



By Sasi Harib

Newsletter September 2013

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This is the fourth newsletter covering March – September 2013. It highlights some of the main achievements during this period, in line with the Country Programme that was agreed upon between the Government of Libya and UNDP, covering 2012-2014. The main areas of this Country Programme are:

Democratic transition: support to the electoral process (in a joint team with UNSMIL), the support to the newly elected National Congress, the support to civil society, including civic education programmes and the support to civil society participation in constitution making processes

Governance: support to capacity building of Ministries and Local administrations, as well as support to Rule of Law

Environment: sustainable environmental management and renewable energy

Economic Recovery: employment creation programmes and small scale enterprise development

We hope that this newsletter will give you a snapshot of UNDP Libya's work to serve the population of Libya in support of the democratic transition.

Supporting Rule of Law and Access to Justice

Demonstrating their strong commitment to the improvement of rule of law and access to justice in Libya, the Ministry of Justice (MoJ), represented by Libyan Minister of Justice Salah Marghani, and Georg Charpentier, UN's Deputy Special Representative and UNDP Resident Coordinator in Libya, signed on behalf of UNDP a project agreement on 06 August 2013 within the framework of the "Support to Rule of Law and Access to Justice" project.

The project, financed by the Governments of Libya, Japan and Denmark for the amount of USD 6,125,570, is considered an important milestone for the partnership of UNDP and the MoJ towards a results oriented project.

The overall objective of the present programme is to support the restoration of justice and security in Libya in support of the country's transition to democracy. It aims to empower civil society and the Libyan people to access justice, resolve disputes and build peace. The project will focus on (1) Institutional strengthening, mainly of the Ministry of Justice, High Judicial Council, the High Judicial Institute and different judicial institutions; (2) Improved access to justice of the Libyan population and; (3) Support the implementation

of Transitional Justice process to promote national reconciliation, and contribute to national consensus on Transitional Justice.

The key beneficiaries are the Ministry of Justice and the High Judicial Council, in addition to the High Judicial Institute, which is the principal training institute for the judiciary. Other target beneficiaries include, the Truth Seeking and National Reconciliation Commission, the Lawyers' syndicate and associations and civil society and non-governmental organisations. Ultimately, however, the people of Libya will be the principal beneficiaries of the project, especially victims of the former regime, and post-conflict vulnerable groups such as victims of SGBV, the displaced and the disadvantaged.

In striving for these outcomes, UNDP will work over the next two years in close partnership with the relevant Libyan authorities, and within the context of broader international support to strengthening the rule of law in Libya.

The signing ceremony on 06 August 2013 was attended by key figures of the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) and UNDP Libya, with the participation of the Head of International Corporation and staff members of the Ministry of Justice.

Achievements – Supporting Rule of Law and Access to Justice

ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR ALL IN TRANSITIONAL LIBYA

UNDP, in coordination with the Ministry of Justice and two civil society organizations launched a conference on "Access to Justice for All in Transitional Libya" in Tripoli on 22-23 April 2013. The conference brought together 143 participants including Government officials, members of the General National Congress, civil society, diplomats and individual experts. The conference was facilitated by national, regional, and international experts from the United States, Jordan, and Egypt.

EXPLORING MODELS OF LEGAL PROFESSION REFORMS

UNDP, Libyan Judges Organization, and National Bar Association organized a two-day workshop from 24 to 25 April 2013 for 35 judges, lawyers and prosecutors to explore models on legal profession reforms and the capacity development needs of lawyers in Libya. The participants produced an action plan on elements of anticipated reforms, the resources and actors required to implement the action plan and immediate next steps.

DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF JUDGES INDUCTION PROGRAMME

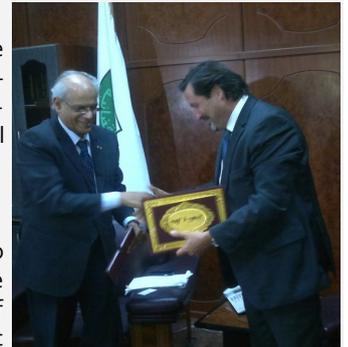
On 27 May 2013, the Ministry of Justice of the Czech Republic hosted an intensive training programme for 11 Libyan Judges from five different governorates; Tripoli, Sabha, Benghazi, Albaydha, and Derna at judicial training academy in Kromeriz. The programme aimed to share the experience of the Czech Republic with the Libyan judges with regards to the judicial system, case and court management and introduction to the European Convention on human rights. The exchange of experiences would facilitate addressing similar issues in Libya.

ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR ALL IN TRANSITIONAL LIBYA

On 27 June 2013, UNDP and UNSMIL organized a one day high level seminar titled "Excluding Former Regime Members And Institution-Building in Transitional Societies: A Comparative Perspective". The seminar explored the relationship between exclusionary processes and institutional reform in post-conflict societies, drawing on the experiences of other countries including in particular the post-communist countries such as East Germany, Czech Republic, and Hungary, but also Bosnia-Herzegovina. The meeting sought to formulate some recommendations for the implementation of exclusionary processes.

ENHANCING CAPACITIES AND IMPROVING ACCESS TO JUSTICE

From 06 to 09 July 2013, UNDP organized a four-day-training workshop on developing questionnaires. The overall objective of UNDP's RoL programme "Support to strengthening the rule of law and access to justice in Libya during the transition to democracy (2012-2014)" is to assist the restoration of justice and security in Libya in support of the country's transition to democracy. The objectives of the workshop were to conduct a base-line survey with recommendations on strategies to improve access to justice for IDPs, and to enhance the capacity of local civil society organizations to design, organize and implement base line studies on mapping key aspects of the administration of justice and development issues in Libya.



Libyan Minister of Justice and UN's Deputy Special Representative and Resident Coordinator in Libya sign ROL project agreement

Supporting an Inclusive and Transparent Libyan Owned Constitution

The results of the nation-wide constitutional survey were publicly announced on 27 May 2013 during an event organized at the General National Congress. The survey was funded by UNDP and the European Union and implemented by the Benghazi Research and Consulting Centre after a long preparatory phase that started in August 2013. Dr Muhammad Mugarief, GNC Speaker, opened the event, followed by the Minister of Higher Education, H.E Hassan Abubaker and Mr Ibrahim Iresi, Deputy President of the University of Benghazi.

The survey is considered one of the biggest and most professionally prepared initiative of its kind implemented in Libya. Questionnaires were designed and tested, teams trained from across the country, fieldwork and data cleaning, aggregation and analysis conducted. It covered all Libyan regions and districts with a representative sample size of over 3000, including the Libyan ethnic minorities of Amazig, Thebu and Tuareg.

The results of the survey are currently available in both Arabic

and English on <http://rcc.benghazi.edu.ly>. Some of the findings highlight that 90% of the respondents supported the role of the State in promoting the status of women. 57% declared support to the decentralized form of State with 8% in favour of the federal system.



Institutional representation at the launch of survey results

Libyan Owned Constitution (Continued)

Parallel to the general survey, the Benghazi Centre carried out an elites' survey. It targeted representatives of GNC (117 members interviewed), government, civil society and private sector. The survey focused on various political issues related to the substance of the future constitution.

Following the completion of the survey, UNDP extended its support to the University of Benghazi to enable organising a series of discussions on survey results to be held at six Libyan universities by the end of 2013. The full report has already been printed and is available online. The University of Benghazi is assisting in the organisation of the remaining activities of the results dissemination phase and the media is also being utilized in disseminating information and promoting discussions. These initiatives will promote public participation in the building of the Libyan constitution through an inclusive, transparent and Libyan owned process.

The launching event was attended by Speakers of the General National Congress, GNC members, Government representatives, State institutions, academia, civil society, UN, EU, international diplomatic community and several organizations working in Libya.

Two presentations were conducted during the event; one was on the process by Dr. Najeeb Elhassadi from the University of Benghazi and one of the organizers and designers of the survey. The second was on the methodology and results by Dr Fathi Ali (Undersecretary of Ministry of Higher Education & Scientific Research Director of Research and Consulting Centre University of Benghazi), initiator and the main driving force behind conceiving, preparing and implementing the survey.



Dr Muhammad Mugarief, GNC Speaker at the opening session

“Nabi F Dusturi...”

“I WANT... in my Constitution”

“Nabi F Dusturi” is an initiative supported by UNDP within its assistance framework to constitution making in Libya. The initiative was launched in January 2013 as part of the “Open Dialogue for Libya’s New Constitution Towards an Inclusive and Democratic Social Contract” project, funded by UNDP and implemented by the local NGO Forum for Democratic Libya (FDL).

