

## IDLO LAUNCHES PROGRAM TO STRENGTHEN CRIMINAL JUSTICE CHAIN IN NORTH MALI

(Mopti, Mali)- December, 7, 2016 – The International Development Law Organization (IDLO) held a meeting today to launch its program in Mali, aimed at strengthening the criminal justice chain in the north of the country. The program is being implemented in four regions of Northern Mali: Gao, Mopti, Segou, and Timbuktu.

Under the program, IDLO is piloting an innovative program model, the Problem-Driven Iterative Adaptation (PDIA), which is based on promoting local solutions to local problems. The PDIA's bottom-up approach seeks to enable Malian stakeholders at the local, regional and national levels to take ownership over the program's implementation and lead the institutional reform activities.

"IDLO's new program model empowers Malians to identify needs and solutions to create an accessible criminal justice sector so that Malian institutions can deliver credible and effective justice to its citizens," stated Erwin van der Borgh, Director of Programs of IDLO in his remarks.

IDLO will work with the "Cadre de Concertation" (CdC) - a group composed of a broad range of criminal justice actors, traditional authorities and civil society representatives - to determine the program's priorities at a local level and steer coordination through the regional level.

A representative of the CdC said that the program will "strengthen the connections in the justice chain, including police, courts and prisons to increase synergies between these horizontal links".

The program will produce best practices with a view to encouraging the Malian Ministry of Justice to replicate methods on a national level. IDLO will work in partnership with the Ministry of Justice through a Memorandum of Understanding signed on December, 17, 2015 and will grant sub-grants to civil society organizations to implement some program activities.

The program will last up to five years and is funded by the Government of Netherlands.

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### Notes to Editors

*The International Development Law Organization (IDLO) is the only intergovernmental organization exclusively devoted to promoting the rule of law. IDLO works to enable governments and empower people to reform laws and strengthen institutions to promote peace, justice, sustainable development and economic opportunity. Its programs, research and policy advocacy cover the spectrum of rule of law from peace and institution building to social development and economic recovery in countries emerging from conflict and striving towards democracy.*

*IDLO has its headquarters in Rome, a Branch Office in The Hague, liaison offices for the United Nations in New York and Geneva, and country offices in Afghanistan, Honduras, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Mali, Mongolia, Myanmar, Somalia, South Sudan and Tajikistan.*

