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JORDAN RULE OF LAW PROGRAM

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ACRONYMS

ACJLS	Arab Center for Judicial and Legal Studies
CAP	Court Administrators Program
CBO	Community Based Organization
CSP	Civil Society Program
CSS	Client Support Specialist
DMS	Document Management System
FI	First Instance Court
FJP	Future Judges Program
IFH	Institute for Family Health
IRC-KHF	Information Research Center – King Hussein Foundation
ITD	Information Technology Development
JC	Judicial Council
JIJ	Judicial Institute of Jordan
JOB	Jordanian Ombudsman Bureau
MIZAN	Automated case file management system tailor-made for Jordan courts and supporting departments. MIZAN V2 is the enhanced automated version of MIZAN V1; it will replace MIZAN V1 in all national courts of Jordan.
MOE	Ministry of Education
MOJ	Ministry of Justice
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MOW	Ministry of Water
NCHR	National Center for Human Rights
RFP	Request for Proposal
ROLP	Rule of Law Project
SGN	Secure Government Network
TO	Cassation Court Technical Office

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Cassation Court Technical Office (TO) is now staffed with director, four judges, six legal researchers and four Arabic language editors. Internal regulations have been drafted and submitted to the JC for formal approval. This quarter, the TO began reviewing cases from various Cassation Court panels to assure they meet the formality requirements. This process expedites the movement of cases, significantly reducing court backlog, and makes the distribution of cases for each Cassation Court panel of judges more manageable and efficient. The TO has also begun providing legal opinions and research on subject-specific matter as requested by judge panels.

In accordance with a new Public Prosecution Law, a central Prosecution Unit has been established to prosecute certain types of crimes, such as human trafficking, money laundering, anti-competition, embezzlement, and intellectual property. To create knowledge amongst prosecutors and judges who are to prosecute and try these cases, the ROLP, in coordination with JIJ, took first steps to develop specialized training programs for judges and prosecutors. ROLP requested that the Minister and Chief Justice name either a judge or prosecutor to serve as the focal point person for each of the above-mentioned prosecution areas. These focal persons will work with ROLP's international experts in the development of curricula training materials and provide training for their specifically-assigned training topic. The Minister responded by naming a judge or prosecutor for each specialization type.

ROLP has been working with the Ministry of Justice to train professional court administrators to assist chief judges in the administration of business processes and management of court personnel. In January, ROLP and JIJ conducted a graduation ceremony for the 21 Foundation Level Court Administrators Program (CAP) students. This program has been very successful, allowing court administrators to become more knowledgeable in court administration best practices.

Fulfilling its role of providing assistance and support to strengthen the performance of court services, ROLP procured and installed a voice paging system in the North Amman Court. Voice paging on all floors in the North Amman court facilitates calling parties or witnesses related to cases during trials which streamline the notification process for cases to proceed without delay. Early indications indicate a high level of satisfaction from judges and attorneys in this new paging procedure. The success of the paging will encourage the MOJ to replicate this system in other courts in and around Amman will be equipped with similar systems. Additionally, ROLP procured public notice poster-panels describing the guidelines

and requirements of the Notary Public Department functions; these panels have been posted in the Notary Public division of the New Palace of Justice. This information notifies the public of exactly what documentation is needed for specific services provided by the Notary Public offices. 5000 flyers were also printed with the same panel information to distribute to citizens seeking the Department's services.

The web portal of the MOJ website created by eStarta, a subcontractor to ROLP, allows the public to access information about cases and court hearing schedules from the MIZAN system, similar to that available on the in-court kiosks. This portal has improved the efficiency and transparency of court services to Jordanian citizens and lawyers, making case information more accessible to involved parties; the portal receives thousands of information requests weekly from the MOJ website. Since its October 2010 launch, the volume of portal usage has grown exponentially, with over 15,000 inquiries made per week.

