WORKSHOP ON CYBER LEGISLATION AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION IN THE ESCWA REGION

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Legal and Regulatory Framework for ICT in Lebanon – Recent Developments

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1 - The current legal and regulatory status in Lebanon: General Overview

- **A Latin and German legal system**
- **Discretion given to the jurisdictions of interpreting the existing laws**
- **However, extreme need for modernizing the existing legislations**

2 - The main new legal provisions issued and/or under preparation related to ICT

- **Lebanon still in the early stages.**
- **Few laws have been enacted recently**
- **Drafts prepared presently under discussion**

3 - The main entities involved with ICT legal issues in the public and the private sectors

- **Ministerial ICT Committee and concerned Ministries**
- **Parliament Entities**
- **Syndicate of lawyers, Universities, TRA,**
- **NGO's and ICT professional and business community**

ب - Work towards a global and complete legislative and regulatory framework for the ICT sector in Lebanon (areas of focus)

- Issues related to the telecommunications sector and the infrastructure of electronic networks
- Issues arising out of electronic online contracts
- Issues related to proof of identity and electronic signature

ب - Work towards a global and complete legislative and regulatory framework for the ICT sector in Lebanon (areas of focus)

- Issues related to secured e-payment systems, banking and financial electronic services (e-banking)
- Issues related to taxation and financial laws
- Issues related to personal rights protection (IP – Privacy Rights – Cyber-crimes)
- Issues related to international aspects of e-trade (e-business)

5 - Parallel legislative work required in support of the e-government applications

•Designate a unified official entity to prepare the necessary legal and regulatory framework for e-government applications and to follow-up and supervise their good execution at each of the public sectors entities levels.)

•Prepare a set of laws, decrees, decisions and circulars that should precede and follow, as the case may be, the implementation of the "e-government" applications particularly for G2G G2B and G2C applications.

6 - General recommendations while preparing the adequate legal and regulatory framework for the ICT sector in Lebanon and in the ESCWA region

•Favor one general approach covering all the issues of the ICT that requiring regulations

•Emphasize on the choices of solutions resulting from self-regulation

•Approve and recommend a global and consolidated regulatory approach through an *Integrated Approach*

•Consider the « convergence » of the telecommunication sector and the information technology sector

•Highly encourage all regional initiatives in all ICT aspects

٧ - Main national objectives to be gained from the ESCWA project aiming to elaborate a set of model legislations for the ESCWA region covering ICT legal and regulatory issues

- Reviewing the other Arab experiences
- Establish contacts and bi-lateral and multi-lateral work relationships /partnerships between the Arab countries in the ESCWA region
- Agree on flagship partnership arrangements/projects or affiliations between the legal and regulatory experts
- signing protocols, MOU and cooperation agreements covering organizing seminars, workshops and conferences