



## ACTION REFLECTION NOTE (ARN)

### GLOBAL E-GOVERNANCE SUB-PRACTICE EVENT

**1-3 SEPTEMBER, 2005**

**DAKAR, SENEGAL**

Programme Officer (if different from author of ARN):	
Author of ARN:	Ibouraïma YANKPE GBERE
Title of Project:	Programme for Benin Parliamentary Strengthening and Modernisation
Total budget for project per year :	US\$ 348 000
UNDP contribution per year :	US\$ 300 000
Timeframe of initiative Start date: End date:	May 2004 December 2007
Introduction	The project activities proposed include: second generation budget oversight tools development; public policies analysis strengthening in partnership with civil society; constituent relationships development; improvement of the parliamentary information systems; promotion of gender balance in Parliament; and promotion of integrity in public life.
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Strengthen the Parliament's legislative capacity and continue to build second generation budgetary oversight tools</li> <li>2. Enhance parliament's members capabilities in public outreach and constituency relations</li> <li>3. Promote gender equity, including enhanced participation of women in parliament and seek to stimulate national debate on the role of women in public life</li> <li>4. Involve Benin parliament in overseeing government commitments related to MDGs and other questions of national and international interest</li> </ol>

<p>Analysis</p>	<p>The objectives should be potentially met. However, we can underline some challenges : initiation work on elaboration of a public communication strategy ; Strengthening Parliaments access to information and ability to perform its oversight role (set up Parliamentary radio) ; Strengthen the legislative service structures of the parliamentary administration (Strengthening of parliamentary administration) ; enhance the Parliament’s role as a safeguard for the rule of law. In addition, some positive outcomes could be mentioned as goals in the future actions plans : reorganisation of Parliamentary structure, training plan for staff and effective management tools suggestions.</p>
<p>Lessons Learned</p>	<p>Parliament’s members (opposition and those who support government action) have gone to meet their constituents in january 2005. This activity named “public consultation” may be used as a means of communication because the trip showed constituents that “doing politics” was not meant “doing war” but politics could be compared with a game.</p> <p>Parliament’s members started analysis and review of 2002 rural land law and initiated work on an urban land law (which is so far missing)</p> <p>Parliament’s members have gone to see the state of some so called protected natural parks</p> <p>Network of parliament’s members for the protection of the environment has been created</p> <p>Stimulation national debate on the role of Benin women in public life</p>