



**The Lebanese  
Parliament**



**Workshop on  
The Development of Legislative Drafting  
For Arab Parliaments  
3-6 February 2003, Beirut  
Recommendations**

In cooperation with the Lebanese Parliament, the Programme on Governance for the Arab Region (POGAR) has organized a three-day workshop on “The Development of Legislative Drafting for Arab Parliaments, in Beirut. The objective of the workshop was to discuss ways to provide Arab legislatures with tools and instruments to strengthen the legislative process and enhance drafting skills, capacities and resources available to them.

The workshop brought together Arab members of legislative and/or legal parliamentary committees, Secretaries General from Arab Parliaments as well as experts and academicians from the Arab and other regions.

The Workshop program focused on four primary components in order to develop the framework and content of the module:

- ❑ **The Legislative Process in Arab Legislatures: Comparative Experiences and Lessons Learned.**
- ❑ **Sources and Resources for Legislative Drafting: National, regional and International Sources**
- ❑ **The Pillars of an Effective and Democratic Legislation Process: Skills, Expertise and Capacity**
- ❑ **Legislative Drafting for Good Governance**

The first two days of the workshop engaged experts, practitioners, and policy and decision makers in discussions, deliberations and brainstorming exercise towards shaping a framework and content of a legislative drafting module. As for the third day, it was dedicated to discuss participants’ feedback and recommendations and devise an action plan to develop and complete the module and implement the outputs and follow up activities. Each day of the workshop was organized as follows:

- *Sessions* to discuss papers prepared by experts, comments of discussants and discussion;

- *Discussion sessions* to give each participant an opportunity to present views and concerns from individual parliaments or case studies as well as brainstorming;
- *A Presentation* on steps forward and plan to prepare a manual in Arabic on legislative drafting.

The workshop has put forward the following recommendations:

- 1- Creating an Arab Network for Parliamentary Development (ANPD);
- 2- Editing/ Producing a study aiming at evaluating the needs of legislative drafting process for Arab Parliaments;
- 3- Formulating a general framework to be used as a draft directory for legislative drafting;
- 4- Defining measures and tools aiming at assisting civil society organizations in drafting /expressing their views with regard to ongoing legislations;
- 5- Maintaining cooperation between the Arab Secretaries-General Association and the United Nations Development Programme in order to improve the General-Secretariats work;
- 6- Preparing comparative studies aiming at describing and documenting the different aspects of legislative practice to produce indicators measuring the competency level of the legislative process in Arab Parliaments.