IRC held their first plenary conference, revealing the findings of their study on the girl child in Jordan. The aim of this project has been to contextually map the state of the girl child in Jordan and determine the manner by which cultural ideology practiced by the community influences the formulation of the law. Members of the community were invited to participate, including religious leaders and social, media, and civil society workers. The purpose of bringing these key stakeholders together is to develop practical approaches and implement methods to improve the well-being of girls in Jordan. From studying over 2000 household surveys in 6 governorates and analyzing collages from art therapy workshops, a clear indication was given of the discrimination girls in low income families endure. Many girls are obliged to spend a significant amount of time performing household duties, listen to and obey their brothers, neglect higher education or studies of her choice (if this is the will of her family), and marry under the age of 18.

NCHR unveiled their children's storybook entitled, "The City of Children" as part of the 'Protection of Children from Domestic Violence' project activities. This project raises public awareness about, and advocates for, children's rights and the prevention of domestic violence. Mohammad Jamal Amro, the storybook's author, highlights children's rights, as stipulated in the Convention on the Rights of the Child, such as the right to education, the right to health, the right to play, and the right to express opinions. It is the first story of its kind to be published, advocating children's rights and speaking directly to a child's audience. 1117 copies of the book were distributed to ministries, schools, and NGOs concerned with children's rights issues. Additionally, 902 copies of a leaflet detailing the vision, mission and

objectives of the NGO Network for the Protection of Children's Rights in Jordan (Eidak Maii) were also distributed to the same 61 relevant institutions.

OBJECTIVE 1: ENHANCE JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE TO REDUCE DELAYS AND INCREASE PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

Develop Capacity in the Court of Cassation Cassation Court Technical Office

ROLP assisted the TO procure furniture, necessary machines, technology (legal search software, internet connection, etc), and essential human resources. The TO is now staffed with the head of the TO, four judges, six legal researchers and four Arabic language editors. Internal regulations have been drafted and submitted to the JC for formal approval.

This quarter, the TO began reviewing cases from various Cassation Court panels. Each of the four TO judges received 25 backlogged cases which were registered in the Cassation Court back in July/August 2010, but had not yet been distributed to panels. The TO judges now review these cases to assure they meet the formality requirements. If accepted, the cases are sent to the Chief Justice for distribution to Cassation Court panels. This process expedites the movement of cases, significantly reducing court backlog, and makes the distribution of cases for each Cassation Court panel of judges more manageable and efficient.

The TO also provides legal opinions and research on subject-specific matter requested. To facilitate these requests, the TO developed forms, approved by the Chief Justice, which effectively and efficiently allow the office to process requests from Cassation Court panels. Additionally, the TO is summarizing all judgments issued by the Court of Cassation in order to make sure the quality of judgments (language and reasoning) meet the highest standards and has been compiling all Court of Cassation General Assembly Decisions to make them available to all judges to use as a reference.

ROLP discussed with TO staff the possibility of adding new functionalities to the existing MIZAN system to help the office track the courts' final decisions and facilitate the search of past court rulings. The Technical Office now has access to a legal research database and ROLP is providing the TO with additional legal databases.

Specialization of Judges

In accordance with a new Public Prosecution Law, a central Prosecution Unit was established to prosecute certain types of crimes, such as human trafficking, money laundering, anti-competition, embezzlement, and intellectual property. To create knowledge amongst prosecutors and judges who are to prosecute and try these cases, the ROLP, in coordination with JIJ, began working on a specific program which will include continual legal education opportunities for these judges.

ROLP requested that the Minister and Chief Justice name either a judge or prosecutor to serve as the focal point person for each of the above-mentioned prosecution areas. These focal persons will work with ROLP's international experts in the development of curricula training materials and provide training for their specifically-assigned training topic. The Minister responded by naming a judge or prosecutor for each field of prosecution.

