

GPA STATISTICAL OBLIGATIONS - A VISION FOR 2015 - What we can hope to have? How to get there?

OLIVIER COPPENS

GENEVA, 11 FEBRUARY 2010

Internal Market & Services DG

STATISTICAL OBLIGATIONS

- Original purpose: monitor the agreement
- Obligations laid down in Article XIX (5)
- Quite an ambitious wish for 1994!
- A difficult but progressive birth – 2007 full speed?

STATISTICAL OBLIGATIONS

Scope of Art. XIX (5):

- Monitor contracting authorities/entities
- Monitor products & services purchased
- Monitor uses of limited tendering
- Monitor country of origin
- Monitor derogations

...hence an ambitious program...

STATISTICAL OBLIGATIONS

Scope of Art. XVI (4):

- Monitor contracting authorities/entities
- Monitor products & services purchased - ...but only at Central level
- Monitor uses of limited tendering - ...but only at Central level
- Monitor country of origin - ABOLISHED
- Monitor derogations – ABOLISHED

STATISTICAL OBLIGATIONS

SO...

...REALISM STROKE BACK...?

STATISTICAL OBLIGATIONS

CERTAINLY – REALISM STROKE BACK...

...BUT THE PARADOX IS THAT THE IDEALISM OF 1994

...HAS BEEN MATCHED BY THE DEVELOPMENT OF IT
TECHNOLOGIES...

HOW TO SAVE THE IDEALISM OF 1994 WITH THE
POLITICAL CONTEXT OF 2005 AND THE IT
POSSIBILITIES OF 2010?

STATISTICAL OBLIGATIONS

Art. XVI (4) REAL STRENGTHS:

- **Publication of statistics in a single website**
- **Single database permitting analysis of covered contracts**

...hence implicitly making the link between publication databases and procurement statistics.

STATISTICAL OBLIGATIONS

Our experience in the EU:

- Difficult awakening – are statistical obligations serious?
- EU PP Directives – transposes statistical obligations

...but how to ensure that the Portuguese village of Malveira da Serra fulfils its obligations?

...developing a 2 tier structure:

- National statistical reports
- Creating a single database based on PP calls for tender

STATISTICAL OBLIGATIONS

The EU real strength in the area of Public Procurement is called TED...

...a Single website containing all calls for tender covered by the GPA...

...itself the transformation of the paper version of the “Official Journal of the European Communities”...

...into a website in the end of the nineties.

THAT WAS A TURNING POINT FOR THE EU.

TED – SINGLE POINT OF ACCESS

- All contracts covered by the European Public Procurement Directives have to be published in the OJEU (Official Journal of the EU), now **TED**
- TED: <http://ted.europa.eu>
- TED is a free access website containing all public procurement opportunities in the EU (contracts covered by EU legislation)
- ...in 23 languages!

TED COVERAGE

Entities

- ALL central authorities (national Ministries)
- ALL local authorities (e.g. municipalities)
- ALL utilities (airports, ports, railways, urban transport, electricity, water sewage,...)

Purchases

- ALL goods (except warlike material)
- ALL works
- Most services (except social, cultural, health, education, water...)

