BACKGROUND:

Gender equality is both an essential development goal in its own right and a driver of sustainable human development. International law recognizes that everyone has a right to participate in public life, but it remains an ongoing challenge to achieve women’s equal participation, especially in decision-making. The importance of advancing women’s leadership in politics and in the private sector has continued to gain traction, and, although much remains to be done, advances are being made slowly but surely.

However, less attention and support has been given to promoting women’s leadership in public administration. In many developed and developing countries, public administration often remains a patriarchal institution, perpetuating gender-biased traditions, attitudes and practices.

In response to these challenges, UNDP developed a new initiative on Gender Equality in Public Administration (GEPA). In the first phase of this GEPA initiative, UNDP produced a Global Report on Gender Equality in Public Administration, that draws on a global mapping and literature review and 13 country case studies completed across 5 regions (Bangladesh, Botswana, Burundi, Cambodia, Colombia, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Romania, Somalia, Uganda) on women’s participation and decision making in public administration. The Global Report on Gender Equality in Public Administration reflects research based on available national data, and provides analysis of the obstacles that hinder women’s equal participation and decision-making in public administration. It highlights examples of current and emerging approaches, and offers recommendations for further action.

The global launch of the GEPA report on 19 June, in New York, provides an opportunity to present the first phase of the GEPA initiative, discuss the key findings and policy and programming recommendations outlined in the publication, and explore potential collaborations to support implementation in Phase 2 of the GEPA initiative.

FORMAT:

UNDP GLOBAL REPORT ON GENDER EQUALITY IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION  
NEW YORK LAUNCH, 19 JUNE 2014, 3-5PM, UN HQ, CR-5 (NLB)  

Concept Note and Agenda

RSVP: gepa@undp.org, by 17 June 2014 (required if you do not hold a UN pass) 
@UNDP @UNDPGEPA #UNDPGEPA www.undp.org/gepa
This 2 hour-event will include: opening remarks by senior representatives from Norway and UNDP, a presentation of the report, and a panel discussion. The event will be broadcast live. Interpretation will be provided (English, French, Spanish).

**EXPECTED PARTICIPANTS:**

The audience is expected to include 80-100 participants, from UN Permanent missions and observers, civil society organizations, including youth and women’s organizations, networks and movements, civil servants and other national representatives from the field, UNDP and other UN entities, academia, experts, media, representatives from private sector, etc. For RSVP: gepa@undp.org (recommended, and required for non-UN pass holders, by 17 June).

**PROPOSED AGENDA:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>03:00 PM – 03:10 PM</td>
<td>Welcoming Remarks, by Ms. Tine Mørch Smith, Deputy Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations in New York, and Mr. Magdy Martínez-Solimán, Director a.i., UNDP Bureau for Policy and Programme Support.</td>
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<tr>
<td>03:10 PM – 03:30 PM</td>
<td>Presentation of the UNDP GEPA Global Report on Gender Equality in Public Administration: Key Findings and Recommendations, by the co-authors, Ms. Suki Beavers (UNDP Gender Team) and Ms. Noëlla Richard (UNDP Democratic Governance Group).</td>
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<tr>
<td>03:30 PM – 04:20 PM</td>
<td>Panel discussion on “Women’s Equal Participation in Public Administration”, moderated by Mr. Patrick Keuleers, Director a.i., UNDP Democratic Governance Group.</td>
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- **National perspectives:**
  - **Bangladesh** - Ms. Suraiya Begum, Secretary IMED (Secretary of Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division, Ministry of Planning) and Chairperson of the Bangladesh Civil Service Women Network.
  - **Botswana** - Mrs. Valencia Mogegeh, Director of Gender Affairs at the Ministry of Labour & Home Affairs.
  - **Mexico** - H.E. Mrs Yanel Cristina Morgan Sotomayor, Deputy Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations.

- **Partnerships to enhance data collection and analysis on gender equality in public administration** – Ms. Tatyana Teplova, Senior Policy Analyst & Project Manager, OECD Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate.

- **Institutional cultures and change within public administration** – Ms. Karyn Twaronite, Partner, Ernst & Young LLP, EY Americas Inclusiveness
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<tr>
<td>04:20 PM – 04:50 PM</td>
<td>Q&amp;A Session</td>
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<td>04:50 PM – 05:00 PM</td>
<td>Closing - Group Photo.</td>
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