Right to Information Act 2005: Designing & Implementing Monitoring Systems

by

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Session Objectives

- To identify systems and procedures for public authorities and the State Information Commission to monitor implementation of the law in order to meet reporting obligations
Legal requirements

- Section 25:
  - Info Comms produce annual reports
  - Ministries must supply info in support

- Annual report includes
  - statistical info – eg. no. of requests, appeals, outcomes, disciplinary action, fees collected
  - Qualitative info – incl. reform recommendations
Practical issues - monitoring

♦ Collection of statistics - each PIO and AA will need to collect and forward

♦ But:
  – Forward to whom?
  – Collect in what format?
  – Using what systems?
  – How often?
  – Who will monitor?
Ideas

- Fully paper-based system?
- Computer at nodal agency + paper systems at local offices?

- Computerised system?
  - Eg. UK database – downloadable at: 
    http://faculty.maxwell.syr.edu/asroberts/foi/software/FOI_Monitor.zip
Ideas

Presentation by: Commonwealth
Human Rights Initiative
Ideas

♦ Canada

– All Departments submit their monitoring statistics into a central database
– Produce monthly reports on what applications are received – on what topic, submitted to what agency, when
  • Reports are regularly accessed and published by academic Prof Alisdair Roberts
  • http://faculty.maxwell.syr.edu/asroberts/track/index.html
Ideas

embassade (Paris) concernant [ ]

CIC2004008112 Citizenship and Immigration Canada Business 2005-02-24 00:00:00 the Kingston Jamaica Visa, CPC-Vegreville and CIC Scarborough files for [ ]

CIC2004008113 Citizenship and Immigration Canada Business 2005-02-24 00:00:00 the Singapore CAIPS notes, Visa file, F055 notes and CPC Mississauga files concerning [ ]

CIC2004008119 Citizenship and Immigration Canada Public 2005-02-23 00:00:00 the naturalization records of [ ]

CIC2004008129 Citizenship and Immigration Canada Unknown 2005-02-24 00:00:00 information for the purpose of administering the estate concerning [ ]

CIC2004008154 Citizenship and Immigration Canada Business 2005-02-28 00:00:00 the Manila Visa file and CAIPS notes concerning [ ]

CIC2004008182 Citizenship and Immigration Canada Media 2005-02-22 00:00:00 all the emails, attachments, email subject headers, and records including all records in the immigration program IM account of Dave Barton, and all downloaded records stored as textfiles

Opening page http://faculty.maxwell.syr.edu/asroberts/track/trackdata/CAIR_05_05.txt...
Practical issues - reporting

♦ Consider:

- Regular publication of statistics, at a minimum on the nodal agency website – ie. Delhi Govt – [http://ar.delhigovt.nic.in/index_old.html](http://ar.delhigovt.nic.in/index_old.html)

- States should annually report in a consistent manner so that implementation activities can be compared
  - request Central Govt to produce guidelines on annual reports???
Thank you

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