAN), Global Campaign for Climate Action, and 350 are being joined by major development agencies, such as Oxfam and Global Compact. While these

major agencies already have long standing experience in mounting global justice campaign for fair trade and education, their joint forces are now critical to raise local, household, and individual levels of awareness on the eminent climate change crisis, if the issue remains undealt with. While highlighting fair-trade and labor rights issues, Mr. Villarreal also expressed ideas on how green teaching can also promote sensible and ethical consumer culture.

In addition, the benefit of media and technology was also identified as a means to create citizen engagement in climate change. In high-emission countries civil societies are in a better position through media and online technology to influence consumer demand, legislations, and regulations on climate change issues. On the other hand, it is a better way for participatory governance processes in developing countries to work with the regulatory agencies to improve the environment for corporate responsibility.

Ms. Grady advised that, to make corporate responsibility work, individuals needed to be knowledgeable on the national mitigation, adaptation, and financial policies as a citizen responsibility toward improving climate change governance systems. Dr. Magdalena Molina further stressed:

"civil society, grassroots organizations, nongovernmental organizations and overall global society need to engage, or re-engage into this new dynamic of shared responsibility. The NGO community along with the governments needs to innovate a methodological framework for achieving a responsible corporation at different levels".

There is a need for a strong and humane political will, a strong determination from all community members, and from all areas of specializations, particularly the private sector, and public administration, where new forms of leadership are re-imagined for building a environmentally friendly planet.

Finally, there was a general consensus that at the Copenhagen meeting, public private partnerships (PPPs) needed to be emphasized to build a successful climate change governance structure. It was pointed out that UNDESA is in a good position to draw its expertise and contribution in such matters.

Citizens Engagement in Climate Change Governance: A Developing Country Perspective

Key Participants

- Challenges of Climate Change and Responses in Asia and the Pacific. Presenter: Mr. Sangmin Nam, Environmental Affairs Officer, Environment and Development Division, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)
- Citizen Participation in Forest Governance: the Case of Pratigi in Bahia, Brazil. Presenter: Mr. Guido Bertucci, Executive Director, Governance Solutions International
- Discussant: **Ms. Valeria Termini**, Dean, National School of Public Administrators Italy, and nominated member of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Public Administration.
- Open discussion

In this session there were two presentations. The first speaker was Mr. Sangmin Nam, and the second speaker was Mr. Guido Bertucci. The first speaker presented a rather macro level policy discussion on citizen engagement building in developing countries through shared visions from all interest groups. In contrast, Mr. Bertucci presented a detailed case study from a small coastal community in Pratigi, Brazil, to show how a shared vision for economic development could engage citizens from all levels to a common cause from protecting forestry to preserving environmental assets. Both of the presenters postulated that a bottom-up participatory approach through which the community was the main actor in determining its own future, rather than the recipient of assistance from outsiders through top down arrangements, can prepare and adapt to a climate change crisis far more successfully.

Mr. Sangmin Nam, focused on the Asia Pacific experience on climate change and roles of citizen engagement in climate change governance. Mr. Nam went into great detail when explaining the differential impacts of climate change on tradability of primary crops from developing countries in the Asia Pacific region. While humans can take only limited actions to alter geographical factors, such as latitude or degree of coastal coverage, Mr. Nam focused on socio-economic factors, particularly the sectors, such as agriculture and fisheries that were highly vulnerable to climate change and income insecurity. Stating various observations from global to national negotiations processes, such as the WTO and the Kyoto Protocol, he pointed out that the divergent interplay of political interests among global leaders often underestimated citizen engagement in the complex negotiation processes.

Despite the diversity of political interest in seeking specific solutions, Mr. Nam put forth that climate change negotiations needed citizen engagements for any global negotiation to work. The civil society organizations (CSOs) are the key to the solution. They act "as external advocates for encouraging state actors to effectively respond to environmental challenges by creating required governance mechanisms". They are also "executors for CSO-initiated governance mechanisms or activities of formal governance mechanisms". Finally, Mr. Nam stated: "CSOs diffuse new information and knowledge; create new agendum of governance; form an encouraging political atmosphere towards new governance; and execute their own governance sphere".

