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EUROMED JUSTICE III PROJECT
Component I
Access to Justice and Legal Aid

1st Training Seminar: “Introduction of technologies and statistics in the judiciary: the use of information and communication technologies in justice; Media and justice”

Budapest (HU), 1-3 October 2013

INFORMATIVE NOTE

The 1st training seminar on the component “Access to Justice and Legal Aid” of the EuroMed Justice III Project of the European Commission, funded by the European Union, was held on 1-3 October 2013 in Budapest (HU). The participants were members of the delegations of the following Mediterranean Partners: Algeria, Israel, Lebanon, Palestine and Tunisia. The speakers came from Belgium, Hungary and Spain. One representative of the ENCJ - European Network of Councils for the Judiciary, and one representative of the DG Justice and Home Affairs Unit 2A - Judicial Cooperation in Civil Matters, Council of the European Union, also made a presentation.

The training seminar was opened by Mr Zoltán Németh, Head of the Private International Law Department, Ministry of Public Administration and Justice, Hungary; and Mr Salcedo Velasco, Team Leader of the EuroMed Justice III Project, who welcomed the participants. The seminar was closed by Mr Dávid Guyás, Legal Adviser, Ministry of Public Administration and Justice, Department of International Judicial Cooperation, and National Focal Point for the EuroMed Justice III project in Hungary; and by the Project Team.

The background, the context and the structure of the training seminar, including the overall approach and the main topics suggested for discussion, were introduced by the Team Leader and the Course Manager of the Project Team implementing the EuroMed Justice III Project.

Then the participants took the floor to introduce themselves and to present the current situation concerning the topics covered by this seminar. Furthermore, five presentations were made during the seminar: “The work developed during the first phase of the project”, with special reference to the Handbook describing approaches and best practices with regards to the use of technologies for the case management, circulation of materials, data collection in the legal field and communication of case law to the public; “E-Justice and web portals: communication with citizens and professionals”; “Social Media (TV, Internet, Facebook, radio, etc) and Justice administration: The judicial news”; “Dealing with IT and statistics in the EU countries: statistics elaboration, internal and external collection of data in the field of justice, database build-up, internal and external communication”; “Judiciary institutions’ support in management and administration in the field of the justice Administration: special reference to the techniques for the improvement of the circulation of legal materials and techniques for the measurement of the performance of justice administration”.

Considering the objectives of this training seminar and taking into account the debate and discussions held during the seminar, the participants had the opportunity to further strengthen cooperation between Euro-Mediterranean Partners in the field of justice, to explore the means to further promote an exchange of knowledge, experience and best practices, to have a fruitful debate on the state of play in this field in

the MEDA area and to present their respective experience and legal framework. They could also have an in-depth discussion on and a practical approach to E-justice and web portals and its importance as instrument of communication and justice efficiency, and discuss the relationship between social media and Justice Administration, with special reference to judicial news.

Participants are grateful to Hungary, host country, to the Directorate-General Development and Cooperation – EuropeAid, European Commission, and to the Project Team for organising this training seminar.