

Gender and Human Rights in Law

Beirut, July 11th-17th 2008

In partnership with the German Organization (Heinrich Boll), and Lebanese NGO to stop violence against women (KAFA), Iraqi AlAmal Association concluded a workshop on (Human Rights and Gender in Law) in July 17th, 2008 in Beirut. The workshop was attended by Chief of Justice and Supreme Court, H.E. Midhat AlMahmoud, along with ten prominent judges from the Supreme court of Justice, Federal court, Expert Judges on Personal Status Law, in addition to three university professors specialized in Law and Human Rights,

The workshop agenda and discussions focused on the concepts of the following: human rights (International and regional mechanisms), introduction to gender concept and ties with human rights issues, highlighting discrimination against women in laws, in addition to violence against women, refining the national legislations from all kinds of discriminations against women, legislating laws to protect women and their rights, taking into consideration the international legislations addressing women rights for reference. Participants agreed to lift Iraq reservations on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discriminations Against Women (CEDAW).

Throughout the workshop agenda, the participants were introduced in details to the Lebanese laws and the Moroccan Family Law (AlMudawanna) comprehensively, discussions focused on comparison with Iraqi Personal Status Law No. 188 for the year 1959 and its amendments, which guaranteed the unity of national legislation in personal status issues, and laid concrete safeguards and measures for the unity of the texture of the Iraqi society and citizens rights, specifically women's rights in marriage, divorce, custody, and heritage, based on diverse sects' interpretations and economical and social developments.

All participants, agreed on the need of such viable workshops in exchanging and developing knowledge and experience for workers at the judicial corps, and experts in law, human rights, and civil society organizations.

July 24th, 2008