Along the same line, Mr. Guido Bertucci applauded Mr. Nam's presentation for stressing a shared vision that needs to transpire beyond global initiatives and penetrate into local level civil society organizations. Mr. Bertucci, presented a case study that revealed how a shared vision can transpire local initiatives for forestry-related environmental protection, *Programme of Integrated and Sustainable Development: Area of Environmental Protection of Pratigi, Brazil.* The objective of his speech was to introduce an innovative matrix of participatory governance promoting the human, social, environmental, and productive capital of a region in an integrated manner. Climate change preparedness requires multi-prolonged solutions. Issues, such as endemic poverty, inequality, social exclusion, deforestation, endangerment of fauna, and endangerment of hydrological system, were part of a creative community solution to create new economic opportunities for the population and increased household income.

The discussion added further insight to the meeting as it also addressed real obstacles to achieve successful citizen engagement in Pratigi, with practical solutions. For example, despite the difficulty to change the population's cultural attitudes from passive to engaged, time and constant efforts could yield change. Lack of confidence in political and administrative authorities was being addressed through dialogues on needs to establish or activate legislative frameworks. Also, changing focus from subsistence agriculture to cooperative agricultural production methods was not easy. Lastly, lack of coordination among the various levels of government organizations created fragmented success in Pratigi. However, with more people realizing the benefits of participatory governance to protect their own environment, more collaboration and eco-friendly capacity building will be possible.

To overcome local level challenges, various suggestions were made at the meeting. Mr. Bertucci advocated for "a bottom-up participatory approach", through which the communities were the main actors to determine its own future. At the same time, there is a need for a "catalyst" organization which will start up the process to create partnership among the various levels of the government, civil society organizations, and the private sector. Ms. Termini, as the discussant, revised the idea of the principle-agent problem in development initiatives. She argued that asymmetric information was embedded in participatory governance, and for this reason, the desired outcome was never easy to Mr. Villarreal stressed on greater need for institutional networking and coordinated cooperation to overcome asymmetric information. By creating a mutually transparent and accountable system of governance, climate change governance can be achieved. Along the same line, Mr. Khan mentioned that in his experience in the Pacific islands, the UNDP failed to explicitly integrate climate change impacts on the Millennium Development Goals assessment. Whereas the progress towards the goals has already been undermined by a changing climate, patterns of natural disasters, and impacts on productive resources for agriculture and fishery, etc. negatively affected developing countries' active participation in climate change governance systems. Mr. Nam echoed Mr. Villarreal's concerns and suggested that green education with massive knowledge building efforts on climate change and its impacts on humanity and the environment within the context of local conditions should be the cornerstone for bottom-up solutions. Nevertheless, the EGM participants agreed to put forth into the Copenhagen recommendations that climate change governance should start with the solutions through a bottom-up approach and support (e.g. financial and technical) through top-down arrangements.

Citizen Engagement in Climate Change: Issues on Technology, Trade, and Finance

Key Participants

- Transfer of Publicly Owned Technologies for Climate Change; Financing for Participatory Processes Capacity Building for Climate-Friendly Technologies. Presenter: **Mr. Rae Kwon Chung**, Climate Change Ambassador of Korea (Absent)
- Financing Sustainable Fisheries in Developing Countries Presenter: **Ms. Emilia Boncodin**, Professor, National College of Public Administration and Governance, University of the Philippines
- Pursing Green Trade towards a Low-Carbon Economy: Implication for Policy Options. Presenter:
 Mr. Joongwan Cho, Chief, Trade Policy Section, Trade and Investment Division, United Nations ESCAP
- Discussant: Mr. Jong-moo Choi, Head of Office, United Nations Project Office on Governance
- Open Discussion

For this segment there were three experts' presentations. Due to unexpected circumstances, Mr. Rae Kwon Chung, Climate Change Ambassador of Korea, could not be present at the EGM. The first presenter was Ms. Emilia Boncodin, and the second expert was Mr. Joongwan Cho.

Ms. Boncodin focused on the Philippines' fishery industry as a show case of sector specific experience in the wake of climate change. The global fishery and related industries provide food, protein, and employment to more than a billion of people. In the Philippines fishery sector plays a critical role in the national economy and in the lives of about 2 million people. Although in the last ten years the sector quintupled, funding sources for the improvement of this sector has been sluggish. As a result the shrimp industry hit a major road block for further development. Symptomatic overfishing has not only resulted into degradation of the coastal environment and ecosystem, it also increased social conflict and improper post-harvest practices among small-scale fishers. To restore the fish stock, under existing law, local governments (municipalities and cities) are mandated to conserve, protect, and manage municipal waters 0 - 15 KM from the shoreline. But execution of the mandate is negatively influenced by inadequate funds and political will.

