



Empowering Bahraini Women



To increase awareness of “The Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women” (CEDAW), and activate it in member countries, Ms. Rania Al Jazairi, Social Affairs Officer in the UN-ESCWA Center for Women headed to Manama, Bahrain, on 16 and 17 February, where she met with the Supreme Council for Women, headed by her Highness Sheikha Sabika bint Ibrahim Al Khalifah, the First Lady of Bahrain. The Council requested from UN-ESCWA to deepen bilateral cooperation, asking for assistance in this field not only in Bahrain, but also in all Gulf countries, in matters such as organizing workshops on gender mainstreaming and CEDAW, as well as including civil organizations in this field.

During Al Jazairi’s mission, UN-ESCWA also held on this

level, in cooperation with the Bahrain Young Ladies Association, a training workshop on “The Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women, and Monitoring and Surveillance Mechanisms to Activate it”, in the Aicha Yatim Center for Family Counseling. The workshop aimed at introducing the Bahraini civil society to CEDAW, and the implementation of its provisions; monitoring and surveillance mechanisms to activate it; as well as the legality of Arab countries’ reservations over it. Participants were also

trained on ways to activate this Convention and claim its implementation. ■



Bahrain inaugurated on 22 June 2006, Sheikha Sabika bint Ibrahim Al Khalifah prize for empowering Bahraini women, the first prize in the Arab World in this field. The prize aims at encouraging ministries, as well as governmental and private sector institutions to support working women, and enable them to hold leading and decision-making positions and offer them increased training and inclusion in development plans

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The United Nations Information Center in Cairo now has its own electronic Website. The Center launched the new bilingual Website in Arabic and English on 12 February, to provide a media tool that facilitates access to information about the United Nations and its work in Egypt and the region.



Cairo Information Center Online (Cont.)



UNIC Director Maher Nasser also announced during the event held for the occasion, and attended by a number of media figures, the launch of an Internet Corner at the Centre's Library. This corner will provide media representatives as well as all visitors access to UN documents in different UN websites and databases.

The Website contains quick links to special events and reports, including this year's celebrations of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Year of Sanitation, Sailing the Nile for the MDGs, in addition to links to different UN organizations in Egypt, the

Arab world and the world. All the information will also be provided in French, to serve the largest possible number of researchers. ■

The Website can be accessed on the following address: www.unic-eg.org

UN General Assembly Resolution of 13 February 1946, "The United Nations cannot achieve the purposes for which it has been created unless the people of the world are fully informed of its aims and activities".

For More Information on Member Countries

UN-ESCWA developed the window containing information on member countries on its Website, so it features advisory and technical services rendered to member countries in 2007, alongside a series of economic and social data concerning these countries. UN-ESCWA strives to harmonize the policies of member countries in various sectors such as water, energy, industry, agriculture and technology, to achieve regional integration and sustainable development. By providing technical services, UN-ESCWA also works towards serving and supporting various social strata, to achieve a balanced development. The window introduces UN-ESCWA technical cooperation services and features advisory services, especially that the opportunity has never been riper to benefit from UN-ESCWA programmes launched for the purpose of assisting the countries of Western Asia, their governments and their peoples to pursue integration and cooperation in the face of spiraling regional and international challenges. ■

Information can be accessed through the UN-ESCWA Website, on the following address: www.escwa.un.org



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