UNDP is working closely across the country with FDL on engaging Libyans who represent various ethnic groups and political opinions, in dialogue sessions on the constitution. This approach will encourage grassroots involvement in the drafting of the constitution and will guarantee that the new law will reflect the views of the Libyan population. During project implementation, 15 sessions were held in different parts of the country. Through the sessions, participants including youth, women, elderly, religious leaders, and other community members, were able to present their concerns, comments, proposals and recommendations for future document.



One of the particularly interesting sessions was conducted in Jado; a town 180 km southwest of Tripoli and inhabited largely by Amazighs. Participants in the session also included people from other cities within Mount Nefousa. The main questions raised during the session were related to identity, language and freedom of Islamic doctrine – top priority considerations for people of Jado.

Nabi F Dusturi..... (Continued)

“This is more important to us than food and water” said one of the participants during the discussion sessions. “We want to continue preserving our language and have the freedom to practice our religious beliefs,” he added.

Through this pioneering project, UNDP is empowering minorities and vulnerable groups to voice their concerns and take part in the decision making process and the drafting of the new Libyan constitution. The FDL-UNDP project has been focusing on organizing dialogue sessions in 12 selected locations in Eastern, Western and Southern Libya. Recommendations on the New Libyan Constitution were developed and handed over to the Constitution Drafting Assembly, once it is formed, for their consideration.

It is worth noting that the native language for the Nefousa mountains population is Amazigh and they follow the Ibadi sect of Islam. Despite their strong attachment to their ethnicity and language, they are proud of their Libyan identity and some even consider themselves as the indigenous people in Libya.

** Ibadism is a distinct sect of Islam that is neither Sunni nor Shi'i. It developed out of the seventh-century Islamic sect known as the Khawarij, and shares with that group the desire to found a righteous Muslim society and the belief that true Muslims are only to be found in their own sect.*

Strengthening Capacities of GNC Committee Staff

UNDP Libya, in cooperation with the General National Congress (GNC), organized two training workshops between 19-26 June 2013 in Tripoli, Libya. The two-day workshops, targeting 45 committee staff members representing more than 20 GNC committees, aimed at raising awareness and developing capacities of committee staff to effectively carry out their functions in support of the committees' work.

The first day of the workshop focused on the critical role of committees in the work of legislative assemblies, highlighting aspects that

link it to the effectiveness and performance of the legislature as a whole. The discussion also included oversight, legislative role of committees and expected tasks of committee staff.

The second day was dedicated to specific competency requirements for committee staff, including the principles and techniques in report writing for committees. The final session was a simulation exercise. Participants were divided into groups; each was tasked to conduct research related to the committee's work and then present findings before the plenary for a general discussion.



Opening by UNDP Libya Country Director, Director of Training and Administration at GNC secretariat and chairs of National Security and Labor and Social Affairs committees of GNC

Public Administration Reform

The Public Administration Reform programme (PAR) has the task of supporting the Libyan Government on modernization and strengthening of its institutions. The programme's engagement with key Ministries is focused on citizen service delivery considering that one of the tolls of the revolution was a reduction in delivery of services such as police, fire, garbage and other basic services important to residents. PAR also supports improved horizontal linkages between Ministries and vertical linkages between National and subnational levels.

A bright light in this landscape is the Ministry of Communications and Infor-

matics, which is pressing ahead with plans ranging from regulatory, commercialization and e-government. As an example of their forward thinking, the Ministry announced a tender for the first private mobile carrier, to be advertised in 2014.

UNDP has partnered with the Ministry in its e-government strategy, focusing on modernizing the systems of the Libyan Government and offering citizen access to government services through technology. The Ministry is expected to present the draft e-government strategy to stakeholders end of September 2013.

UNDP is currently supporting with the e-government team in setting up a Project Management office, and assisting with the assessments and coordination of three line Ministries: Industry, Health and Education. In addition, UNDP will also be facilitating transfer of knowledge initiatives where lessons learned and a range of international experiences will be introduced to Libyan stakeholders.

This is the beginning of a partnership with the Libyan government in an effort to both modernize and deliver citizen services in a more effective way.