Her presentation was not only limited to identifying the universal problem of the fishery industry which resonated in the Filipino case study. A list of 'must do's was discussed:

1) increase funding for law enforcement to at least three times the present level immediately;

2) intensify the scope of participation for the fishing related advocacy groups which are promoting sustainable fishing practices with civil society participation (e.g. MORE FISH, Bantay Dagat (Sea Watch)). Lastly and most importantly, 3) provide matching grants to local governments for municipal fishing projects. For all of the recommendations though, she pronounced caution because without adequate and measurable monitoring and evaluations, the proposed solutions may end up in the wrong

stakeholders' hands. Therefore, climate change sensitive sectors, such as fisheries, need to be on the global agenda and donors' mission, and carefully negotiated over at the upcoming Copenhagen meeting.

Mr. Joongwan Cho from UNESCAP made an meaningful contribution to the EGM with his presentation entitled *Pursuing Green Trade Towards a Low Carbon Economy: Implications for Policy Options*. In this presentation, Mr. Cho argued that while local level initiatives were underway, it was important to acknowledge that without integrating climate policies into broader global trade for climate-friendly technologies, developing counties would not be able to make a successful transition to low carbon growth path.

His detailed presentation explained how WTO negotiations on environmental goods and services, e.g Doha rounds and Clean Development Mechanism (CDMs), were important. Global knowledge on green trade and CDM funding schemes are tools for developing countries to raise financial resources for their local level adaptation and mitigation projects for climate change challenges. To buttress local level initiatives, he further elaborated on the financial support issues that Ms. Boncodin identified for the fishery sector. He went further into the topic and suggested in his conclusion that there was a need to remove/reduce "tariffs and NTBs for four basic clean energy technologies (wind, solar, clean coal, and efficient lighting)", strengthening of IPRs, investment (FDI) rules and regulations, and other domestic policies to facilitate widespread assimilation of clean technologies in developing countries. To create a sustainable financial source and clean energy entrepreneurship in developing countries, south-south trading is key. Countries, such as China and India, are increasingly becoming major players in the manufacture of clean technologies (CTs) and creating public-private partnership movements in developing countries to enter into the CT market as consumers and producers at the same Lastly, he urged that without strong political will and commitments from the major green house gas emitting countries, as well as specific commitments to reduce tariff and NTBs to international trade and investment in goods, services and green/clean technologies that contribute to the mitigation of climate change, initiatives from the bottom would not be successful in developing counties.

From the two detailed presentations, one from a local and the other from a global perspective, the need for a harmonious interaction between local and global level climate change initiatives was stressed. Ms. Endo shared with the group UNFCCC's growing interactions with civil society organizations even for the advance UNFCCC talks held in Bonn, Germany, in June 2009.³ Despite the rise in the number of participating civil society organizations with UNFCCC for the climate change meeting, she also shared that the organizations were mainly from developed countries. To increase the representation of developing country organizations, Mr. Sadeque proposed to build solution specific policies that would harness and share the existing capacity of local universities, research institutions, and NGOs to organize climate change activities. Mr. Khan argued that

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³ In a policy brief issued June 2009 in advance of UNFCCC talks in Bonn, Germany, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the World Bank, the World Fish Center and 11 other organizations* warned that millions of fishers, fish farmers and coastal inhabitants would experience less stable livelihoods, changes in the availability and quality of fish for food, and heightened risks to their health, safety and homes as a result of climate change.

developing countries' NGOs needed financial support to represent themselves on the global front. An audience member from the Kyung-Hee University suggested that multilateral organizations should reach out to local level advocacy groups as they often worked with them and brought them to the forefront of the Copenhagen debate. The climate refugee issue was also addressed by the audience, which the experts noted for small island countries from diminishing productivity of fishery and agriculture sectors under climatic stress. To this end, vulnerability and social mapping technique ideas, as put forth by Mr. Khan based on the DPADM background paper from the first session, was further discussed with greater importance.