Court Administration

Court Administrator Program



- ROLP assists the MOJ increase its institutional capacity and develop standardized procedures. ROLP and JIJ coordinated a graduation ceremony for the 21 Foundation Level CAP students (see photo). This program has been very successful in training court administrators to become more knowledgeable in court administration best practices.
- Preparation for the Intermediate Level CAP is underway. ROLP is revising the sessions and lesson plans.

North Amman Court Renovation

ROLP has been working with a local architect and the North Amman First Instance court to formulate recommendations for improved usage of the existing facility and provide minor renovations to reduce file movement and ease procedural burdens. Final sketches were approved; ROLP is evaluating 8 proposals from local contractors. The new layout combines all administrative departments on one floor and expands storage warehouses.

Voice paging for each floor in the North Amman court has been implemented. This efficiency facilitates calling parties or witnesses related to cases during trials, streamlining

the notification process for cases to proceed without delay. Early indications from a questionnaire sent to North Amman judges and attorneys indicate a high level of satisfaction from this new paging procedure.

Notary Public Department



Public notice panels describing the guidelines and requirements of the Notary Public Department functions have been posted in the Notary Public division of the New Palace of Justice (see image). Additionally, 5000 flyers have been printed to inform the public of what documents are needed for specific services provided by the Notary Public offices.

Computerization

Court Automation Rollout

The automation team continued to provide follow-up services to the courts on both MIZAN V1 and V2. This entailed working closely with the ITD staff to assure understanding of the new MIZAN functionality with the Quality Assurance, Clerk and Typist staff.

ROLP supports rollout activities for new automated departments at courts not currently under the IT ownership of the MOJ, with three lead client support service staff. These staff members coordinate all rollout activities between the courts, internal ROLP technicians, MOJ staff and third party entities assisting with implementation activities.

In addition to rollout support, the ROLP team assists with Business and Technical support services at courts such as diligently working to insure that the information moving into and through the court is completely and accurately recorded in the MIZAN application. To date, MIZAN V2 has been launched at 53 locations.

Civil Execution of Judgment Rollout

ROLP and MOJ have successfully completed the pilot stage of the criminal execution rollout in the West Amman Courthouse. However, due to a lack of funding, the MOJ was unable to

procure the necessary computers needed for the rollout of this application. With USAID approval, ROLP finished the procurement of PCs and multi-purpose printers and will begin rollout for the civil execution at FI courts in April when the equipment is delivered.

Client Support Specialist (CSS) Team

The CSS team has been divided into two groups; one group is involved in testing new releases from MIZAN V2, and the other is helping to educate and support staff on the Civil Execution Pilot at the West Amman Court.

Criminal Execution of Judgment Rollout & Strengthening the Institutional Capacity of the MOJ IT Directorate

The ROLP team completed the MIZAN Criminal Execution system rollout in all FI courts throughout the Kingdom. In its efforts to build MOJ's capacity to independently sustain and support technology, ROLP continues managing MOJ staff to rollout the Criminal Execution System to Conciliation Courts, offering only as-needed support from ROLP. One-on-one training for all pertinent court staff was provided by the MOJ Rollout Team on the functionality of the Criminal Execution System.

Notary Public Rollout

The Notary Public Rollout at Conciliation Courts is also the responsibility of the MOJ Rollout Team. They have been working with ROLP leads to rollout the Notary Public application over all Conciliation Courts and have thus far completed 24 Conciliation Courts.

Application Development and Maintenance Activities

ROLP managed Optimiza's activities of migrating the Conciliation Courts' databases from MIZAN V1 to V2 for Criminal Execution and Notary Public, enhancing the Civil Execution system, and working on Land Department integrations. ROLP has finished their part of the Land Department integration, and is awaiting the Land Department to complete their portion in order to begin final testing. In preparation for closing out with Optimiza, ROLP has halted all MIZAN enhancements, except the Civil Execution and File tracking systems.

