Minutes of the PEM PAL TCoP Leadership Group meeting through video conference, July 22nd, 2010

TCoP leadership group held a video conference meeting on July 22nd, 2010.


Meeting Objectives:

- Discussions on TCoP Activity Plan for 2010-2012 (with focus on the fall of 2010), and sharing the impressions from the last PEM PAL Steering Committee meeting
- Preparation of the TCoP events scheduled for the fall 2010 – Small group workshops in Dushanbe and Slovakia
- Discussions on issues related to the TCoP members participation to the all PEM PAL CoPs meeting, planned for January, 2011

1. TCoP Activity Plan for 2010-2012

Anila Cili, chair of TCoP Leadership group, informed participants about the issues discussed during the last PEM PAL Steering Committee meeting, and decisions taken.

The Activity Plan for 2010-2012, prepared by the leadership group considering the results of the special Survey performed among TCoP members during Chisinau workshop, has been approved by the Steering Committee. This Plan has been developed around three main topics of priority interest for TCoP members:

- Use of Information Technologies in Treasury operations
- Financial accounting and Reporting for public sector
- Financial Management and Control issues. For each of these topics, the Plan includes four events (full TCoP meetings, small group workshops, study visits, short term trainings). The Plan includes, also, TCoP members participation to the full PEM PAL meeting planned for January, 2011.

Elena Nikulina informed the meeting participants, that Steering Committee has simultaneously approved the budget for covering the activities included in TCoP Activity Plan for 2010-2012 (435,000 USD).

Commenting TCoP Activity Plan, TCoP leaders have appreciated its good quality and confirmed that this Plan covers all topics of major interest for treasury practitioners from member countries. Nina Lupan suggested to consider organizing a meeting devoted to the Financial Reporting and accounting issues at an earlier stage than it is stipulated in the Plan.
2. Preparation of the TCoP Small group workshops in Dushanbe and Slovakia (scheduled for the fall 2010)

For the fall 2010, two small group workshops have been included in TCoP Activity Plan: Dushanbe workshop on the issues related to the implementation of the integrated budget classification and chart of accounts, and a visit to Slovakia to get familiar with the IT system for cash management and the experience in treasury short term investments and annual remuneration of accounts for treasury clients.

The meeting participants decided to hold the workshop in Dushanbe during October 11-13, 2010. As the main purpose of Dushanbe workshop is to advise member countries currently implementing an integrated budget classification and chart of accounts, Tajik representatives have formulated a number of issues they want to be addressed during this event.

TCoP leadership group members have appreciated the high priority of questions raised by Tajik colleagues, and agreed that agenda of the meeting has to be built around these specific issues. All participants expressed their interest to attend the workshop. At the same time, Lulzim Ismajly and Alila Cili have indicated that participation of the representatives from their countries would require that translation into Albanian language is organized during the workshop.

Nina Lupan suggested that all attending countries could make a presentation showing their experience and lessons learned in the new BC and CA implementing process. This suggestion has been supported by TCoP leaders. Nargiz Djumaeva has expressed Kyrgyz delegation availability to share their experience in the new BC and CA implementation, especially focusing on the related risks and mistakes to be avoided.

Elena Nikulina informed the meeting participants that a thematic Survey devoted to the new BC and CA implementation topic will be performed among TCoP members before this Dushanbe event, and the results of the Survey will be used in preparing the workshop agenda.

In order to insure a good quality workshop in Dushanbe, a special plan of activities for preparing this event has been developed and approved by the meeting participants. This checklist stipulates activities, timeframe and the parties responsible for the process of preparing the workshop.

TCoP small group workshop devoted to examination of issues related to the topic “IT systems for cash management -- Treasury short term investments and annual remuneration of accounts for treasury clients”, has been scheduled for November, 2010, in the community Activity Plan for 2010-2012. During Chisinau workshop Slovak delegation has expressed their readiness to host such an event. TCoP leadership group has decided to check once again the availability of the Slovak hosts and to proceed with the preparation of that meeting in September.
3. Discussions on issues related to the TCoP members participation to the all PEM PAL CoPs meeting, planned for January, 2011

In order to discuss issues of common interest for all PEM PAL communities, the TCoP Activity Plan stipulates its members participation to the full PEM PAL meeting in January, 2010. Two topics of priority interest for the community have been suggested by treasury practitioners (Medium-term/Long-term PFM Strategies; FMC new concepts and their implementation in countries under development process).

Elena Nikulina informed TCoP leaders, that PEM PAL Steering Committee approved the idea of the plenary meeting for all three CoPs and decided to create a special organizing committee for this event. TCoP will be represented by the leadership group chair – Anila Cili. This committee will decide issues related to the format of the event, final list of topics to be discussed.

It has been decided that all TCoP leaders will support Anila in the process of plenary meeting preparation. Nargiz Djumaeva will be Anila’s back up for that purpose and all correspondence related to PEM PAL plenary will be forwarded to both Anila and Nargiz for further circulation within TCoP, as appropriate.

Main conclusions of the TCoP Leadership Group meeting:

- TCoP Activity Plan for 2010-2012, approved by the PEM PAL Steering Committee, fully covers community’s priority interest topics, while its flexibility allows to introduce changes if required by members.
- As stipulated in TCoP Activity Plan, a small group workshop will be organized in Dushanbe, during October 11-13, 2010. A special thematic Survey will be performed among community’s members to inform the workshop agenda. Agreed logistics checklist will be followed for organization of the event.
- Based on the questions raised by Tajik delegation, Ion Chicu and Elena Nikulina will develop a draft Concept of Dushanbe workshop.
- Anila Cili will check the availability of Slovak Ministry of Finance to host the small group workshop on the IT security topic, scheduled for November, 2010 in TCoP Activity Plan.
- TCoP members will attend plenary PEM PAL meeting in January, 2011. Anila Cili will represent TCoP in the event organizing committee, Nargiz Djumaeva will back her up and all leadership group members will assist them in this process.
- Ion Chicu will will prepare and circulate the minutes of the leadership group VC meeting, by early August, 2010.

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As Elena Nikulina informed the meeting participants, this Activity Plan is a flexible one, and could be revised during 2011-2012, if TCoP members would require such changes.

These questions and areas of interest will serve for developing the Concept of the workshop, its agenda and list of countries and experts to be invited to the event. Particularly, Tajik delegation is interested to discuss issues related to the mode of transition from old CA to the new one, issues related to the level of integration.
between Budget Classification and Chart of Accounts, related legal framework developing, TCoP member countries experience in the process of transition to the new BC and CA, interaction between BC and CA with other classifications.