



NEWSLETTER

September 2016

MUSAWA Publishes 19th Issue of Eye on Justice

MUSAWA is pleased to announce the publishing of the [19th issue](#) of Eye on Justice, which comprises of eighty four A4 pages. The publication includes a documentation of the daily performance of the justice system, the complaints MUSAWA has received regarding rule-of-law violations, in addition to MUSAWA's legal memos sent to relevant official bodies demanding the adherence to the rule of law, and the official bodies' responses to these legal memos and demands. The publication covers the period extending from the beginning of the year until the month of August. For a hard copy, please contact MUSAWA's offices in Ramallah and Gaza.

MUSAWA Conducts Comprehensive Internal Assessments of its Work

On the 2nd and 3rd of October 2016, MUSAWA organized an internal workshop for its entire staff both in the West Bank and Gaza Strip to comprehensively assess what MUSAWA has accomplished internally in reference to its current annual plan for the year 2016. During the two-day



workshop, MUSAWA's staff members presented its new policies and strategies in relation to the Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA), discussed its last evaluation report, and drew conclusions and recommendations regarding the completion of MUSAWA's internal restructuring process for this year in accordance with its recently-adopted approaches and policies.

Success Story

Mr. President issued a presidential decree amending the presidential decree on anti-corruption. The new presidential decree included many articles from MUSAWA's proposal regarding the amendment of the presidential decree on anti-corruption. The new presidential decree was published in issue no. 125 of the Palestinian gazette, to be put into practice as of 01/11/2016.

Raising Awareness amongst Marginalized Groups

“The Right to Vote and to Be Elected in Local Elections”



Two workshops under the title “The Right to Vote and to Be Elected in Local Elections” was conducted by MUSAWA and the Palestinian Human Rights Defenders Network (hereinafter PHRDs). The first workshop was held on 06/09/2016 at the headquarters of Al-Mustaqbal Charity in Al-Shati Camp/Gaza. The second workshop was carried-out on 07/09/2016 at Binaa’s Charity for Development in

Jabalia. 56 was the total number of attendees for both workshops, 35 of whom were females. *More details [here](#).*

MUSAWA’s Interventions

Throughout September, MUSAWA received one complaint regarding the deprivation of retirement-related employment rights. MUSAWA handled the complaint by giving the complainant the appropriate legal advice.

“Elections and the Right of Citizens to Choose their Representatives”

On 03/09/2016, MUSAWA and the PHRDs Network carried-out a workshop on “Elections and the Right of Citizens to Choose their Representatives”. The workshop was held at Raboud’s Youth Center in Hebron, and it was attended by 28 participants, 17 of whom were females. *More details [here](#).*

MUSAWA’s Monitoring Team Receives Training in: “Mechanisms for Monitoring the Electoral Process”

A series of encounters was conducted by MUSAWA, in cooperation with the PHRDs Network, the Lawyers for the Rule of Law Groups (friends of MUSAWA), and the Central Elections Commission (CEC). The encounters addressed the topic: “Mechanisms for Monitoring the Electoral Process”, and they were held at MUSAWA’s office in Gaza in the period between 28/08 – 05/09, targeting MUSAWA’s monitoring team which consists of lawyers, journalists, media figures and those interested. More than 85 local observers approved by MUSAWA’s central elections commission benefited from the trainings, 31 of whom were females.



Palestinian Human Rights Defenders Network: Monthly Meetings in West Bank and Gaza Strip



Throughout September, eight meetings in eight different areas (Ramallah, Jerusalem and Jericho; Salfeet and Nablus; Tulqarm and Qalqilya; Jenin and Tubas; Bethlehem and Hebron; Gaza and North Gaza; Gaza's Middle Governorate; Khan Yunis and Rafah) were carried-out by MUSAWA, in cooperation with the PHRDs Network. The meetings were attended by a total of 76 members (40 females and 36 males).

Radio & TV Interviews

TV Interviews with MUSAWA's Technical and Legal Adviser

On 29/09/2016, MUSAWA's Legal and Technical Advisor, Mr. Ibrahim Barghouthi, participated in a live [TV interview](#) on Palestine TV as part of the "Palestine this morning" show. In the interview, Mr. Barghouthi spoke about the PHRDs Network in terms of its establishment, role, memberships and achievements. He also addressed the mechanisms and tools used by

the Network, in addition to introducing the Palestinian Human Rights Defenders Declaration and the national / legal urgency for the approval of such a declaration. In the same context, Mr. Barghouthi was invited by Al-Quds Educational Channel on the same date to address the same topic in a live [TV interview](#).

Interview with the PHRDs' General Coordinator

The General Coordinator of the PHRDs Network, lawyer Ahmad Bdeir, was invited by Raya FM to participate in a radio interview on 22/09/2016 to introduce the PHRDs Network and to speak about the idea behind it and its most important activities and accomplishments. *The interview can be found [here](#) (minutes 19:16 – 27:00).*



Other Activities

Participating in the Fifth Ministerial Conference for Integrity and Anti-Corruption

MUSAWA's Technical and Legal Adviser, Lawyer Ibrahim Barghouthi, participated in the 5th ministerial conference of the Arab anti-Corruption and Integrity Network (ACINET) under the theme "Strengthening Accountability for Sustainable Development in the Arab Region". The conference was held in the period between 05-07/09/2016 in Tunisia.

Presenting a Paper

MUSAWA's Technical and Legal Adviser, Lawyer Ibrahim Barghouthi, presented a paper in a workshop conducted by the Bar Association on 28/09/2016 in Jericho, under the title "The Bar Association, Civil Society Organizations and Legal Clinics". The workshop intended to establish a national committee for legal aid, and to agree on a memorandum of understanding or a legal document and the working mechanisms for the national committee, based on a national strategy that is concerned in providing legal aid for the citizens.

Participating in SAWASYA Visibility & Finance Training

Represented by its staff members Nasser Khmour, Aya Al-Dabbas and Yara Istambouli, MUSAWA received the UNDP Visibility and Finance Training, which was held on 27/09/2016. The meeting addressed financial issues, the visibility mechanisms available at the media level, and the most important aspects of a narrative report.

Participating in the Palestinian NGOs Network's Meeting

MUSAWA's Legal and Technical Adviser, Lawyer Ibrahim Barghouthi, participated in the Palestinian NGOs Network's meeting, held on 28/09/2016. In the meeting, the administrative and financial reports were presented and discussed, in addition to holding new administrative elections.

Participating in Two Meetings to Discuss the Status of Justice and Law in Palestine

MUSAWA's Technical and Legal Adviser, Lawyer Ibrahim Barghouthi, participated in a meeting called by the legal committee of the Bar Association and a number of the Bar's General Assembly members on 20/09/2016 to look into the status of justice and law in the country.



In the same context, Mr. Barghouthi attended on 22/09/2016 another meeting with the Chairman of the High Judicial Council and its Secretary-General as part of a meeting with civil society organizations to discuss the same topic.

Participating in EU Meeting

On 27/09/2016, MUSAWA's Legal and Technical Adviser, Lawyer Ibrahim Barghouthi, took part in a meeting held by the European Union to discuss the joint European strategy of European development partners to support Palestine (2017-2020).



MUSAWA's Partners
2016



The Netherlands
Representative Office to
the Palestinian Authority



European Union



United Nations
Development Programme