Towards a Platform for Action on Media Reforms in the Arab States

REGIONAL PREPARATORY WORKSHOP
(World Summit on Information Society
Tunis, November 2005**)**

Preliminary Agenda of the Workshop

9 and 10 April 2005

Intercontinental Hotel
Amman, Jordan

Day 1 – Saturday, April 9th, 2005

09:00 - 09:30 **Registration**

09:30 - 10:00 **Opening Session**

Mr. Musa Shteiwi
Director
Jordan Center for Social Research

Mr. Salim Nasr
Senior Advisor
POGAR, UNDP

10:00 -10:30 ***Coffee Break***

10:30 - 12:00 **Session 1** **The Arab Media between State Control and Liberalization**

Moderator:

Mr. Daoud Kuttab
Director, Arab Media
Internet Network
Ramallah, Palestine

Panelists:

Mr. Ibrahim Nawar
Chairman of the Board,
Arab Press Freedom
Watch. London, U.K.

Mr. Karim El-Rawi
Director- International media programs
IMPACS-Institute for Media,
Policy and Civil Society.
Cairo, Egypt

Debate

12:00 – 13:30 ***Lunch Break***

13:30 – 15:00 **Session 2** **Freedom of Expression, Freedom of Information and Relevant Legislation in the Arab States**

Moderator:

Ms. Sihem Ben Sedrine
General Secretary
Observatory for the Freedom of the Press
Tunis, Tunisia.

Panelists:

Mr. Abdullah Khalil
Lawyer
Cairo, Egypt

Mr. Nidal Mansour
President, Centre for Defending Freedom of Journalists,
Amman, Jordan.

Debate

15:00 - 15:30 ***Coffee Break***

15:30 – 17:30 **Session 3** **Regulatory Bodies, Self-Regulation and Arab Journalists Professional Organizations**

Moderator:

Mr. Khaled Mahrez
Director, Algerian Centre for the Promotion of the Press Freedom,
Algiers, Algeria.

Panelists:

Mr. Jamal Mohafid
Member of the National Commission
The Moroccan Union of Press
Casablanca, Morocco

Mr. Said Essoulami
Director, Centre for Media Freedom Middle East and North Africa,
London, U.K.

Debate

Day 2 – Sunday, April 10th, 2005

09:30 – 11:00 **Session 4** **Towards an Independent Public Service Media in the Arab States**

Moderator:

Ms. Wafa' Abdel Rahman
Director of Democracy and Good Governance Program
MIFTAH
Ramallah, Palestine

Panelists:

Mr. Farid Ayar
Secretary General of the Federation of Arab News Agencies (FANA), Lebanon

Mr. Hussein Amin
Director, Department of Journalism & Mass Media
American University of Cairo, Egypt

Debate

11:00 - 11:30 ***Coffee Break***

11:.30 - 13:00 **Session 5** **Towards a Code of Ethics for Arab Journalists**

Moderator:

Ms. Rafiah Salman El-Talei
Editor-in-chief of "Al-Maraa magazine"
Muscat, Oman

Panelists:

Ms. Rana Sabbagh
Deputy editor in chief
Al-Ghad newspaper
Amman, Jordan

Mr. Walid Choucair
Chief of Beirut Bureau
Al-Hayat Newspaper
Beirut, Lebanon

Debate

13:00 – 14:30 ***Lunch Break***

14:30 – 16:00 **Session 6** **Towards an Arab Platform on Media Reforms for the W.I.S.S.**

Moderator:

Mr. Salim Nasr
Senior Advisor
POGAR, UNDP

Panelists:

Mr. Ibrahim Nawar
Chairman of the Board,
Arab Press Freedom Watch.
London, U.K.

Mr. Said Essoulami
Director, Centre for Media Freedom
Middle East and North Africa,
London, U.K.

Debate