Capacity-Building for Public Administrators

Key Participants

- Leadership and Capacity Building for Climate Change: the Role of Academia. Presenter: Mr. Rachid Benmokhtar Benabdellah, President of Moroccan Foundation for Man and Nature. Former President of Al Akhawayn University. Former Minister of Education of Morocco.
- Government Schools: Public Administration Capacity Building for Participatory Solutions on Climate Change. Presenter: Ms. Valeria Termini, Dean, National School of Public Administrators Italy, CEPA Nominee.
- Discussant: Mr. Rae Kwon Chung, Climate Change Ambassador of Korea (Absent)
- Open Discussion

On the last day of the EGM, 8 May 2009, speakers took the chance to galvanize the ideas flourished over the last two days of deliberations. The day started with two presentations from two academics who were not only engaged in capacity building for the public sectors but also deeply engaged in academic institutions' contribution to climate change governance. The first speaker was Mr. Rachid Benmokhtar Benabdellah. The second speaker was Ms. Valeria Termini.

Mr. Benmokhtar as an academic and political figure in Morocco made a case through his presentation that university staff were far more important to create environmentally sensitive young individuals than the courses provided by the institutions. In an era of technology, students can easily take courses from many global institutions but cannot get the practical training that local universities can provide, particularly in a local socioeconomic and political context. From his own experience at Al Akhawayn University, he explained how university students in Morocco engage with poor communities and create social enterprises. Through this process students become knowledgeable on local issues, such as poverty, water crisis, and so on. They can become a part of the whole solution that governments alone cannot solve and feel the pride of empowerment. In the long-run, when these students ultimately join the government, the private sector, or a non-government organization, they are already social agents of change and active participants of the governance process.

Beyond the theoretical perspective, he went into detailed discussion on how students actually achieved the goals of citizen engagement in climate change governance processes. The students engaged in a disadvantage young women's group, helped with

planning, fund raising, supply chain development, and even built a community network with the central government agencies to ensure the organizations' sustainable development through funding and other support. Another example he gave was a case where students engaged in solar energy project on rural electrification for a village. The student group not only engaged in sourcing solar panels, putting them on local stores and houses, but also they taught the community how to maintain them and market them for finance. What is critical here is that, throughout the presentation, Mr. Benmokhtar pointed out how there was a shift in youth society who were more socially and environmentally responsible today than his generation was 20 years ago.

However, it is not a complete process. The processes in which the youth society can be creatively engaged in climate change projects needs all levels of support. Such support necessitates government officials, the private sector, and civil society organizations to come together to facilitate youth driven projects. Mr. Sadeque pointed out that the world is approaching a state where the youth are coming more at the forefront for social change. Youth are energetic, media savvy, and technology savvy. However youth, when comparing developing countries with developed countries, face challenges, such as gender bias and under-education. A common thread he noticed is that despite not having the same opportunities, young people in developing countries were no less energized to make social change. For example, youth contribution to HIV/AIDs, gender based violence, and women's rights advocacy in Africa and Asian countries suggests that given appropriate opportunities, the youth could be forerunners to bring citizens to climate change governance. With appropriate training and opportunities, they could be the first point of action for citizen engagement.

The next presentation was delivered by Ms. Valeria Termini. She started her presentation within the context that developed countries were responsible for the highest amount of greenhouse gas emissions, but she also recognized the heterogeneity of GHG emission sources among developing nations due to deforestation and non-conservation agricultural practices. It is, therefore, urgent that the both developed and developing countries participate in collaborative effort networks to tackle the climate change crisis. She cites two international environmental agreements - Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on environment and development (1992) and Aarhus Convention - UNECE (1998) that impose on public authorities obligations regarding access to information and participation. She argued that public administrators were key actors in the climate change solution process, as they provided the link between policies and citizens, between global issues and local actions, and among the international, national and local levels.

As an example she presented the pilot-process triggered by the Italian SSPA for senior civil servants, in a multi-level governance framework launched in 2008. The project aims to bridge existing institutional gaps on energy and climate change issues, foster awareness, dialogue, and knowledge exchange between the public and private sectors, establish a participatory process among stakeholders, and provide knowledge of mechanisms, instruments, and best practices to be implemented by public administrators. She proposed to create within the SSPA a "hub of knowledge" with top experts in the different themes regarding energy and climate change. Such a multi-level governance project is even more critical for climate change preparedness, due to the dimension of the challenge, its complexity, and its cross-cutting nature.

