

Respected Ms. Mramor,

Distinguished participants, dear colleagues,

Good morning and welcome to Ljubljana, welcome to ICPE!

I would like to warmly welcome you all, who gathered here in Ljubljana, at the Headquarters of the International Center for Promotion of Enterprises to participate at the Training Program on Modern IT Supported System of Central Civil Registration.

As ICPE Acting Director General it is my privilege to welcome 6 participants. This is the third time that we are organizing a special training focused to the needs of Afghani people.

ICPE is an intergovernmental organization set up on a United Nations initiative 40 years ago - in 1974, and today with 18 Member States from Latin America, Asia, Africa and Europe it aims to pursue and promote international cooperation in areas related to the transfer of knowledge and knowledge sharing, transfer of technology and promoting good business practices, sustainable entrepreneurship through:

- long-term training programme – International MBA programme;

- short-term trainings, and

- organizing and hosting international conferences, expert group meetings, seminars and workshops for public officials, businesses and policy makers.

Last year we prepared training on “System of Civil Status and Migration for Afghanistan”. The topic of the training was on modern system of civil status and Slovenian experiences in this field with basic link to migration.

This year’s training program is an upgrade of last year’s introductory program on and will present the wealth of Slovenia’s experiences. On the European and global scale, Slovenia has a highly developed quality in the management of programs in civil status registration, as well as in registration of the population.

The main goal of this Development Assistance Program financed under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia is to present and share the Slovene experience in the field of modern IT Supported System Of Central Civil Registration. Slovenia is recognized for its awarded modern IT Supported System Of Central Civil Registration which uses the highest standards of data protection. The training will thus provide expertise to develop modern systems using new technologies.

Developed civil registry system is one of preconditions for good governance of all countries facing the challenges of globalisation. The states should know who their are citizens, what is the size of their population, age, gender, education and other features which are relevant for planning in health, education, employment and social policies.

Let me take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to Ms. Mramor, Minister Plenipotentiary from Department for International Development Cooperation Implementation and Humanitarian Assistance, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia. The Ministry once again recognized the importance of sharing Slovenian knowledge in the field of civil registration and has supported our activities. Thank you again.

To conclude, I wish you all a successful training and productive lectures. As I was informed, you will visit Ljubljana city center tomorrow and you will also have a chance to see other beautiful Slovenian places during the weekend.

Once again, I wish you a successful training and a pleasant stay in Ljubljana!

Thank You!