

**Press Release**  
Rome – October 27, 2008

## **IDLO DONATES 300 LEGAL TEXTS TO AFGHANISTAN SUPREME COURT LIBRARY**

In a short ceremony on October 23, 2008, the International Development Law Organization (IDLO) officially delivered around 300 legal books to the Department of Research and Studies of the Supreme Court of Afghanistan in a short ceremony attended by Justice Abdul Azeez, Member of the Supreme Court; Dr. Abdul Malik Kamawi, Administrator Director of the Judiciary; Mr. Mohammad Othman Zhobal, Head of Research and Studies.

IDLO's relationship with Afghanistan is a highly significant one for the Organization. Since beginning its contribution to the reconstruction of the nation's justice system in 2002, IDLO has undertaken four large rule of law reform projects in the country.

Funded primarily by the Italian Government and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), IDLO's work has provided training and technical expertise in criminal law, gender and juvenile justice, legal aid and defense, financial crimes, commercial law and constitutional law.

Over the course of its long-term projects, the Organization has made significant efforts to build close partnerships with the key Afghan institutions it seeks to support, including the Supreme Court, the Ministry of Justice, the National Assembly, and the University of Kabul.

In addition to making this donation, IDLO is currently working with the Kabul University Central Library on a training program for 60 librarians from Ministry of Justice and Kabul University (Faculty of Law and Political Science and the Faculty of Sharia) as part of a program to rebuild and modernize existing libraries and research institutions and to train Afghan professionals to manage these facilities.

IDLO is also assisting and coordinating the work of a committee of prominent professors and legal experts from Afghanistan, Egypt and Tunisia in revising and developing crucial legal texts for use in the seven faculties of Law and Political Sciences of Afghanistan Universities. IDLO is presently working on five text books covering general criminal law, criminology, penology, international public law, and commercial procedure.

**(ENDS)**

### **NOTES**

**For further information, please contact:**

Sophie Turner, Press Officer, IDLO Headquarters in Rome, Italy  
Tel: (+39) 06 4040 3229, email: [sturner@idlo.int](mailto:sturner@idlo.int)

*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 worked with more than 18,000 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.*

*For detailed information on IDLO and its activities, please refer to our website at [www.idlo.int](http://www.idlo.int).*