

**REGIONAL PUBLIC PROCUREMENT FORUM
TASHKENT, APRIL 25-28, 2005**

The first ever Central Asia Regional Public Procurement Forum was held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan from April 25 to 28. The Forum was sponsored by the World Bank. The

b. Identification of best practices the implementation of which will ensure the establishment of a sound public procurement system; and

c.

Implementing Sound Public Procurement Systems.

The groups identified best practices from each country. It is expected that the authorized body in each country will ensure that these practices are followed.

The groups also discussed the needs of each of the four countries for improving their public procurement systems. For example, the main recommendations are for the government to designate an organization to lead the public procurement reform and eventually to improve the legislation through consolidation of resolutions.

Continuous improvement in the public procurement regulatory framework and the need for training a large number of public procurement officials were identified as common issues in all the countries.

The participants learned about the status of e-procurement in Kazakhstan, and the prerequisites of e-procurement. Kazakhstan being in an advanced stage of introduction of e-procurement can serve as a model and resource for the other countries that also intend to introduce e-procurement as well. The participants learned that the main advantages of e-procurement are speed and improved transparency. The Kazakhstan delegation offered to help the other countries in this respect.

While Kazakhstan needs technical assistance in e-procurement, all other countries are at an inception stage of e-procurement and also need support.

Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan also need assistance in effectively implementing their public procurement laws, including preparation of implementation regulations, manuals, standard bidding documents, etc.

The conclusions of the three groups are included in the attachment below. The groups made, among others, the following recommendations:

Establish a regional public procurement group to ensure regular contact and dialogue for exchange of experiences;

In the long-term, strive for making the public procurement regulatory framework of the four countries essentially identical.

The donor representatives (World Bank, Asian Development Bank, Islamic Development Bank, USAID, etc) appreciated the need to support through technical and financial assistance the public procurement systems in the country. Following Governments requests, they will be willing to consider the needs identified by the Forum and will explore ways and means of fulfilling these.

For Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, the Government(s) would wish to proceed with the actions recommended by the Forum and would need resources, Donor community should consider mobilizing support and grant funds.

Next Steps:

The participants unanimously agreed on the following next steps:

- a.

| Country | # | Name | Company |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---|--|
| | 11 | Sadulloev Khairullo, Representative in Khujand branch | Agency on Procurement of Goods, Works and Services under Ministry of Economy and Trade, Republic of Tajikistan |
| | 12 | Sattorov Muzaffar, Representative in Qurgonteppa branch. | Agency on Procurement of Goods, Works and Services under Ministry of Economy and Trade, Republic of Tajikistan |
| U z b e k i s t a n | 13 | Uzeirov Dilyaver, Lead specialist | State Committee on Architecture and Construction Works (GosKomArchitectStroy) |
| | 14 | Muksinov Bahtior, Lead specialist | State Committee on Architecture and Construction Works (GosKomArchitectStroy) |
| | 15 | Ramzitdin Parahitddinovich Sagdullaev, Chief Specialist on Internation Bid Management | State Committee on Architecture and Construction Works (GosKomArchitectStroy) |
| | 16 | Abdukhamid Abdullaevich Abdurakhmonov, Head of Department, Department of Authorised Representatives | State Committee on Architecture and Construction Works (GosKomArchitectStroy) |
| | 17 | Vasitov Hushnutbek Rapikovich, Lead Specialist | Ministry of Economy |
| | 18 | Kushakaev Bakhtiyar, Member of Committee on Agricultural and Ecology | Oliy Majlis |
| | 19 | Akramov Jasur Akhadovich, Member of Committee on Industry, Construction and Trade | Oliy Majlis |
| 20 | Tukhtabaev Abdurashid, Member of | | |

| Country | # | Name | Company |
|----------------|----------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| | 24 | Shadibaev Artur, Sr.Consultant | |

| Country | # | Name | Company |
|----------------|----------|--|-------------------|
| | 40 | Nurbek Kurmanaliev, Procurement Analyst | WB CO, KG |
| | 41 | Anara Akhmetova, Team Assistant | WB CO, Kz, Astana |
| | 42 | Fasliddin, Rakhimov, Procurement Analyst | WB, Uzb |
| | 43 | Firuza Makhmudova, Team Assistant | WB, Uzb |