ROLP and Optimiza held many design sessions for file tracking functions which will be included in MIZAN to specify the precise location of physical files, either in storage or at any court office. Development of a file tracking system began in late February.

ROLP began requirement analysis for the Attorney General Application with Amman's

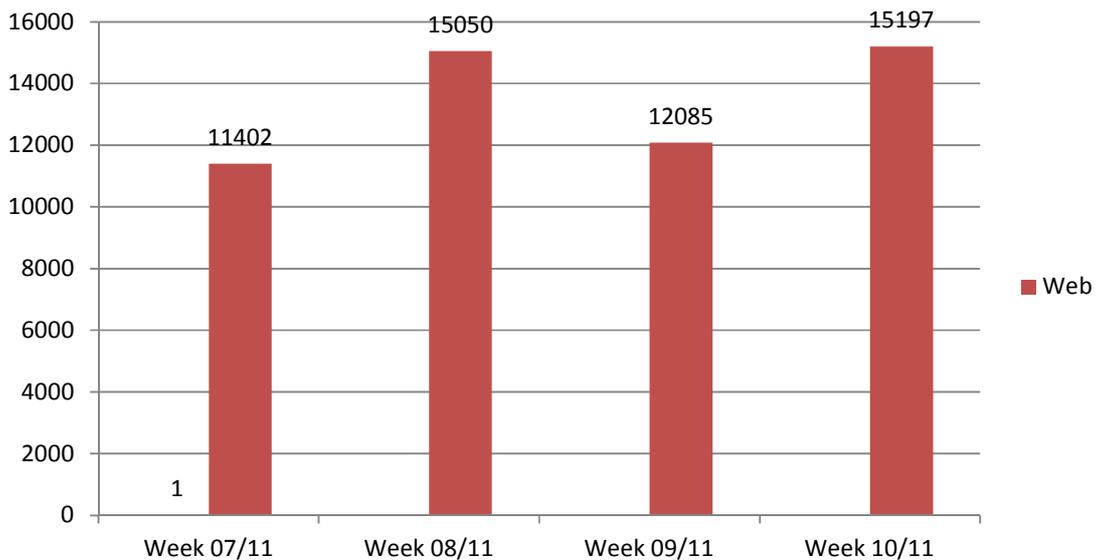
Attorney General Department. They believe that having an application proper to their office to register their cases will keep their files safe and make the registration/data storage efficient; most of the data they need is already registered in MIZAN by the prosecutor. Further development of these applications is contingent on budgetary approval by USAID.

ROLP signed an agreement with eSense to develop an application for the Judges' Affairs Unit at the JC. This application will be integrated with the JIJ application in order to register all training courses for judges. Software requirement specifications have been completed by ROLP IT staff; the development cycle will begin upon signing the OTO development agreement.

Web Portal

A web portal on the MOJ website was created by eStarta, a subcontractor to ROLP, and published on the internet. This allows the public to access information about cases and court hearing schedules from the MIZAN system, similar to that available on the in-court kiosks. The portal receives thousands of information requests weekly from the MOJ website. Since its launch to the public in October 2010, week 10 had the highest volume of portal usage to date, with 15,197 inquiries. This high traffic emphasizes the importance of accurate and timely data entry by court staff into the MIZAN system.

MIZAN Web portal inquires



Dashboard Reports

Approximately 98% of the Dashboard Report project has been successfully completed. ROLP and eStarta are working to install the application before training Chief Judges on this application.

Linking MIZAN with Public Entities

Collaboration between the ROLP and MOJ has continued to design and develop applications that will link MIZAN functionalities to public entities, enabling the sharing of information between the Ministry of Water (MOW), Criminal Records and the MOJ's Document Management System (DMS). All of these applications require data retrieval from the MIZAN database.

Ministry of Water (MOW) Project

The e-government link between court cases and the MOW using MIZAN has been launched, providing electronic tracking of legal cases in the water sector. This new service enhances the ability to follow up on legal proceedings on cases relating to the water sector. Since the connection to SGN is taking longer than anticipated, MOW and MOJ decided to launch the application over the internet, providing all needed-data for their cases.