UNDP and Ministry of Planning Launch a Workshop to Support Building the Libyan State

In Cooperation with the Ministry of Planning (MoP), UNDP Libya and through its Capacity Strengthening Initiative (CSI) project, organized a high level workshop on "Development of Governmental Coordination Mechanisms" on 28-29 April 2013 at Corinthia Hotel in Tripoli. Dr Mehdi Ghania, Minister of Planning, and Mr Eric Overvest UNDP Libya Country Director, opened the workshop.

This is the third workshop that UNDP carries out with the Ministry of Planning on the concept and application of Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E).

Around 45 participants representing strategic planning and monitoring at the line ministries and the general secretariat of the General National Council (GNC) attended the workshop and took part in the discussions.

The participants were broken down into groups for a series of interactive sessions. Consultant Wael Zakkar provided presentations on best international practices for the establishment of an M&E system in countries like Chile and Colombia in addition to post conflict countries such as Iraq and Afghanistan, which triggered multiple

discussions amongst participants. This was followed by the Head of the Technical Cooperation Department at the Ministry of Planning, who demonstrated the key role of the Ministry in ensuring institutionalized coordination mechanisms to follow-up on the implementation of government plans.

In addition, the Decision Support Unit gave a presentation on their role in monitoring and following-up on the executive plan that has been adopted by the Libyans Temporary Government as a programme of work for the year 2013.

Recommendations on Monitoring and Evaluation System Institutional Development

- The establishment of the inter-ministerial committee for Monitoring and Evaluation under the leadership of the Ministry of Planning (the committee will encompass all monitoring directors in different ministries)
- Adjustments to the responsibilities of the Decision Support Unit, Directorate of Monitoring and Evaluation in the Office of the Prime Minister to avoid overlapping of responsibilities in terms of M&E management within the Prime Minister's office and the Ministry of Planning
- Adjustments and unified terms of reference for directors of monitoring in different ministries, covering the responsibilities of planning, monitoring and evaluation
- Preparation of guidelines/protocols for the entire Libyan M&E system, encompassing planning and budgeting processes, monitoring the executive plan at the central and local levels, reporting mechanisms, steps, standards, timing and accountability measures. As for M&E at the local level, the consultant suggested implementing and testing a local, integrated M&E system in two selected regions/districts in Libya as a pilot



Minister of Planning Dr Mehdi Mughnia and the UNDP Country Director, Mr Eric Overvest

Fostering Good Governance Capacity Building Seminar for Libyan Senior Public Officials

Upon the request of the Government of Libya, a high level international seminar on implementing public sector reforms was co-organised by the United Nations Development Programme, Libyan Ministry of Planning and the MENA-OECD Governance Programme and Training Centre of Caserta in Italy.

The seminar aimed at supporting Libya in formulating and implementing good governance policies to consolidate the current democratic transition, promote citizens' participation and the transparency and accountability of the public sector.

The seminar targeted Libyan senior officials from the Ministry of Planning and other key public institutions directly involved in the current efforts to reform Libya's public sector. It provided a common platform through which participants were able to discuss and exchange concrete experiences among themselves. The seminar was the first in a series of seminars to be held for Libyan officials in the areas of Good Governance, public sector reform, and management of international cooperation.

Presentations discussed the Libyan context and challenges, as well as good international practices of good governance and open government. OECD guiding principles on open and inclusive policy making were also presented to introduce Libyan officials to the concepts of open and participative government and Open Government Partnership.

The meeting concluded with specific practical next steps that included close coordination and cooperation between UNDP, OECD and the Ministry of Planning to

1. Conduct specific training on procurement, Public Financial Management
2. Involve Libyan officials especially working in the Ministry of Planning in the OECD regional meetings and peer reviews meetings
3. Initialize a long term capacity building program including effective technical cooperation, policy formulation, etc
4. Provide support to the Libya Vision 2030 team
5. Jointly produce knowledge products and governance indicators for Libya



The seminar was held between 23 and 24 September 2013 and hosted by the MENA-OECD Governance Programme Training Centre of Caserta in Italy. Participants included representatives from the ministries of Planning, Finance, and Labor in Libya, OECD, UNDP, Italian and Libyan senior experts, policy-makers and practitioners and high-level representatives from the academia, civil society and the private sector.

