

IDLO and IILA Join Forces to Further Development in Latin America

ROME – 27 JULY 2009 – The Italian-Latin American Institute (IILA) and the International Development Law Organization (IDLO) have signed an agreement to further their cooperation on the promotion of social, economic and institutional development in Latin American and Caribbean countries.

The two organizations will focus on activities influencing the development of equitable legal systems in the region, including:

- Rule of law and good governance policy facilitation at national and regional level
- Joint research on economic growth and social and institutional development
- Capacity building for legal professionals
- Conferences on negotiation techniques for international trade agreements, investment strategies, microfinance and intellectual property rights protection and enforcement
- Exchange of technical capabilities and best practices among the countries
- Drafting of legal instruments and frameworks
- Public awareness activities

“IILA’s understanding of the regional dynamics will help us pursue key development objectives and create greater opportunity for countries and individuals,” said William T. Loris, Director General of IDLO. “Our organizations have cooperated successfully on several occasions, and this agreement gives us a clear framework to extend our partnership.”

Paolo Bruni, Secretary General of IILA, stressed that “This agreement will help the IILA strengthen its institutional mission to advance relations among our member countries with Italy in a key area of development”. Ambassador Bruni added “We have done some work in this area, and look forward to expanding our efforts in cooperation with IDLO.”

This agreement is an important step in the Latin American and Caribbean initiative launched by IDLO earlier this year. This initiative seeks to strengthen the presence of IDLO in the region in order to assist countries with rule of law and good governance activities, as well as increase the countries’ participation in IDLO policymaking.

IDLO is a non-partisan, intergovernmental organization that promotes legal, regulatory and institutional reform to advance economic and social development in transitional and developing countries. Founded in 1983 and one of the pioneers of rule of law assistance, IDLO uses its access to governments and interest groups of differing ideologies, as well as its expertise and vast stakeholder network, to create opportunity for those most in need. www.idlo.int

IILA is an international organization established in 1966 by the Italian Government and the twenty Latin American Republics with the aim to promoting relations among its member countries in cultural, socio-economic, technical and scientific areas; and to identify concrete possibilities for exchange, mutual assistance and common or concerted action in the above mentioned sectors. www.iila.org

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