Although it is still in a pilot phase, Ms. Termini convincingly presented that their project decided course materials based on rigorous consultation with the different levels of government - state, region, province, municipality - aware of the core issues, such as climate change. Under this project, citizens from the cases of best practice are also engaged to develop the region and context-specific training. To this end, she strongly advocated three critical points:

"1. Participatory PA capacity building should be promoted and launched. Civil servants and local officers should be trained, e.g. by the Schools of Government, thus raising awareness, disseminating specific competences and creating a network of facilitators. 2. Ad hoc flexible courses, blended modules, should be organized and adapted to different contexts, to give civil servants and local officers an active role to play in enhancing participatory environmental governance. 3. ICT provides the necessary tools to spread and adapt existing best practices."

The discussion in this session was so invigorating that the experts decided to work through the afternoon break. Experts discussed in great detail issues of capacity building through knowledge networks. Ms. Boncodin provided further evidence of The Eastern Regional Organization for Public Administration (EROPA), the existing regional network of public administration institutes in Asia and the Pacific, acting as a powerful institutional change agent based on their local knowledge, acceptability, and influence. Such networks need to be expanded to reach out to more countries and more public officials who are integral parts to citizen engagement. Mr. Villarreal expressed that SGMB/DPADM would be interested to establish a network with various public administration schools and to build a global network. Mr. Khan also mentioned that there were many networks already established by or with SGMB. Some of them are inactive, and instead of recreating new ones, the established networks should be vitalized. One such important network is Middle East Citizen Assembly (MECA) where Israeli and Palestine counterparts sit together and discuss issues that are not usually seen. SGMB sponsored this network and it needs to be re-invigorated.

Participants also discussed challenges that inhibited the process of citizen engagement. Mr. Benmokhtar discussed the social taboo among the poor in his country, who do not want to be seen as poor. For this reason, they often refrain from participating in poverty reduction projects. He further criticized conventional methods of poverty calculation. For example, basic calorie intake base level as established by the World Bank is misleading since body mass, living condition, weather, and geography dictate calories intake. Similarly, Mr. Khan and Mr. Villareal discussed the varied problems with the poverty concept both as perceived by the people and public administrators in developing countries. It was widely agreed that schools of public administration should organize lessons for local governance sectors that include social workers, local media, and Though are not public administrators, there are the apparatus to share educators. information and materialize objectives that the governments intend or do not intend to achieve. Finally, considering the global financial crisis, the experts were compelled to put partial blame to the educational institutions that are still expounding neoliberal market philosophy. While all the networks shape up around the world, there will be limited success with citizen capacity engagement efforts to climate change governance initiatives if changing the existing academic mentality does not change.

3. CONCLUSION AND COPENHAGEN RECOMMENDATIONS

This section presents the collected recommendations for the Copenhagen meeting as identified at the EGM meeting by the experts. Each of the recommendations will require further development at the Copenhagen meeting.

In the official concluding remarks for the EGM, Mr. Villarreal, on behalf of DPADM, thanked all the participants for being actively engaged in deliberations at the EGM for the past two days and contributing immensely to the discourse of climate change governance. Although many of the suggestions were considered highly important, there were still undiscovered issues that the meeting could not go deeper into. These include the role of women, the role of various political regimes, post-conflict regions and other relevant issues. Nevertheless, the ideas that came out from the EGM, while by no means complete solutions to the complex problem of climate change, took the Division a step further in understanding the issue better.

Based on the two days of rigorous discussion at the EGM, the participants came up with eleven suggestions for the upcoming Copenhagen meeting in December 2009. The lists of suggestions are:

- 1. Citizen engagement in climate change governance should be the means to deal with the climatic crisis. Youth, women, and other civil society groups involvement needs to be mainstreamed into the climate change governance process.
- 2. Developing countries should be given more flexibility to fund their climate change related initiatives.
- 3. Establish networks through which the scientific community works together with civil society organizations to build solutions where citizens can engage.
- 4. Explore and secure more funding sources for civil society organizations in developing countries to participate in the global negotiation process. In other words, strengthen the south-south partnerships for climate change governance.
- 5. Create a web platform specific to climate change programmes that will collect proposals of civil society organizations for project financing, as well as facilitate donors to find organizations for financing.
- 6. Create climate change risk facing policy framework and consider vulnerability cost VC = P * E * C. The cost-benefit assessment needs to be undertaken through the perspectives of time variability (short-term to long term) and community members' commitments to make changes to better cope with climate change implications on their own lives and communities.
- 7. At the national level, government agencies should promote young people's participation in climate change related engagements. Such engagement can be institutionalized by changing course works at schools to place a greater focus on environment related subjects in both science and social science studies.