Seminar Outcomes

- Knowledge sharing relating to the horizontal challenges of state building and public sector reform and the ways to address them.
- Dissemination of the principles and practices of Good Governance and Open Government with respect to its different areas and aspects.
- Greater understanding of the instruments to increase the quality and effectiveness of international support and the coordination of Development Cooperation.
- Defining priorities for the future collaboration.

Out of Country Voting - A Sub-Regional Conference Organized in Libya

Transitional electoral processes in Libya, Egypt and Tunisia differ significantly, but at the same time, the three neighbours benefit from opportunities to share experiences in areas of common interest, such as administration of elections during delicate transitional periods.

On 24-25 September, the High National Election Commission of Libya with support from the United Nations Electoral Support Team organized a sub-regional forum on "Out of Country Registration and Voting: Global Comparative Experiences for Libya, Tunisia and Egypt," in order to facilitate the sharing of lessons and good practices and forge a strong community of North African experts.

The Forum attracted 65 practitioners from all three countries, including 15- and 17-person delegations from Egypt and Tunisia respectively. The strong participation from neighbouring countries is part of on-going efforts to facilitate contact between electoral actors and their counterparts in the sub-region through regular conferences, study trips, and exchanges.

Mr Nuri Al Abbar, Chairman of the High National Election Commission of Libya (HNEC), opened the event, followed by Libyan Congressperson Omar Abulifa and Mr Georg Charpentier, Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General and Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator of the United Nations Support Mission to Libya.

Participants lauded the opportunity to gather on the topic. A representative from the Libyan organization Ajyal Foundation for Development and Human Rights suggested members of civil society's intent on observing the upcoming electoral process in Libya, and derive particular benefit from

"We hope that the new government extends its hands to its citizens abroad and includes them in building a new, stable State," observed Deputy Chairman of HNEC, Dr Imad El Sayeh. "Elections are the bridge people move across to achieve this purpose," he added.

discussion on good practices across the sub-region.

"All three countries are on the verge of drafting new legislation on elections or implementing new legislation, so this event is very timely," noted Mr Carlos Valenzuela, Chief Technical Advisor for Electoral Support in Egypt, Libya and Tunisia. The event is meant to "encourage dialogue between these three neighbours that are very different, but also have a lot to teach and to learn for each other" he added.

Practitioners from Egypt and Tunisia, as well as international experts from Mexico, Romania, Spain, Iraq, Thailand, and Belgium delivered comparative experiences during the forum. Likewise, members of the UN Electoral Support Team contributed their experiences from electoral processes around the world.

The programme included introductory sessions on the purposes, principles and models of out of country voting and overviews of individual countries' experiences. Advanced topics were also on offer, such as the use of technology in OCV; political, logistical and legal aspects to consider in OCV operations in host counties; and means of

raising awareness of OCV processes amongst diaspora.

The Forum follows similar initiatives in Egypt and Tunisia. On 9 and 10 December 2012, Egypt hosted a sub-regional forum on "Women's Participation in Post-Revolution Parliamentary Elections," attended by 24 Libyan participants. On 14 and 15 February 2013, Tunisia likewise hosted a forum on "Voter Registration: An International Comparative Perspective for Egypt, Libya and Tunisia," with the participation of 20-member Libyan delegation. The next sub-regional event is intended to take place in Egypt and will address the topic of electoral dispute resolution.

The UN and international partners agree to meet the financial costs of the conferences in all three countries and handle the administration of the events, in full consultation and cooperation with the electoral management body of the country. In Libya, the UN Electoral Support Team supported the Forum. The team draws together one-structure resources from UNDP's Libya Electoral Assistance Project, the UN Support Mission in Libya and the UN Office of Project Services.



Opening session by Mr Nuri Al Abbar, Chairman of the High National Election Commission of Libya (HNEC), Libyan Congressperson Omar Abulifa and Mr Georg Charpentier, Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General and Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator of the United Nations Support Mission to Libya

Launching Support to Municipalities Project in Libya

UNDP Partnership with the Ministry of Local Government

On 02 September 2013, the Ministry of Local Government and UNDP launched the “support to the municipalities in Libya” project with the presence of former Minister Mohamed Harari, the deputy Minister of Local Governance, Salah Said, and the Director of the Department of Local Councils, Abdel Bari Shinbaro. A formal launching of the UNDP training programme for local councils was kick started and included an introduction to the selection criteria of the 15 pilot municipalities across Libya as well as an initial induction on general concepts of Local Governance.

