

MONTHLY UPDATES, SEPTEMBER 2010

The Director of IGS, Barrister Manzoor Hasan, participated in the *Asia Pacific Regional Community of Practice in Democratic Governance* Meeting in Bangkok, Thailand, from 1-3 September 2010. The main objective of the meeting was to explore the challenges and issues, such as internal conflicts, governance, natural disasters and impact of climate change, women's empowerment, impact of global financial crisis and fiscal space in the Asia Pacific region. Overall the meeting aimed to establish the way forward in facilitating a vibrant democratic governance team through substantive debates, knowledge exchange and collaboration to strengthen UNDP's positions, policies and interventions in governance in the Asia Pacific region. UNDP Country office practitioners, APRC regional governance team, APRC practice leaders and representatives, other regionally represented UN agencies, external experts, government representatives and civil society representatives from the Asia Pacific region participated in the programme. Mr. Hasan gave three presentations on *Knowledge Management*, *Protecting the Planet: the Governance of Climate Change*, and *the State of Democratic Governance*.

Munyema Hasan, Research Associate of IGS (ANSA-SAR project), presented a paper on 'Citizen Monitoring of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in Bangladesh' as part of the 5-day Stand Up and Take Action Campaign (SUTA) for the MDGs around the world on 19th September 2010 in Dhaka. This particular session was jointly organised by the United Nations Millennium Campaign (UNMC), WaterAid Bangladesh, Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF) and PSTC. The Director of MJF and the Country Director of WaterAid Bangladesh were present. The SUTA campaign was jointly organised by 26 organisations and networks in Bangladesh.