In the past, legal cases in the water sector were followed up with private law offices and tracked by a paper process which was slow and inefficient. This legal e-service uses MIZAN to improve legal case tracking and follow up for three vital water sector entities- the Ministry of Water and Irrigation, the Water Authority of Jordan, and the Jordan Valley Authority. This link is the first time that a government entity gains secure electronic access to MIZAN and is the first shared e-service to be provided and rolled out by the Information and Communications Technology Unit Headquarters and the MOJ to other entities.

Document Management System (DMS)

Although all hearing minutes and notices have now moved to DMS, preparations are being made to add features to MIZAN to allow scanning for all case files via MIZAN. MOJ has awarded DMS procurement to ITEC Company. ROLP is working with them to integrate MIZAN 2 with DMS.

OBJECTIVE 2: PROMOTE AN INDEPENDENT AND EMPOWERED JUDICIARY WHILE INCREASING ITS TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Develop Capacity in Judicial Council

To assist the JC in the implementation of the Judicial Council Administrative Units Regulation of 2010, ROLP is working to create and implement three administrative units: Judges Affairs, Training and Specialization, Strategic Planning, and Secretariat for the JC. These units provide a much-needed administrative structure for the JC and will improve human resources management and recordkeeping for judges. Additionally, ROLP is building a Human Resources (HR) application, an automated database of information for the Judges Affairs Unit, which will be ready for implementation in April 2011. Jidara, a ROLP subcontractor who performed the “as-is” analysis of the Judges Affairs Unit records, submitted the final institutional assessment report of the JAU and will be presenting the report to the JC team.

The ROLP team met with members of the JC to gain a clear understanding as to what initiatives should be started/reinforced in the Judicial Sector. The Chief Justice thanked ROLP for their services provided to-date to the Jordanian Judicial System. A fruitful dialogue on a variety of topics were discussed, including: JC Administrative Units, Specialization, Enabling the JC to become more active in legislation, Judicial Inspection, Views on Judicial Promotions and Assignments, Enforcing Court Judgments, Mediation, Case Management, State Attorney, Constitutional Court, and Judicial Independence.

Judicial Studies Diploma Program

The 2009/2010 Judicial Studies Diploma Program students’ 4th semester was delayed to 1 April 2011. Significant follow up has been made with lecturers, students’ obtaining internships at different courts and prosecution departments, and third semester academic results.

The JI Board of Directors has been reviewing the amended Curricula prepared by ROLP consultants to improve and implement it for next semester.

Future Judges Program (FJP)

The FJP Unit helps to select and train future judges who will embrace the ideals of judicial integrity, independence and accountability. The status of the following groups is as follows:

Top Law School Graduates/2008 & 2010 Groups

Continued follow up has been made with the two students at the US and British Universities. Additionally, the FJP Unit has coordinated with the Financial Department of the MOJ to assure that outstanding University fees are paid.

Top Law School Students/2008 Group

Students' second semester academic performance is followed up by their Academic Supervisors and monitored by the FJP Unit. The British Council was contacted to provide the Unit with first semester English course records. The new English course for the second semester was coordinated with the British Council. Continued follow-up has been made with the two students who completed their LLB requirements from official Jordanian Universities.

High School Graduate Students/2008 & 2009

The FJP Unit followed up with the British Council and the French Cultural Center regarding the students' language course records in English and French, respectively. New language courses in both English and French have been coordinated. Continued follow up with Academic Supervisors was made with regards to their second semester.

High School Graduate Students/2010

Follow up with new students and their Academic Supervisors continued with regards to their second semester.

Continuing Legal Education Program

Recognizing the importance of continuing education, JIJ and ROLP partnered together to present a training program on case fees processing for 14 MOJ court employees. Nearly half of the attendees were female. This is one of many continuing education training sessions in which ROLP assists the JIJ by offering up-to-date legal instruction.