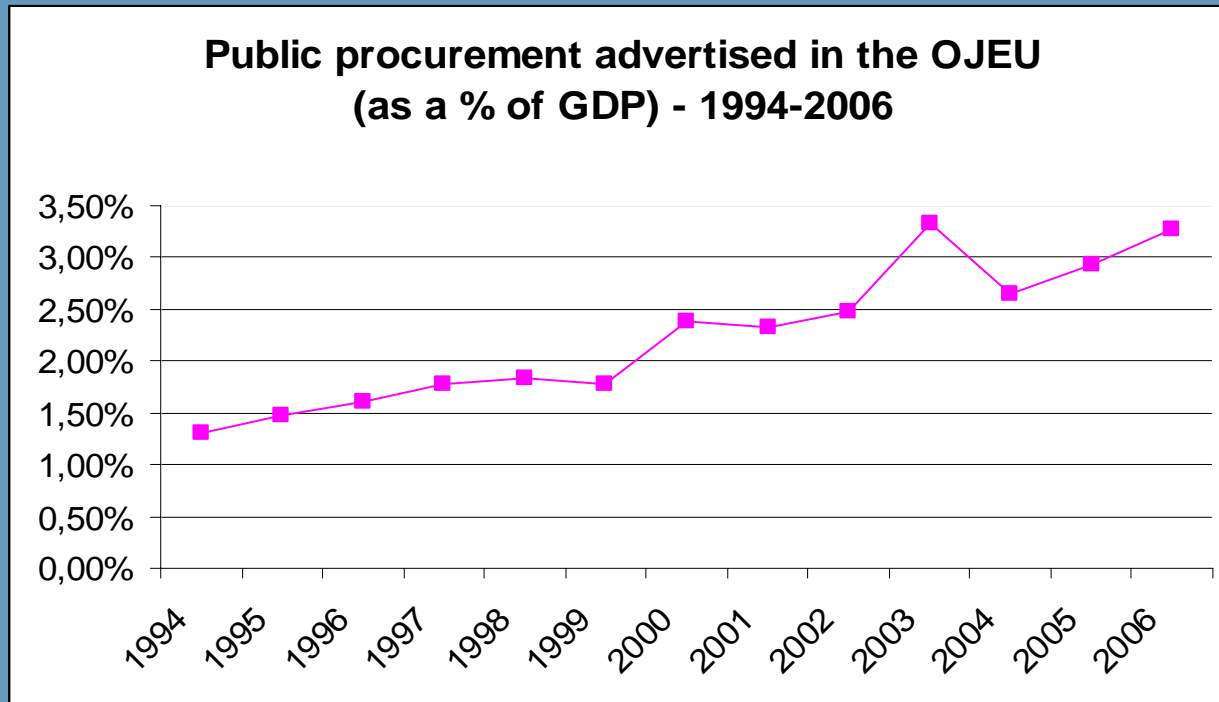
TED COVERAGE

...even if only those contracts with a sizeable value (GPA thresholds)...

TED covers 3% EU GDP...like the whole Belgian or Swedish economies

Or...1 billion EUR / 130 billion JPY of procurement opportunities EVERY DAY

TED PUBLICATIONS



STATISTICAL OBLIGATIONS

...Coming back to statistical obligations:

- TED – creating standard forms with information on each call for tender
- Storing all the information in powerful DATABASE.

Contracting authorities fill in a database information on CONTRACT VALUE

...but now also on NUMBER OF BIDDERS and ESTIMATED PRICE, NAME OF WINNER...

...so in the end...there is now more information than what is requested for GPA

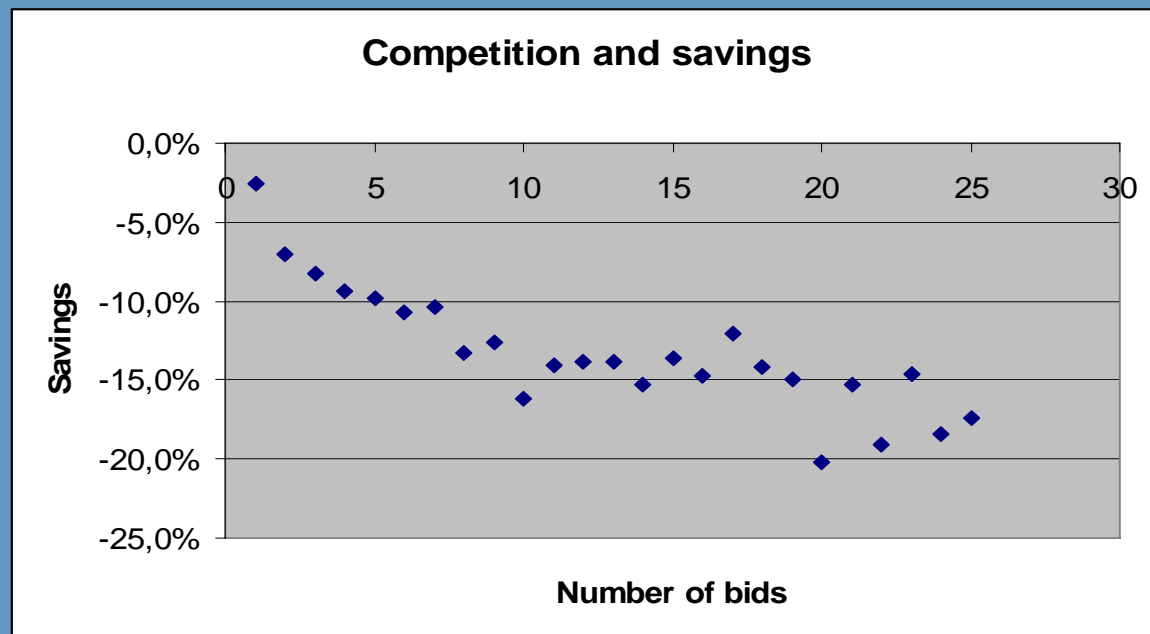
STATISTICAL OBLIGATIONS

Yet, while statistical obligations are becoming lighter...

- Growing need to evaluate public procurement policy at national level (compliance & efficiency)
- Growing need to use statistics to support coverage negotiations in GPA but also in PP Chapters of FTA

STATISTICAL OBLIGATIONS

Competition delivers savings



STATISTICAL OBLIGATIONS

Use of statistics to support coverage negotiations:

- To measure market size – equilibrium & reciprocity in negotiations
- To measure “openness” – bringing back COUNTRY OF ORIGIN & LIMITED TENDERING

...in particular to convince developing countries that GPA or FTAs are ‘win-win’

PARADOX : Although obligations have become lighter, the need for data has never been as great

STATISTICAL OBLIGATIONS

So, what can we hope to have?

...well, we still need to have the same requirements as in 1994...and MORE.

How to get there?

- By centralising publication of calls for tender
- By exploiting all possible information

...and lighten the statistical burden from local authorities

STATISTICAL OBLIGATIONS

GPA statistical obligations -> EU internal statistical obligations

Progressive automation of data collection

And now...powerful tool to evaluate Public Procurement Policy

...powerful tool for transparency

AN EXAMPLE OF HOW THE WTO CONTRIBUTES TO IMPROVE GOVERNANCE

STATISTICAL OBLIGATIONS

THANK YOU!