

**Kingdom of Morocco**

**Ministry of Justice**

**With the support of the United Nations  
Development Programme,  
World Bank/ Legal Department,  
and in collaboration with  
International Development Law Institute**

**Conference on**

**Judicial Administration Modernization**

**in the Arab States**

**Marrakech**

**March 15-17, 2002**

**Conference Agenda**

## Friday March 15 2002

**8:30 – 9:00**                    **Registration** in Dades Conference Room, Sheraton Marrakech

**9:00 – 10:00**                    **Opening Session** in Dades Conference Room

Keynote speech by **His Excellency Omar Azziman**, Minister of Justice, Kingdom of Morocco.

Statement by **Ms. Rima Khalaf Hounaidi**, Regional Director of the Arab States Bureau, UNDP

Statement by **Mr. Ko-Yung Tung**, Vice President and General Counsel of the World Bank

Presentation by **Mr. Ahmed Ghazali**, General Secretary of the Ministry of Justice of Morocco

**10:00 – 10:30**                    **Coffee/Tea**

**10:30 -12:30**                    **Session I: General Introduction to Modernization of the Administration of Justice** in the Atlas Conference Room

**Chairperson: Mr. Driss Dahak**, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and President of the Consultative Council for Human Rights, Kingdom of Morocco

**General Rapporteur: Mr. Ahmed Driouech**, Professor at l'Université Mohamed V, Agdal-Rabat, Advisor to the Office of the Minister of Justice, Kingdom of Morocco

### **Presentations – 15 minutes each**

“Improving justice through modernization,” by **Mr. Abdelmajid Rhomija**, Director of Studies, International Cooperation and Modernization at the Ministry of Justice, Kingdom of Morocco.

“Modernization of administration of justice and the new challenges of development” by **Mr. Awad el Morr**, former Chief Justice of the Supreme Constitutional Court, Egypt.

An overview of the World Bank's experience implementing judicial reform projects: **Mr. Jean-Marc Baissus**, World Bank /Legal Department

Overview of global trends in judicial reform and modernization: **Mr. Richard Messick**, World Bank

## **Discussion**

**12:30 - 2:30**                    **Lunch** in the Dades Conference Room

**2:30 – 4:30**                    **Session II: Selected case studies of judicial reform in the Arab states** in the Atlas Conference Room

**Chairperson: Mr. Nejib Bousedra**, International Development Law Institute.

**Rapporteur: Mr. Abdelilah Lahkim Bennani**, Advisor, Office of the Minister of Justice, Kingdom of Morocco.

## **Presentations**

**4:30 – 5:00**                    **Coffee Break**

**5:00 – 6:30**                    **Focused Discussion Topics:**

### **Organization of the Judiciary**

- Techniques for improving access to justice
- E-justice
- Judicial structures
- Single-judge courts

### **Access to justice**

- judicial information
- public legal assistance

### **Alternative dispute resolution**

- advantages of having alternative methods to conflict resolution
- the role of arbitration in the judicial structure
- mediation and conciliation
- training judges in alternative dispute resolution techniques

**Saturday March 16 2002**

**9:00 – 12:30**            **Session III: International perspectives on judicial reform** in the Atlas Conference Room

**Chairperson: Mr. Ahmed Ghazali**, Secretary General of the Ministry of Justice, Kingdom of Morocco.

**Rapporteur: Mr. Saïd Essofi**, General Prosecutor, Court of Appeal, Beni Mellal, Kingdom of Morocco.

**Presentations – fifteen minutes each**

European experiences of judicial reform in civil and common law systems: **Mr. Jean-Marc Baissus**, World Bank / Legal Department

World Bank's experience in Morocco: **Mr. Ferid Bel Haj**, World Bank/Legal Department

Judicial reform in Latin America: **Ms. Linn Hammergren**, World Bank

The Spanish experience in judicial reform: **Dr. Luis Guerra Lopez**, Professor of law, Carlos III University, Madrid, Spain.

Independence of the Judiciary in Italy: **Dr. Giacomo Oberto**, Deputy Secretary General of the International Association of Judges.

**10:20 – 10:40**            **Coffee Break**

**Discussion**

**12:30 – 2:30**            **Lunch** at the Dades Conference Room

**2:30 – 6:30**            **Session IV: Working Groups**

**Group One: Modernizing the Administration of Justice** in the Asni Conference Room

**Moderator: Mr Mohamed Lididi**, Director of Civil Law Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Kingdom of Morocco

**Rapporteur: Mr. Abdelilah Lahkim Bennani.**

**2:30 - 4:15: The positive role of the judge in improving the administration of justice**

- What is the role of the judge in improving the administration of justice?
- What international models exist for judge-as-case manager? How can these models work in the Arab states?
- How can judges improve access to justice in their courtrooms?
- What alternative dispute resolution processes exist?

4:15 – 4:45: Coffee break

**4:45 – 6:30: Specialization in the Courts**

- advantages and disadvantages of specialized courts
- the impact of specialized courts on judicial structures
- the emergence of non-judicial administrative bodies
- relationship between specialized courts and judicial training

**Group Two: Training and Modernization of the Judiciary** in the Imlil Conference Room

**Moderator: Mr. Ali al Sadek**, Vice-President of the Court of Cassation; Undersecretary, Ministry of Justice; Director, National Center for Judicial Studies, Egypt

**Rapporteur: Mr. Ahmed Driouech .**

**2:30 – 4:15: Training for judges**

- What is the importance of judicial education and continuing education?
- What are the judicial training needs?
- What kind of judicial training institutes exist?
- What would be the benefit of a regional training institute?

4:15 – 4:45: Coffee Break.

**4: 45– 6:30: Training for non-judicial courtroom personnel**

- What are the training needs of non-judicial personnel?
- What is the role of judicial training institutes in the professional development of non-judicial court staff?

**Group Three: Automation and Modernization of the Judiciary** in the Atlas Conference Room

**Moderator: Mr. Wassim Harb**, Consultant, UNDP's Programme on Governance in the Arab States

**Rapporteur: Mr. Saïd Essofil.**

2:30– 4:15: **Automation as a means to achieving judicial reform goals**

4:15 – 4:45: Coffee Break

4: 45– 6:30: **Human resources; technology; and information infastructures.**

**Sunday March 17 2002**

**9:30 – 11:30**            **Closing Session and Recommendations**

**Minister of Justice, Morocco**  
**General Rapporteur: Mr. Ahmed Driouech**  
**Adel Abdellatif, UNDP**  
**Said al-Habsy, World Bank**