The JIJ and the Future Judges Program (FJP)

The JIJ and the FJP Unit completed scheduled field visits and meetings for Future Judges Program students. The FJP Unit continues working on institutionalizing the Future Judges Unit procedures and following up with the MOJ Financial Department to assure students' monthly allowances are paid.

Strengthening the Managerial, Administrative and Institutional Capacity of the JIJ and the FJP Unit

ROLP continued its ongoing efforts of training, supervising and coordinating activities for the JIJ and FJP Unit as well as providing them with on-site support. JIJ's workflow is also facilitated, in coordination with the Director General.

OBJECTIVE 3: EXPAND ACCESS TO JUSTICE, RULE OF LAW AND PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE RULE OF LAW

Grants

In line with ROLP's objective of expanding access to justice and public awareness of the rule of law, ROLP offers small grants to civil society organizations whose programs increase public awareness of the rule of law, provide legal services to citizens, or target human rights issues related to youth and women. Grants complementing and reinforcing other ROLP technical programs are also considered. ROLP grantee progress is as follows:

IRC-KHF: to be a Girl in Jordan, a Legal and Cultural Bias

Activity 1: Assess and describe current policy and institutional framework applying to the girl child in Jordan

Completed

Activity 2: Investigate roles of tribal law, 'urf, sharia law, and other socio-economic factors shaping the law

A website has been designed and registered as www.teflah.com. Development of the website is ongoing in an effort to promote awareness of the girl child's rights and advocate reformative policy change towards gender equity in the law. The content of the website will include all project research, interviews, findings, reports and recommendations, national and international links. The website will be in both Arabic and English. Thus far, 85% of studies collected from the literature review have been entered into the database. The Girl Child Project logo was chosen from amongst 32 proposed designs.

Additionally, this activity involves the creation of an IFH manual. This manual will benefit all stakeholders working with children in the country, addressing the state of the girl child from a psycho-social and health perspective. The manual is currently being revised by the

IRC research team and will be ready for publication in April 2011.

Activity 3: Execute a National KAP study (Knowledge, Attitude, Practice) study on the culture and environment in which girls are raised

A comprehensive report analyzing the state of the girl child is underway with household questionnaires completed in and around Amman.

Activity 4: Hold nationwide art workshops for girls to express perceptions of themselves in society

The art therapist who conducted workshops in 6 areas (Amman, Mafraq, Irbid, Karak, Zarqa and Aqaba) finalized her report from the Girl-Child Collage Art Assessment, involving the analysis of nearly 400 participant collage images and discussion points. The workshops utilized art therapy to benefit the girls while providing pertinent information to stakeholders on the way in which societal factors influence girls on their placement in the community.

Activities 5 & 6: Plenary Conference and Round Table Workshops

The IRC team held their first plenary conference to discuss the findings of the IRC's study. Conference participants included members of the community that have direct involvement with the girl child: religious leaders, social workers, media workers, civil society workers. The purpose of bringing these key members together is to develop practical approaches and implement methods to improve the well-being of the girl child in Jordan.

From 2011 household surveys in 6 governorates, initial findings indicate that Jordanian girls are obliged to spend a significant amount of time performing household duties.

The aim of the project has been to contextually map the state of the girl child in Jordan and determine the manner by which cultural ideology practiced by the community influences the formulation of the law.

Nermeen Murad, Director of the IRC, said that the next step is to fully analyze the results and publish the study which will form the basis for how stakeholders will work with and understand the girl child in Jordan.

