



NEWSLETTER

July 2016

Meeting with Bar Association: Training Lawyers

On 27/07/2016, MUSAWA's Legal and Technical Adviser, lawyer Ibrahim Barghouthi, met with members from the Bar Council in the Bar's headquarters in Gaza. The meeting aimed at discussing ways of joint cooperation regarding training trainee lawyers in an attempt to develop their legal abilities, enable them of fulfilling their duty as lawyers in accordance with the law, and designing a special training course for trainee lawyers that would address unconventional topics that do not fall under the usual training course, provided that this course, if passed successfully, would be considered as part of the lawyer's official training period

Training Course on Receiving and Following-up Legal Complaints

Aiming at building the capacities of MUSAWA's staff and members of the Lawyers for the Rule of Law Groups (friends of MUSAWA) in monitoring, documenting and following-up rule-of-law violations that take place within the justice system, a UNDP-supported training course



titled "Mechanisms for Receiving and Following-up Complaints" was delivered to MUSAWA's legal staff along with a number of members from the

Lawyers for the Rule of Law Groups. The training was held over three consecutive days (the 12th, 13th and 14th of July 2016), where participants were trained on leadership and communication skills as to enable them of conducting trainings themselves for the rest of the members, by making use of the monitoring manuals and training methods that were prepared throughout the training.

Participating in Meetings on Local Elections

On 18/07/2016, MUSAWA participated in the CSOs' meeting with the Chairman of the Central Elections Commission, Hanna Nasser, where the elections to be held on 08/10/2016 were discussed, in addition to the CSOs contribution to their success. In the same context, MUSAWA took part in the Civic Coalition for Local Elections Monitoring, which was held on 19/07/2016 to look into the same subject matter.

Raising Awareness amongst Marginalized Groups



The Phenomenon of Begging in Palestine

On 19/07/2016, a workshop about the phenomenon of begging in Palestine was conducted by MUSAWA and the Palestinian Human Rights Defenders (hereinafter PHRDs) Network. The workshop was held in Khuzaa's Kindergarten in Khan Yunis, with the attendance of 4 male and 18 female participants. *Read more about the workshop [here](#).*

Violence against Women

A workshop titled "violence against Women" was conducted on 14/07/2016 by MUSAWA, in cooperation with the PHRDs Network and Al-Waleed Charity in Khan Yunis, targeting 21 female participants. *Read more about the workshop [here](#).*

The Phenomenon of Unemployment, and the Right to Employment

A workshop titled "The Phenomenon of Unemployment, and the Right to Employment" was conducted on 27/07/2016 by MUSAWA, in coordination with the PHRDs Network. The workshop was carried-out in Al-Zaytun neighborhood, east of Gaza, targeting 17 participants, 10 of whom were females. *Read more about the workshop [here](#).*

MUSAWA's Interventions

MUSAWA received three legal complaints in July. The first two complaints addressed the obstruction of the implementation of a court decision, deprivation of liberty, interfering in the work of judges, and violating the judicial rules of conduct. The third complaint was about changing the job title for a number of employees at the Palestinian postal office without prior notice or warning. MUSAWA addressed the first two complaints by sending a legal memo to the Chairman and members of the High Judicial Council, and another one to Gaza's Public Prosecutor and Gaza's Head of the High Judicial Commission, demanding that the necessary legal action be taken regarding the matter, while the third complaint is still under follow-up.

Legal Memo: Obstructing a Court Decision

MUSAWA sent a [legal memo](#) on 11/07/2016 to the Chairman and members of the High Judicial Council in response to a complaint submitted by a lawyer regarding obstructing the implementation of a court decision, interfering in the work of judges, depriving a citizen of his liberty contrary to the law, and violating the judicial rules of conduct.