In the short run, UNDP is supporting:

- Building the capacities of executive and administrative staff in municipal/local councils in the areas of public expenditure management, procurement, participatory planning and budgeting (in coordination with local communities) and the proposed institutional/organizational arrangements in light of Law 59/2012.
- Establishing functioning linkages between central/regional entities and local/municipal counterparts and the existing capacities within the Ministry of Local Government to improve coordination and expedite processes for the planning and approval of plans ideally developed at the local level with the approval of the centre.

As a follow-up, joint visits by the Ministry of Local Government and UNDP experts were organized to start the roll-out of the training with a focus on providing the local councils with an orientation to capacity development programmes for local government at the local level, discussing their training needs and agreeing on the formation of local groups who will be facilitating future training.

During the month of September 2013, in coordination with the Ministry, UNDP went on three field missions that covered three areas in Libya. The missions included a visit to Sabha in the south on 19-21 September, Jufra in the middle on 24-26 and Ghat in the south west of Libya on 28-30 September.

In addition to the training of municipalities, UNDP is currently discussing with the Ministry of Local Government as well as other officials in the Government on a long-term support programme that will include *inter alia*, support to the development of institutional structure and mandated functions of the Ministry and the sub-national structures, capacity development of staff at the central and local levels, and local economic development.

In support of the municipal council elections, UNDP also pro-



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vided electoral materials to the Central Committee for organization of the Municipal Council Elections, mainly ballot boxes, ink and voter booths. Most materials were delivered in September. A memorandum of understanding was signed on 11 July 2013 between UNDP and the Central Committee that allowed for the timely procurement of voter materials.

Support to Civic Engagement in Libya's Transition (SCELT)

SUPPORTING DIALOGUE ON NGO LAW

UNDP, the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ICNL), and the Network of Democrats in the Arab World (NDAW) conducted a five-day training of facilitators (TOF) workshop to help consolidate civil society's comments on the draft NGO law and build support for the adoption of an enabling law through a structured dialogue process. The workshop was conducted from 19-23 June in Tripoli with 22 participants from different cities in Libya.

The Ministry of Planning and Ministry of Culture as well as the civil society support center (CSSC) were invited to take part in the opening event, and participate in the future round table discussions on the local sessions outputs and the National Forum around NGO Law.

As a result of the TOF workshop, 22 CSO participants have an enhanced understanding of the role of civil society and CSO organization management and are now able to provide recommendations on key aspects of CS enabling legislation. Participants have also gained a clear understanding of inclusive multi-stakeholder dialogue processes and have developed dialogue planning and facilitation skills through reflective practice and mentoring.

In addition, CSO workshop participants prepared a draft plan for local civic education sessions on CS and dialogue processes on the Law of Associations in Libya for the period following the workshop between October and November 2013.

WOMEN'S POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

UNDP, through its SCELT and the Assistance to Building a Constitution (ABC) projects, and the United Nations Electoral Support Team (UNEST), organized a seven-day training workshop between 24 and 30 June 2013 for facilitators on women's political participation. The workshop was opened by Dr Hana Jbril al Orfi, Chair of the GNC's Women's Caucus. During the workshop, 26 participants were trained as facilitators on electoral systems, temporary special measures, and substantive elements of constitution and constitution-making processes as well as dialogue facilitation skills with specific focus on women's political participation. The acquired skills will enable participants to run civic education and structured two-day dialogue workshops in 10 cities throughout Libya during October 2013. Approximately 500 women will be targeted from CSOs, media, academia, political party members as well as housewives.



Facilitating the dialogue session at the TOF workshop

Local dialogue workshops are also planned to take place in 10 cities targeting 500 CSO representatives and will be conducted by facilitators on the NGO draft law. It is worth noting that the Chair of the CSSC attended the opening and participated in the morning activities during the first day.