IRC Survey Findings

- 55% of parents believe a girl needs to be accompanied by her brothers outside the house
- 46.8% believe a girl can only go outside the house with her mother
- 66.5% oppose giving a girl child the same freedom to go outside the house as her brother of the same age
- 49% oppose letting a girl play outside the house in her free time
- 45.1% of parents oppose their daughter studying the specialty of her choice if the family does not agree
- 67.8% of parents hope that their daughter completes higher education (71.6% for sons), but 61.5% say that regardless of her educational achievements, her destiny is to get married
- 53.1% of parents would not permit their daughter to go to a school outside their city (27.1% for sons)
- 10.8% of parents would force their daughter into early marriage, even if she refused
- 10.4% of parents think that the most suitable age for females to get married is below 18; over half of them believe that this will protect their daughters
- 80.9% of parents believe that protecting a girl means protecting the family honor
- 89.1% of parents believe that their daughters should obey to their brothers

Al Thoria Center for Studies: Children’s Rights Culture Dissemination in the Jordanian Badia Community

The Thoria completed 30 awareness-raising dialogue sessions on Children’s Rights, educating children, mothers, CBOs, and tribal leaders in the Jordanian Badia. A total of 25 training workshops have been completed to build the capacity of children, mothers, and CBOs in soft skills such as communications, leadership and teamwork as well as special workshops for mothers and CBOs working with children. Four training workshops targeting children aged 12-18 in the Jordanian Badia were held to teach needed skills to plan and implement community-based initiatives by children.

The National Center for Human Rights (NCHR): Protection of Children/ Domestic Violence

NCHR unveiled their children’s storybook entitled, “The City of Children” as part of the ‘Protection of Children from Domestic Violence’ project activities, in coordination with the NGO network for the Protection of Children’s Rights in Jordan (Eidak Maii). The NGO network works under the umbrella of NCHR and comprises 37 NGOs and community based organizations that work with children’s rights and are interspersed throughout the Kingdom. The ‘Protection of Children from Domestic Violence’ project raises public awareness about, and advocates for, children’s rights and the prevention of domestic violence.

Mohammad Jamal Amro, the storybook’s author, highlights children’s rights, stipulated in the Convention on the Rights of the Child, such as the right to education, the right to health, the right to play, and the right to express opinions. It is the first story of its kind to be published, advocating children’s rights and speaking directly to a child’s audience. 1117 copies of the book were distributed to ministries, schools, and NGOs concerned with children’s rights issues. Additionally, 902 copies of a leaflet detailing the vision, mission and objectives of the NGO Network were also distributed to the



A young girl reads “The City of Children”

The NCHR conducted a workshop in Irbid aimed to educate parents, grandparents, religious leaders and community leaders about family violence. Upon analyzing the workshop



Actress Asma Mustafa engaged the audience with her reading performance of the story.

questionnaires of the 28 participants, it is clear that the region lacks awareness programs on human rights issues in general, particularly relating to domestic violence. Participants voiced the need to conduct similar programs, as local teens in their community turn to alcohol and drugs to escape family issues. 36 participants attended a similar workshop in the Al Mafraq Governorate.

10 of 12 workshops on this subject matter have been completed thus far. Twelve workshops - designed to raise children’s awareness of their rights, empowering them with the needed knowledge and skills to practice their rights and how to use them in real life situations- have been completed. Overall, children were active and eager participants in these workshops.

Arab Council for Judicial and Legal Studies

ACJLS established a specialized unit to focus on the program, “Establishing Indicators for Monitoring the Performance of the Judiciary and Using those Standards to Strengthen the Management of the Judiciary in Jordan.” The project’s aim is to enhance and strengthen ACJLS’ institutional capacity to provide judiciary performance assessment, monitoring and reporting services as well as develop and implement innovative information-based management practices. During the reporting period, essential resources were acquired: recruitment of talented staff and arranging for the procurement of office equipment.

The JC's annual report was reviewed and meetings with a statistician were conducted to put together an action plan for project implementation.

ACJLS prepared Terms of Reference (TOR) to engage an expert, Judge Bellipanni, who agreed to work with the project and visit Jordan in May to perform activities described in the TOR. Judge Bellipanni will also provide guidance and supervision to the project team prior to his visit, as needed.

