Statement by H.E. Mr. Konrad Paulsen,
Co-Chair of the Open-Ended Consultative Group on Governance Review Process

Progress Report on the Governance Review Process

Agenda Item 9

HSP/CPR/42/9
Nairobi, 7 September 2011
Excellencies,
Colleagues,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased to provide you with an update on the progress of the Governance Review since the 41st CPR Regular Session held in June 2011. This update will of necessity be brief because a large portion of the inter-sessional period has been taken up with the annual vacation period and it has only recently been possible to re-start the meeting cycle with a full complement of Secretariat and CPR members.

A notable development has been the arrival during the inter-sessional period of a large number of new CPR members and the departure of some key players who were highly knowledgeable about the complex background and issues surrounding the governance review.

Please allow me to recap the events at the last CPR meeting. The resolution approved at the 23rd Session of the Governing Council was reviewed. In brief, the resolution requested the Executive Director, jointly with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, to:

- further examine the options for reform and develop a preferred option;
- develop procedures for the examination phase;
- seek consensus on the identified option; and
- develop an action plan.

In order to follow-up on the resolution, the CPR approved the setting up of a new body - an Open Ended Consultative Group – to oversee the process. Each Regional Group was to assign two permanent members to serve on it. The regional groups have now completed this process, and the agreed permanent representatives of the Group are: South Africa and Uganda (Africa); Philippines and Thailand (Asia); Brazil and Mexico (GRULAC); Poland and Ukraine (Eastern Europe); and Turkey and USA (WEOG). The equal number of the Secretariat members will join as standing members in this Group, and this Consultative Group will be co-chaired by myself and Mr. Paul Taylor, Chief of Staff of UN-Habitat, following the example of the Implementation Team. However, representation from the CPR will not be limited to regional representatives only, with attendance being open to all.

Excellencies,

The Open Ended Consultative Group has held one meeting on 24 August 2011. There was a broad ranging discussion on matters relating to the way forward. It was agreed to set up a small Working Group to draft the Terms of Reference on how to progress the examination phase as referred to in the resolution. Consultations are being finalized on the membership of this Group and it is anticipated it will start work shortly. It will report back to the Open Ended Consultative Group with its proposals for the Terms of Reference.

I referred previously to the large intake of new CPR members. In order to ensure they are properly briefed on the background to the Governance Review, two informal briefing sessions for CPR members have been held. One briefing meeting was held under the auspices of G77+China, although it was open to all CPR members, on 23 August 2011. Another briefing on
the Governance Review was given during the Induction Seminar for new CPR members held on the 2 September 2011.

Dear Colleagues,

Continuous monitoring has been undertaken of quick wins, and immediate and long term interventions to improve the functioning of the current governance structure as agreed at the CPR’s 39th Session in December 2010. The current implementation rate is that 83% of the 47 interventions to be carried out by the Secretariat have been fully implemented or are under the process of implementation. Five actions fully under the purview of the CPR still await implementation. These results have been shared with the Bureau of the CPR and were distributed at the above-mentioned Open-Ended Consultative Group Meeting as well as Induction Seminar.

One additional action emanating from Secretariat reflection on the Interventions was discussed with the Bureau. This was a proposal to present the 6 monthly MTSIP Progress Reports to the CPR at its March and September meetings instead of in June and December. The reasoning behind this is that it will allow full information for the whole of preceding six months to be fully assembled, rather than the partial aggregation that is used in the current reporting cycle. It will also allow for full coordination with the Operational Activities Report which is also made to the March and September meetings. This proposal was agreed by the Bureau of the CPR on 19 August 2011 and is therefore presented to this CPR for endorsement.