

From the Editorial Desk

The decision of publishing an e-journal was taken unanimously in the second steering committee meeting of the Network of Asia Pacific Schools and Institutes of Public Administration & Governance (NAPSIPAG) held at Monash University in June 2006. The aim was to produce a quality e-journal as an official NAPSIPAG publication with an intention to launch its first issue during the NAPSIPAG annual conference in December 2006. It definitely was not an easy task, especially to meet the deadline. With the newly formed editorial board, we had to start from the scratch.

Initial hurdle was to determine the frequency and focus of the journal and send out the call for papers. It was decided to bring it out as a bi-annual online journal dedicated to publish significant, interesting, and timely articles, both conceptual and empirical, on issues concerning public administration and governance. Despite the limited amount of time available, we received good response from authors and well-wishers from all over the world. The referees were also very prompt in responding to the refereeing requests. Nonetheless, we had to be fraught with several limitations. Producing something online had never been my forte. I received advice and assistance from many people in this regard. The papers selected for the inaugural issue do not cover all key areas of governance and public administration. Also, we received more papers from one part of the region. However, the selected papers should generate enough interest and debate surrounding issues such as e-governance, structural reforms, media policy, accounting and banking. Currently, there are several papers under review consideration for the upcoming issues. I certainly hope that more ground will be covered in the future issues.

I must extend my very warm gratitude to Mr Raza Ahmad, Governance & Capacity Development Specialist of Asian Development Bank (ADB) for his continuous support. It would have been extremely difficult to launch this journal without his ongoing and active support. Thanks should also go to Dr Gazali Abas, Executive Director of NAPSIPAG, all members of the journal editorial and advisory boards and paper reviewers. I also would like to extend my gratitude to Professors Julian Teicher, James Sarros, Amrik Sohal and Charmine Härtel of Monash University for their encouragement and support. Finally, I would like to thank the journal's editorial assistant, Stanley Bruce Thomson, for his diligent efforts in editing and formatting the scripts.

Nonetheless, I hope you find this journal informative and useful. It is a new initiative. Your comments will help us improve the quality and content of the journal.

Truly yours,

Sharif As-Saber, PhD
Editor-in-Chief
Journal of Administration & Governance