- 8. National climate change plans should be drawn through the process of consultations with leaders on climate change issues from universities, scientific society, and civil society organizations.
- 9. There is a need for better sources of funding for climate change initiatives to be undertaken by local community groups and local governments in developing countries.
- 10. Training on climate change should be promoted and sponsored for government officials at all levels within developing countries. For this reason, a global network of public administration schools needs to be put in place.
- 11. Foster and revitalize dying networks of public administration schools and training centers to share knowledge on climate change impacts and solutions.

ANNEXES

1. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS



Expert Group Meeting on Citizen Engagement in Climate Change Governance: Citizens for a sustainable Future

World Civic Forum 2009, Seoul, Korea, May 5-8, 2009 List of Participants (Alphabetical order)



Mr. Rachid Benmokhtar Benabdallah Former President Al Akhawayn University in Morocco Morocco



Mr. Guido Bertucci Executive director Governance Solutions International Italy

Ms. Emilia Boncodin Professor National College of Public Administration and Governance University of Philippines Republic of the Philippines

(No Image)

Mr. Joong-Wan Cho

Chief

Trade Policy Section of the Trade and Investment Division

UNESCAP Thailand

(No Image)

Mr. Jong-moo Choi Head of Office

The United Nations Project Office on Governance

Korea, Republic of



(No Image)

Mr. Jongpil Chung Professor School of Social Science Kyung-Hee University Korea, Republic of

Mr. Rae Kown Chung Ambassador Climate Change Republic of Korea

Ms. Heather Grady Director, Policy and Partnerships, Realizing Rights United States of America



(No Image)

Ms. Nazia Habib-Mintz Consultant of Socio-Economic Governance Management Branch (SGMB) Division for Public Administration and Development Management (DPADM) UNDESA Bangladesh

Mr. M. Adil Khan Chairman CryJustice Australia



Ms. Magdalena Molina Riofrio Coordinadora Institucoinal, Corte Constitucional Ecuador

Ms. Megumi Endo Observer Organizations Liaison Officer UNFCCC Japan

Mr. Sangmin Nam
Environmental Affairs Officer
Environment and Development Division
UNESCAP
Korea, Republic of







Mr. Zahir Sadeque Inter-regional Advisor Division for Social Policy and Development UNDESA Bangladesh

Ms. Valeria Termini Dean The national school of public administration of Italy Italy

Mr. Roberto Villarreal Chief of Socio-Economic Governance Management Branch (SGMB) Division for Public Administration and Development Management (DPADM) UNDESA Mexico

Mr. Yoshinobu Yonekawa Senior Governance and Public Administration Officer Socio-Economic Governance Management Branch (SGMB) Division for Public Administration and Development Management (DPADM) UNDESA Japan

2. PROGRAM AGENDA



Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on

Citizen Engagement in Climate Change Governance: Citizens for a Sustainable Future

COEX International Centre, Seoul, Republic of Korea, 5-8 May 2009

First Day 5 May 2009 (Tuesday)

Time	Venue	Activities
Time 15:45 –16:00 16:00 – 18:30	15:45 –16:00	Activities Registration to DESA EGM and Workshop • Welcome Statement (Introduction to DESA-sponsored events at the World Civic Forum): Mr. Roberto Villarreal, Chief, Socio-economic Governance and Management Branch, DPADM/DESA • Mission and Programme of the Division for Public Administration and Development Management, DESA: Ms. Angela Capati-Caruso, Senior Governance and Public Administration Officer, SGMB/DPADM/DESA • Presentation: Social Participation: Mr. Roberto Villarreal,
		Chief, Socio-economic Governance and Management Branch, DPADM/DESA Open Discussion

Second Day 6 May 2009 (Wednesday)

Time	Venue	Activity
13:30 - 5:00	310B -	EGM Introduction to Participants, Themes and Issues
	310C	• EGM Opening Statement: Introduction of Themes and Issues:
		Mr. Roberto Villarreal, Chief, Socio-economic Governance
		and Management Branch, DPADM/DESA
		Introduction of EGM Participants: Mr. Yoshinobu
		Yonekawa, EGM Chair, Senior Governance and Public
		Administration Branch, DPADM/DESA
		Open Discussion

Third Day 7 May 2009 (Thursday)

