

THEMATIC COMPILATION OF RELEVANT INFORMATION SUBMITTED BY EGYPT

ARTICLE 7 UNCAC

PUBLIC SECTOR

EGYPT (SECOND MEETING)

Concerning the requirements of article 7 Public sector development: Through the Ministry of State for Administrative Development, the Committee has taken the following steps:

- Prepare a new draft law on public functions to replace law 47/1978 in order to enhance the principles of competitiveness, merit and aptitude in the selection of civil servants, match wages with performance and establish efficient policies for reward and retribution. The draft law has been disseminated to the public and civil society organizations for advice and discussion. A number of steps have been initiated towards the promulgation of the law, including:
- Hiring of civil servants, by appointment or contractually, through advertisement directed at the whole population in a way that guarantees an equal opportunity to all and equality among citizens, and specify recruitment criteria for civil servants in a framework of transparency, integrity and impartiality in the public interest. The existing system has been amended, as the Minister of State for Administrative Development decision number 25 for 1997 has been replaced by a new decision number 7 for 2010 on rules and checks for the recruitment system in order to establish serious and exact principles and mechanisms that ensure openness and equal opportunity in contracts related to work in the State. This is accomplished by automating the process and publishing all vacant government positions on the Egyptian Government's electronic service portal <http://jobs.gov.eg>. The decision also establishes a control and follow-up mechanism in which the society itself is the controller, because all decisions to conclude contracts are made public.
- Setting up of the government procurement portal (as a result of the cooperation between the Ministry of State for Administrative Development, the Ministry of Finance and the General Organization for Government Services) in the context of establishing the principle of transparency and integrity in the State's government apparatus, rationalizing government spending and improving Egypt's transparency indicators. This is the first such portal in the Middle East (etenders.gov.eg), and is designed to help the government publish tenders in all areas through the Internet. The prime minister's decision number 33 for 2010 mandates that all government bodies publish bids electronically on the government procurement portal by publishing requirements and specifications for bids and limited and local tenders that

they issue and whatever amendments thereon on the portal, without prejudice to their announcement in the way stipulated by the law for bids and tenders number 89/1998. The decision also establishes a mechanism for follow-up and control in this regard, in which civil society plays the role of controller because all decisions to conclude contracts or award bids or tenders are made public. The first stage of the portal has been completed, and the second stage is in the process of completion, so that the entire cycle for bids and tenders will be undertaken in the electronic site.

- Improving the performance of public services and simplifying their procedures and transparency by connecting national databases. As citizens expect to receive better, faster and more efficient services, there was urgent need to establish a legal framework to regulate the availability and handling of data and information, rules for coordinating between concerned public agencies in this matter, examine cases in which private entities and civil society organizations have been harmed in the area of data and information, conduct field research and collect data. In anticipation of a law on the free handling of information and prepare government units to apply an integrated information system, new dispositions have been issued concerning the executive directors of information (prime minister's decision number 2552 for 2009 on creating the post of executive director of information in ministries' and governorates' departments) that specify rules for their selection and appointment, and the tasks that are assigned to them, in order to produce a clear positive effect on the citizens, and thus on the services provided to them with great efficiency.