A strong plea by Dr Hana Jbril from GNC for more inclusion of women in political bodies

SCELT (Continued)

SUPPORTING DIALOGUE ON NGO LAW

A capacity development workshop and training sessions were organized in Tripoli on the use of Media Products for CE and Outreach on 11-12 June 2013 in partnership with two local CSOs (H2O and V2.0). The sessions aimed at raising awareness on the role of public outreach in promoting civic knowledge and develop the capacities of the participants to understand and discuss civic education and civic engagement. Through the workshop, participants became familiar with the different media tools and how they can be used in the Libyan context to promote civic knowledge and raise awareness on key themes. At the end of the sessions, the 35 attending CSOs and Media NGOs were equipped with the necessary tools to initiate, design and implement awareness campaigns including the production of civic education materials.

NGO LAW AND WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION WORKSHOP

The month of August witnessed two refresher workshops on NGO Law and women's political participation and constitution. The workshops, held for three and four days respectively, targeted trained dialogue facilitators on each of the topics. The objective was to further enhance the trainees dialogue



Participants at the CSO training

facilitation technique skills and initiate the action plan of the local dialogue sessions to be undertaken in 13 regions across Libya.

In addition, a total of 48 Libyans were trained as Dialogue Facilitators and will lead local level dialogues on different issues on a local level.

Facilitating Knowledge Transfer to Ministry of Defense Staff

Libya is one of the minority UN Member States that are not party to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW). The UNDP Mine Action Project in Libya has a multi-faceted approach to mine action in the country.

Actively engaged in the institutional development of the National Mine Action Authority (NMAA), UNDP is working with national counterparts to develop the organizational structures required, assist in the national strategy development, develop mine action national standards, initiate a nationwide survey and develop the technical capacities of the national bodies.

Ultimately, all activities have the intent of leading to possible accession to the conventions with a particular initial focus on the Anti-personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) and the Convention on Cluster-munitions (CCM). Attendance at the Meetings of the States

Parties to the conventions, initially as observers, is to maintain the momentum of Libyan engagement and to ensure that the national advisors to the policy makers are fully informed of the processes.

As a part of the programme activities to strengthen Libya's cooperation with external stakeholders on mine action, UNDP facilitated Libyan Government's participation in several international conferences and conventions. One recent example was the 4th Convention on Cluster Munitions taking place from 9 to 13 September 2013 held in Lusaka, Republic of Zambia. UNDP Mine Action project team was challenged with a very tight schedule to arrange for the Libyan Delegation affiliated to the Libyan Ministry of Defence to participate in the convention.

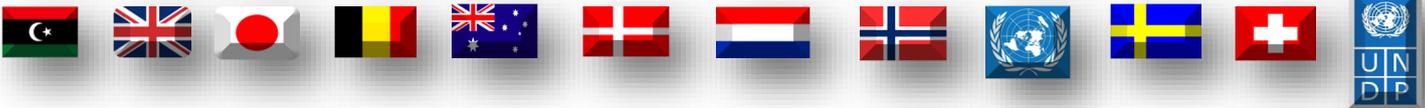
The convention targeted stakeholders from States Parties, Signatory States, Observer States, UN agencies, interna-

tional organizations and civil society. Sponsoring the participation of the Libyan delegation was part of supporting the capacity development of central and local stakeholders in mine action activities and providing them with the opportunity to benefit from and contribute to international cooperation and international exposure and transfer of experience.

The Libyan delegation was formed and despite all obstacles, UNDP's teamwork, and untamed eager spirit for success were unleashed and the delegation managed to be in Lusaka Zambia on time.

The national mine action agenda is growing in pace of development and UNDP is firmly supporting the continued development with a rise in activities planned for the remainder of the year.

UNDP Libya—Donors



In Other News

UNDP Libya has been joined by the following staff members:

- Mr Rabia Ayad
- Ms Abigail Mamo
- Mr Alfonso Ortega
- Mr Azeez ADESINA
- Councillor. Aly Saad
- Ms Katrin Schweppe
- Ms Halla Al Mansouri

UNDP Libya has parted ways with the following staff members :

- Ms Dima Al-khatib
- Mr Suffian Khalfalla
- Mr Guillume Charters



www.ly.undp.org

UNDP Libya has Updated its website in collaboration with the UNDP Communications Group (based in New York). The implementation of the website is part of the global UNDP web upgrade project, which facilitates the development and global roll-out of newly styled and - more importantly - uniform looking Country Office websites.



By Sasi Harib

ON THE OCCASION OF EID EL-ADHA EL MUBARAK

UNDP EXTENDS ITS BEST WISHES TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES FOR A VERY HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS EID



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