Legal Memo: Failure to Implement Court Rulings and Decisions, and Arbitrary Detention

On 28/07/2016, MUSAWA sent a [legal memo](#) to Gaza's Public Prosecutor, Dr. Ismaeel Jaber, and to the Head of the Military Justice Commission/Gaza in response to a complaint submitted by a lawyer regarding the failure to implement court rulings and decisions, and arbitrary detention.

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



Throughout July 2016, 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 114 male and female members (59 females and 55 males), who aimed at reaching an agreement on the mechanism by which members will implement the Network's activities in the upcoming period, forging its internal regulations, contributing to the expansion of the Coalition for Palestinian Human Rights Defenders Declaration (PHRDD), and taking part in monitoring and raising awareness about the next local council elections.

Meeting with MUSAWA's General Assembly

On 26/07/2016, MUSAWA's Legal and Technical Adviser, lawyer Ibrahim Barghouthi, and its Program Coordinator from Gaza's office, Momen Al-Hattab, met with MUSAWA's General Assembly members to present to them the latest administrative developments within the organization.

Completion of Internal Training in Results-Based Management and Human Rights Based Approach

Following the training MUSAWA received last April, the consultant returned to guide MUSAWA through a four-day workshop, from July 17th until July 20th. After a short repetition of the most vital things that were discussed in the last training, MUSAWA's staff was assisted to think of its



result chain and to develop a monitoring and evaluation framework to measure the progress of MUSAWA's interventions for its Core Program. This allowed MUSAWA to rethink about its core activities, and re-strategize its intervention logic. Two of MUSAWA's employees from the Gaza office attended the workshop in person, and shared the findings with the team member who stayed in Gaza and attended the training via video conference because he couldn't arrive to

Ramallah. MUSAWA will continue to work closely together with the consultant from a distance as it is currently in the final phase of completing its strategy for 2017-2021, which will be more result-based oriented and in which the human rights based approach will be incorporated at all levels inside as well as outside MUSAWA.

Radio Interviews

The Ministry of Interior's Decision to Cancel Registration of a Number of NGOs

MUSAWA's Legal and Technical Adviser, Ibrahim Barghouthi, participated on 14/07/2016 in a [radio interview](#), aired on Radio Alam-Hebron, to speak about the Ministry of Interior's decision to cancel the registration of a number of NGOs.

"Violence against Women" Workshop

Mervat Sahmoud, a member of the PHRDs Network, participated on 20/07/2016 in a [radio interview](#) over the phone with Radio Nisaa FM to discuss a workshop titled "Violence against Women", conducted by MUSAWA in cooperation with the Palestinian Human Rights Defenders Network in Khan Yunis.

Hebron's Court House

MUSAWA's Legal and Technical Adviser, lawyer Ibrahim Barghouthi, participated on 26/06/2016 in a [radio interview](#), aired on Radio Alam-Hebron, to speak about Hebron's court house, noting that MUSAWA had issued a legal memo in June regarding the matter, which can be found [here](#).

Lawyers for the Rule of Law Groups Meeting in Gaza



Aiming at identifying mechanisms for activating and enhancing the performance of members in the Lawyers for the Rule of Law Groups (friends of MUSAWA), a consultative meeting was held in MUSAWA's Gaza office on 25/07/2016. All of the members in Gaza, which count up to 25 members (5 of whom are females), attended the meeting along with MUSAWA's Technical and Legal Adviser, Financial Manager, and Monitoring Officer.

Other Activities

Attending Workshop about 2016 Draft Law on Police

On the 25th of July 2017, MUSAWA's Legal Monitoring Officer, Aya Al-Dabbas, participated in a workshop conducted by the Independent Commission for Human Rights, in partnership with the Geneva Center for Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF), in Ramallah's Grand Park Hotel. Mainly, the workshop aimed at discussing the 2016 Draft Law on Police. Other topics were addressed, most notably an introduction of the draft law and the context in which it emerged, and the most important observations expressed regarding the matter.

MUSAWA's Partners
2016



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the Palestinian Authority



European Union



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