PROVISIONAL AGENDA

CONSULTING WITH CITIZENS

5th Session of the Working Group on Strengthening Government-Citizen Connections 30 November and 1 December 2000

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Main purposes and content of the meeting

1. To review the proposed draft outline of the final report on “Strengthening Government-Citizen Connections” and to reach consensus on the report’s structure and content.

2. To discuss next steps and instruments (e.g. Electronic Discussion Group) for the finalisation of the report and the policy brief.

3. To present the case studies launched in year 2000 on public consultation in policy-making (Norway, the Czech Republic, Belgium-Flanders, Korea).

4. To exchange information on recent initiatives taken by governments, ongoing intergovernmental projects and upcoming events regarding information provision, consultation and citizen participation in policy-making.


Thursday 30 November 2000

Participants are invited to gather for coffee and conversation outside the meeting room during the half hour before the meeting begins at 9h30.

9h30-13h00 Session 1

09h30-10h00 Update on Activities

- Welcome address by Tony Hutton, Director, PUMA.
- Introduction by Hélène Gadriot-Renard, PUMA Head of Division ‘Governance and the Role of the State’.
- General overview of activities, related news and report on PUMA Committee meeting held on 30-31 October 2000.

10h00-11h30 Presentation of Year 2000 Case Studies

- Presentation of case studies on public consultation in policy-making (10 minutes, maximum each): 1) Norway: use of consensus conferences on the genetic modification of food; 2) the Czech Republic: public consultation on national education reform; 3) Belgium (Flanders): consulting with disadvantaged families for poverty relief policy; 4) Korea: using IT in information, consultation and service delivery to citizens.
- Questions and discussion.

Coffee break

11h45-12h30 Presentation on Related Intergovernmental Projects and Upcoming Events

- Presentation and discussion of the ASKME Report (“Accessible Services and Knowledge Management- A European Benchmarking Project”).
12h30-14h00  Lunch

14h00 - 17h30  Session 2

14h00-15h30  “Tour de Table” on Policy Initiatives and Innovative Practices
Participants are invited to present their countries’ recent initiatives in a) involving citizens in consultation and active participation; b) engaging them through e-government. (It is requested to limit presentation to 5 minutes per country. Participants are welcome to provide written materials to support their oral presentations.)

Coffee break

15h45-17h30  Continuation of “Tour de Table”
• Discussion and conclusion of “tour de table”.

18h00  Cocktail
Participants are welcome to attend a cocktail hosted by PUMA to be held at the OECD (Château).

Friday 1 December 2000

09h30-13h00  Session 3

09h30-11h15  The Overall Publication Plan for 2001 and the Final Report Draft Outline
• The Secretariat will present the overall publication plan for 2001 (hard copy and on-line) for Working Group discussion and approval.
• The Secretariat will present the draft outline of the final report for review by the Working Group members.
• The Working Group will be invited to provide feedback on: 1) format of the report; 2) table of contents of the report; 3) content of each section; 4) annexes.
• Agreement on the publication plan for 2001 and on the outline of the final report.

Coffee break

11h30-12h15  Next Steps for Finalisation of the Report
• Presentation of Electronic Discussion Group (EDG) on OLISnet. Questions.
• Agreement on next steps and dates for next Working Group meeting.

12h15-13h00  Future Work
Presentation and discussion on future PUMA work on “Strengthening Relations between Government and Civil Society”.
• Discussion on future role of the Working Group.