



**International Experts Conference
Pillars of Legislative Reform: Transformations & Challenges
November 1-2, 2010
Institute of Law, Birzeit university**

Introduction

Since the establishment of the Palestinian Authority in 1994 and until the present time, a lot of effort has been exerted under the banner of what is known as “legal reform.” Such efforts in legal reform have aimed at reforming the Palestinian legislative process in both its legislative half and its institutional half and within the course of the various constitutional, legal, and political stages which Palestinians have lived from 1994 to the present. We look forward to this conference providing a cornerstone from which a discussion can arise about the nature of the legislative reform that we desire, also taking into consideration the latest international developments in the field of legislative reform.

Day One: The Legislative Process: The Palestinian Case

Registration: 9:00-9:30

9:30-10:00

Opening Remarks

Prof. Dr. Khalil Hindi – President of Birzeit University
H.E. Dr. Ali Khashan – Minister of Justice
H.E. Dr. Naim Abu Al-Humos – Director of the General Secretariat of the
Government
H.E. Mr. Hassan Al-Ouri – Legal Advisor to the President of the Palestinian
National Authority
Mr. Felix Dane – Director Konrad Adenauer Stiftung-Ramallah Office
Dr. Ghassan Faramand – Director, Institute of Law-Birzeit University

10:00-11:15 Session One: The Formal Framework for the Legislative Process

This session aims to provide a realistic picture of the Palestinian legislative process by presenting the Palestinian legislative experience in previous years and by examining future plans for the realization of legislative reform.

Chair: Yaser Amouri

Rapporteur: Haya Haj-Ahmad

Khalil Al-Refa'i

The Role of the Ministry of Justice in Realizing Legislative Reform

Jamil Al-Khatib

The Palestinian Legislative Council and the Development of a Palestinian Model for Legislative Drafting

Hassan Al-'Ouri

The State of Emergency and the Legislative Process: The Palestinian Case

Imad Hamad

The Roll of the Council of Ministers in Managing the Legislative Process

Discussion

Coffee Break

11:15-11:30

11:30-13:00 Session Two: Civil Society and the Legislative Process

In this session, we will learn about the nature of the role that civil society institutions in Palestine play in realizing legislative reform. This will be accomplished through hosting representatives of the most important institutions constituting a non-formal framework for the legislative process in Palestine. They are as follows:

Chair: Mustafa Mari

Rapporteur: Ekhlas Bader

Naser Al-Rayes

Civil Society and the Legislative Process

Ma'an D'eis

Informal Oversight and the Legislative Process

Ali Muhanna

The Vision of the Palestinian Bar Association on the Legislative Process

Discussion

Lunch

13:00-14:00

14:00-15:30 Session Three: Strategy in the Legislative Drafting Process

The primary goal of this session is to examine international experience in the field of legislative reform, and, in particular, the foundations and pillars of legislative reform and the role of academics in achieving it.

Chair: Fayez Bikerat

Rapporteur: Tariq Attieh

Jacques Fournier

Managing the Legislative Process
from a Comparative Point of
View

Chris Moll

International Experiences in
Codification

Ghassan Faramand

Legislative Drafting in Palestine:
Future Perspective

Miriam Allam

The Assessment of the
Palestinian Legislative Drafting
Manual

Discussion

Day Two: Specialized Topics in Legislative Drafting

Registration: 9:00-9:30

9:30-11:15 Session One: The Legislative Process and the Use of Technological Tools

This session aims to show the important role that information technology has come to play in legislative drafting in particular and in the legislative process and its management in general

Chair: Jamil Salem

Rapporteur: Abeer Dirbas

Alessandro Bellantoni

E-Justice Reforms in MENA and
OECD Countries

Günther Schefbeck

Electronic Support for Law-
Making: The Austrian Approach

Mohammad Khader

The Legislation Database "Al-
Muqtafi" in the Service of
Legislative Texts

Ahmad Hajissa Hamo

Legal Documents Structures in
the Semantic Web Era

Mustafa Jarrar

E-Government and IT Laws

Discussion

Coffee Break

11:15-11:30

**11:30-13:15 Session Two: The Legislative Process and the Rule of Law and
the Protection of Rights and Freedoms**

In this session, we will learn about the role and importance of legislation in achieving the rule of law and protecting the fundamental rights and freedoms of citizens.

Chair: Mu'ien Barghouti

Rapporteur: Samar Abdo

Isam Arouri

The Legislative Process and
Realization of Access to justice

Rula Abu-Daho

Mainstreaming Gender in the
Legislative Process

Abdullah Ghuzlan

Judicial Oversight and the
Legislative Process

Miriam Allam

The Practitioners' Guide for
Public Consultations in Law
Drafting in the Palestinian
Authority

Discussion

13:15-13:30 Concluding Remarks and Recommendations

Fayez Bikerat

Concluding Remarks &
Recommendations

Lunch

13:30