One of the components of the ACJLS project is to conduct field interviews with key stakeholders. The Minister of Justice offered full support for the project activities and facilitated visits to relevant departments at the MOJ, such as the Directorate of Inspection, IT department and Institutional Development Department. ACJLS selected a sampling of courts to visit across the country, where the team will review and analyze data and statistical reports. These courts include: First Instance Courts of West Amman, North Amman, Ajloun, Aqaba, Madaba and Salt; Amman Court of Appeal; and Court of Cassation. The visits are intended to introduce the ACJLS team to stakeholders, help them assess the exact usage of MIZAN, and allow the project team to identify a court liaison to follow them throughout the project. Thus far, visits have been made to: West Amman FI court, North Amman FI court, the Directorate of Inspection, Court of Appeal, MOJ, and the TO in the Court of Cassation. ROLP IT staff trained the ACJLS team, providing a basic orientation of MIZAN and an explanation of its functions and reporting capacity.

OBJECTIVE 4: WINDOWS OF OPPORTUNITY

Ombudsman Capacity Building



The JOB meet with ROLP staff to develop a new strategic plan.

The Ombudsman investigates complaints from aggrieved persons against public administration entities. ROLP is working with the JOB to develop a new strategic plan. ROLP continued working with Jidara, a subcontractor, on the as-is JOB process reengineering report. This study will help JOB more effectively fulfill its tasks.

JOB translated their 2009 Annual Report in English for issuance to foreign Embassies and publication on its website. ROLP held two retreats with JOB. January's session served to assist the JOB in developing a new strategic plan. In March, the groups focused on reengineering the process of how the JOB conducts business, the flow of case information.

Ministry of Social Development/Registry of Societies

The ROLP assisted the Registry of Societies in redrafting regulations and directives that govern societies and their registration by amending the Articles of Association template in accordance with the wishes of the Registrar. General provisions that govern anti-money laundering and anti-terrorism obligations were incorporated into the amended articles. The Registrar intends to seek feedback on the Articles of Association template from all concerned parties (NGOs, public departments, and attorneys) before endorsing it as a final and approved version.

Directives regarding Societies' support and expenditures, from the financial resources of the Fund for Societies (in accordance with the provisions of the Societies law no. 51 of 2010) were revised and redrafted by ROLP. The directives were redrafted pursuant to issues raised during discussion meetings organized by CSP, applying a general framework for societies' support and allowing expenditures as requested by the Minister of Social Development. The Council of Ministers endorsed the directives proposed by ROLP without amendments. ROLP translated all regulations and directives pursuant to the Societies Law no (51) for the year 2008 into English, as requested by the Registrar.

The next steps of ROLP are to:

- Follow up with the Registrar on finalizing the Articles of Association template
- Assist the Registry in revising and redrafting the existing regulations for special

societies as well as drafting an Articles of Association template for these special societies

Industry and Trade Law/Ministry of Industry and Trade

The Minister of Industry and Trade, based on the recommendations of the Policy and Consultation Directorate, requested the steering committee (set up to propose amendments to the Industry and Trade Law, Consumers Protection Law and Competition Law), to take into consideration all amendments proposed to fines sections by ROLP upon amending the text of the basic Law.

The steering committee sent a revision of the basic law to the Legislation and Opinion Bureau, including all amendments proposed by the ROLP to fines sections except for connection to other bodies' systems, which was suggested during the consultation session. The Legislation and Opinion Bureau revised the draft amendments of the law and sent the amending law, including its comments, to the committee of Ministers.

The Committee of Ministers will revise the draft amending law as received from the Legislation and Opinion Bureau. ROLP discussed the proposed amendments to articles concerning fines under the draft amending law with the head of the Legal Affairs Directorate at the Ministry of Industry and Trade and suggested rephrasing the articles.