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**COUNTRY REPORT  
BY  
REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA**

## II. 2.2 – Implementation of the Information and Communication Technologies at the National Assembly of Angola

The development of the information and communication technologies is quite new to the National Assembly of Angola due to its recent institution, resulting from the multiparty elections in 1992.

In this way, in order to assure the referred technical – administrative support, the National Assembly has undertaken efforts since 1995 to implement macro – strategic politics in view of the slow implementation of the information and communication technologies (TIC's) at its offices. This is to correspond efficiently with its attributions, either through the formation of personnel or through the systematic modernization of its informational park, created for that purpose, a Center of Information into which the management task was undertaken from the already alluded technologies.

So, at the informational park, there was evolution from about six computers in 1995 to about 170 in 2004. 150 out of 170, since 2001, became linked to intranet and internet. Presently an internal and external system of information management is being implemented. As a result, the home page creation of the National Assembly ([www.parlamento.ao](http://www.parlamento.ao)) and the share of electronic files between the different offices and cabinets came into reality.

Moreover, the National Assembly, with the support from the system of the United Nations, namely through the UNDESA (Division of Public Administration and Management of development) started at the beginning of this year the implementation of a Project, financed by the Italian Government, called "Regional Initiative – Reinforcement of the Informational System of the Parliament in Africa". The project was done without delay during the visit of the Coordinator of the Project, Mr. Flavio Zeni, April 18 –22, 2004, in Luanda.

The project which will last two years (September, 2003 to September, 2005), revalidated in function of its impact and result, was officially presided in Mexico City on November 7, 2003, alongside with the Fifth Global Forum about the Reinvention of the Government – Innovation and Quality in the 21<sup>st</sup> Government. Ms Kristinn Helgason and Mr. Flavio Zeni had witnessed the act for the United Nations (UNDESA) and the General Secretaries of the Parliaments, parts of the Project. The National Assembly of Angola was represented by its General Secretary, Dr. Diogo de Jesus.

Likewise, for the purpose of better explanation, it is stated that the referred project, besides Angola, integrates more seven African Parliaments which accepted to adhere the same project, namely Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique, Rwanda, Uganda and Tanzania. It is hoped that the recently instituted Pan – African Parliament equally take part in the Project.

The referred Project, in which the National Assembly of the Republic of Angola participates, has general objective to promote the use of the Information and Communication Technologies (TIC's) at the parliaments. Through the referred TIC's, the quality of the parliament services will increase

and facilitate to the access to the parliamentary documents for the citizens and create new forms of participation from the civil society in the democratic process.

In particular, the Project will allow to support efficiently the structures and services of the Parliament, increase the knowledge and abilities of the persons who deal with the Parliament, facilitate to the access to the official bulletins and other parliamentary documents, will facilitate the participation in people in the politic process and reinforce, in regional level, the contact between the African Parliaments "E - PARLAMENTO"

The Project will allow, equally, the development of specific information application for the Parliaments. It is expected to:

- Reinforce the efficiency of the parliamentary processes through the introduction of information system, adaptable to the parliamentary procedures.
- Increase the volume of internal and external informational services, of the Parliaments, as well as its capacities of interaction with the Government, Members of Parliament and citizens by means of available applications in Internet
- Install an computerized accountancy system to facilitate the administration and management of the Parliament, as well as facilitate the preparation and control of its budget
- Reinforce the capacity of the Parliament in the revision and supervision of the General Budget of the State

Consequently, at the National Assembly level, the Project is destined to, concretely, develop the Parliamentary Information System, the Web Page of the Parliament, the System of Administrative Management and Accountant, and the System of Information.

### Parliamentary Information System

1. The Parliamentary Information System will take care of the management, by digital system from all cycle of parliamentary activities, since its beginning until the archive and the document search steps. The system will allow to present, in digital format, the projects of legal diplomas.
2. The Parliamentary Information System will allow to manage, among others, the document about:
  - The state of the legal diplomas and respective legislative history
  - The proposals of correction in the legal diplomas
  - The Diaries of the Completeness
  - The votes
  - The parliamentary committees and its members
  - The data base about parliamentary activities
  - The activities and biography of the Deputies

### Web Page of the Parliament

To improve the quality and increase the quantity of the information inserted in the Web Page for better presentation, trying to put it at the same level of the Web Pages of the other parliaments, with remarkable advancement in the scope of the TIC's. On the other hand, a better management of data base available in Internet will be possible with attention to its integration in the "e-parlamento"

### System of Administrative and Accountancy Management

The System of Administrative and Accountancy Management will allow to support the administration of the Parliament and facilitate the preparation and the budget control. Here materials will be treated, such as the organization of system of parliamentary administration, the analyze of the accountancy management, the development of the administrative and accountancy system.

### Information System

The Information System will allow to review the strategies of communication and information, evaluate the existing information system, create a system of information management in order to support the Deputies in their legislative activities, reinforce the capacity of collection and analyze financial data about budget matters and create a link between the African (1) Parliaments and further organizations "e-parliament"

### Conclusion

1. Despite a few advancement registered by the National Assembly of Angola in the domain of the information and communication technologies, it becomes necessary that, as given the complexity and dynamics of the TIC's, our Parliament continue to conjugate cooperation so that its domain becomes, in short term, effectively a concrete reality, in account of the international standards (e-Parliament Interoperability Framework)
2. Then, in this communication we try to give particular emphasis on the Project "Regional Initiative – Reinforcement of the Informational Systems of the Parliaments in Africa ". We hope that the project with its implementation will attain the following results from the macro – structural point of view:
  - Increase the capacity of the Parliament in the domain of the legislative process
  - Improve the access to the public and the participation of the civil society in the activities of the Parliament
  - Greater efficiency and effectiveness of the Parliamentary Administration
  - Greater transparency and responsibility in the management of the account of the Parliament
  - Reduce the dissemination in paper of the parliamentary documents, due to its on-line availability which will contribute to reduce the costs associated to the impression of these documents

3. From the macro – structural point of view, the following objectives will have to be reached:
- Significant improvement of the management of informational system of the National Assembly (2), in the course of the implementation of the project, beyond its actual constraints
  - Formation of personnel in scope of the TIC's
  - Eliminate gradually the digital illiteracy at the National Assembly level
  - Inter-parliamentary connection and communication through the on-line link among the Parliaments of the Coastal Region of the African Continent and Africa, in particular, and of the world in general, which will allow to share experiences and documentation
  - Consult and exchange information on – line, about materials of Comparative Law, which are of interest for the Angolan Parliament.

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- (1) This link will allow to connect the Parliaments affiliated to the Project to the Pan – African Parliament
- (2) The information system of the National Assembly is understood as the universe of existing information equipment (hardware), the respective applications and data base (software), the audio system, the Web Page and the technical procedures associated to the guarantee of the efficient function of the system