

**PRESS RELEASE**  
Rome – May 26, 2008

## **NEW ITALIAN CONTRIBUTION FOR DEVELOPMENT LAW**

The International Development Law Organization (IDLO) is pleased to announce that the Organization has received a voluntary contribution from the Italian Government for 2008.

Thanks to Italy's continuing support, IDLO assists developing countries in strengthening their judicial, legislative and regulatory systems, with the aim of promoting human, social and economic development.

Responding to confirmation of the grant from Italy, IDLO Director-General, William T. Loris said:

*"The development challenges facing many regions around the world are ever more complex, with myriad of commercial, economic and social factors involved.*

*We are very grateful to the Italian Government for its on-going support which enables us to undertake targeted, needs-orientated law programs designed to create the sustainable, efficient and transparent institutions which are fundamental for the realization of any development objective."*

2008 funding from the Italian Government will be used for the following activities:

- Training on the most effective strategies for attracting and managing direct foreign investment and on techniques for infrastructure development. Programs for relevant legal professionals and policy-makers are to be provided in English and French.
- Technical assistance to strengthen the institutional framework, the legislative process and the professional capacity of magistrates in Lebanon. The one-year program also includes the provision of technical assistance to The Institute of Judicial Studies in Beirut.
- Training on judicial efficiency and transparency for Mauritanian magistrates. The program includes a study tour and an advanced-level training course on commercial and finance procedures, the management of public appeals and the fight against corruption.

Finally, thanks to additional financial support from the Italian Government, UNICEF and the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, IDLO will be assisting the Government of Senegal in the adoption of a National Action Plan against Human Trafficking. The needs assessment study carried out by IDLO shows the urgent necessity of this plan to be consistent with regional measures.

**(ENDS)**

For more information on IDLO, please contact:

Sophie Turner, Press Officer, IDLO Headquarters (Rome, Italy)

Tel: (+39) 06 40403224, Cell: (+39) 340 859 0996

Email: [sturner@idlo.int](mailto:sturner@idlo.int)

Or go to [www.idlo.int](http://www.idlo.int)

**NOTES:**

*IDLO (International Development Law Organization) is an international, inter-governmental organization with a mandate to promote the Rule of Law and good governance in developing countries, countries in economic transition and countries emerging from post-conflict situations. Since its establishment in 1983, IDLO has contributed to the training of more than 17,000 lawyers, magistrates and officials from approximately 176 countries.*

*IDLO has its Headquarters in Rome, Italy and two Regional Offices: in Cairo, Egypt, covering Arabic-speaking countries and in Sydney, Australia, covering the Asia Pacific area. IDLO currently operates Project Offices in Afghanistan, Indonesia and Kyrgyzstan.*

*IDLO is funded by contributions from its 18 Member States and other donors.*