Time	Venue	Activity
08:30 -08:45	310B -	Report of Previous Day Proceedings
	310C	 Mr. Yoshinobu Yonekawa, EGM Chair, Senior Governance and Public Administration Branch, DPADM/DESA
08:45 –10:00	310B – 310C	Institutional and conceptual framework • Impact of Climate Change on Vulnerable Communities. Presenter: Mr. Adil Khan, Participatory Governance Expert • Sustainable Environmental Policy and Global Politics Discussant: Mr. Jongpil Chung, Professor, School of Social Science, Kyung-Hee University • Open Discussion
10:00 -10:30		Coffee Break
10:30 –12:00	310B – 310C	Indicators • Indicators of Climate Change Initiatives and Related Social Participation. Presenter: Mr. Zahir Sadeque, Inter-regional Adviser Division for Social Policy and Development, DESA • Discussant: Mr. Roberto Villarreal, Chief, Socio-economic Governance and Management Branch, DPADM/DESA
12:00 –13:00	310B – 310C	 Open discussion Corporate Responsibility, Civic Responsibility and Climate Change Encouraging Citizens and Private Sector Responsibility. Presenter: Ms. Heather Grady, Director of Policy and Strategy and the Trade and Decent Work Program, Realizing Rights: The Ethical Globalization Initiative
		 Discussant: Ms. Magdalena Molina Riofrio, Institutional Coordinator, Constitutional Court and former Vice Minister for Domestic and International Security of Ecuador Open Discussion
13:00 –13:45	310B – 310C	Lunch Break
13:45 –15:00	310B – 310C	Citizens Engagement in Climate Change Governance: A Developing Country Perspective • Challenges of Climate Change and Responses in Asia and the Pacific. Presenter: Mr. Sangmin Nam, Environmental Affairs Officer, Environment and Development Division, United Nations ESCAP • Citizen Participation in Forest Governance: the Case of Pratigi in Bahia, Brazil. Presenter: Mr. Guido Bertucci, Executive Director, Governance Solutions International • Discussant: Ms. Valeria Termini, Dean, National School of Public Administrators Italy, Nominated member of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Public Administration
15:00 -15:30		Open discussion Coffee Break

15:30 –17:00	310B – 310C	Citizen Engagement in Climate Change: Issues on Technology, Trade and Finance • Transfer of Publicly Owned Technologies for Climate Change; Financing for Participatory Processes Capacity Building for Climate-Friendly Technologies. Presenter: Mr. Rae Kwon Chung, Climate Change Ambassador of Korea (Absent) • Financing Sustainable Fisheries in Developing Countries Presenter: Ms. Emilia Boncodin, Professor, National College of Public Administration and Governance, University of the Philippines • Pursing Green Trade towards a Low-Carbon Economy: Implication for Policy Options. Presenter: Mr. Joongwan Cho, Chief, Trade Policy Section, Trade and Investment Division, United Nations ESCAP • Discussant: Mr. Jong-moo Choi, Head of Office, United Nations Project Office on Governance
		Open Discussion
17:00 -17:15	310B -	Summary Close of Day
	310C	Mr. Yoshinobu Yonekawa, EGM Chair, Senior Governance and Public Administration Branch, DPADM/DESA

Fourth Day 8 May 2009 (Friday)

Time	Venue	Activity
8:30 - 8:45	310B -	Report of Previous Day Proceedings
	310C	Mr. Yoshinobu Yonekawa, EGM Chair, Senior Governance
		and Public Administration Branch, DPADM/DESA
08:45 -10:00	310B -	Capacity-Building for Public Administrators
	310C	 Leadership and Capacity Building for Climate Change: the
		Role of Academia. Presenter: Mr. Rachid Benmokhtar
		Benabdellah, President of Moroccan Foundation for Man and
		Nature. Former President of Al Akhawayn University. Former
		Minister of Education of Morocco.
		Government Schools: Public Administration Capacity Building
		for Participatory Solutions on Climate Change. Presenter: Ms.
		Valeria Termini, Dean, National School of Public
		Administrators Italy, CEPA Nominee.
		• Discussant: Mr. Rae Kwon Chung, Climate Change
		Ambassador of Korea (Absent)
		Open Discussion
10:10 -10:25		Coffee Break
10:30-2:00	310B -	Closing Session
	310C	Positioning Citizen Engagement on the Road to Copenhagen
		Integrating Climate Change into Internationally-Agreed
		Development Goals
		Summary, conclusion and recommendations
		Closing Remarks. Mr. Roberto Villarreal, Chief, Socio-economic Governance and Management Branch, DPADM/DESA