



**United Nations  
Development Programme**



**Hashemite Kingdom of  
Jordan  
The Ministry of Justice**

**PROGRAMME ON STRENGTHENING THE RULE OF LAW  
IN THE ARAB STATES – PROJECT ON THE MODERNIZATION OF  
PUBLIC PROSECUTION OFFICES**

**Regional seminar on  
Legal Organization of Public Prosecution**

**ACTIVITIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

13 – 14 November 2007

Amman – Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

**Regional Seminar on the  
Legal Organization of Public Prosecution**

## **I. Summary**

A regional conference on "the Legal Organization of Public Prosecution Offices" was held in Amman on 13-14 November 2007 within the context of Strengthening the Rule of Law in the Arab Countries – Project on the Modernization of Public Prosecution Offices. The conference was organized in cooperation between the Public Prosecution Office in the Ministry of Justice in Jordan and the United Nations Development Programme- Programme on Governance in the Arab Region (UNDP-POGAR).

The conference brought together approximately eighty participants, including public prosecutors from the Arab pilot countries (Jordan, Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco, and Yemen) as well as judges, law professors. Also, a number of regional and international experts from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the International Criminal Court (ICC), the International Association of Prosecutors, (IAP) the European Committee, and some special international courts( ICTY, ICTR) as well as representatives of donor countries like Britain, Norway and Denmark have taken part in the conference.

The conference was inaugurated in the Minister of Justice, M. Sherif Al Zoubi. The Chief of the Public Prosecution Office in Jordan, Mr. Youssef El Hmoud, the Deputy Resident Representative of the UNDP country office in Jordan, Mrs. Mona Hider and the representative of UNDP-POGAR, the national expert of the Project on the Modernization of Public Prosecution Offices, Mrs. Reem Abu Hassan were also present.

During the conference, eighteen presentations were made during which the topics of the agenda were discussed. These presentations mainly addressed issues related to (1) the legal foundation of the concept and the role of the Public Prosecution during criminal procedures; (2) The independence of the public prosecution from the judiciary; (3) The regional and international standards governing the role of public prosecutors; (4) International experiences concerning the role of public prosecutors, and finally (5) National experiences and the means of benefiting from them. The conference also included participation and discussion about both on both the theoretical and practical levels.

At the closing session, the participants expressed thanks to the parties that organized the conference and applauded the great role played by the Ministry of Justice and the Public Prosecutor' Office in the Kingdom of Jordan, as well as by the UNDP in order to ensure a high quality of the conferences' activities and valuable results.

The conference was closed in the presence of the Chief of the Public Prosecution Office in Jordan by reading out a summary of the conference proceedings and recommendations.

## **II. Recommendations**

The participants to the conference the legal organization of public prosecution:

- 1- Stressed the importance of the conference which aimed at addressing the Legal Organization of Public Prosecution in the Arab countries and the means to develop it.
- 2- Stressed the necessity of formulating a new and developed concept for the role and function of the Public Prosecution in such a way that ensures bring harmony between the function of the Public Prosecution in guaranteeing human rights and its role in preserving human rights.
- 3- Urged the improvement of the circumstance of Public Prosecution in the Arab countries through performing studies and analysis on the factors intended to support the implementation of their roles.
- 4- Recognized the importance of organizing the work of the Public Prosecution and benefiting from the experiences of developed countries in this field.

- 5- Expressed their determination on passing the knowledge acquired during the conference to other members of the Public Prosecution Office targeted by the project in the pilot Arab countries. This dissemination of knowledge can be done through by briefing fellow members of the participating public prosecutors on the issues discussed in the conferences and providing them with the material distributed during it.
- 6- Urged the organization of national seminars and workshops with the support of UNDP to address the means and tools of developing the work of the Public Prosecution in the pilot Arab countries. These seminars should focus on analyzing the performance rates and independence levels from the executive authority practiced by Public Prosecutions when performing their functions.

Finally, the participants reiterated their thanks to the Ministry of Justice in Jordan the Chief of the Public Prosecution Office for their generous hospitality and exerted efforts to make this conference a success.

Special tribute was paid to the participating donors, organizations and experts who enriched the conference with their comments and remarks.

The Participants finally thanked the United Nations Development Programme – Programme on Governance in the Arab Region (UNDP-POGAR) which organizes and runs this project, stressing on the importance of activating and executing the various proposed development projects in the coming year.