

Strengthening the Rule of Law: Effective and transparent delivery of justice and rule-making in Egypt.

STUDY VISIT: THE NETHERLANDS



ABOUT

THIS STUDY VISIT TO THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS WAS ORGANISED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE MENA TRANSITION FUND OF THE G7 DEAUVILLE PARTNERSHIP, FROM 23 NOVEMBER – 3 DECEMBER 2015.

SUMMARY

The objective of the study visit's programme is to build legislative drafting capacities in the Ministry of Justice, Egypt. The study visit was addressed to representatives from the General Department of Legislation of the Ministry of Justice, Egypt. It included visits to the Ministry of Economic Affairs, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the House of Representatives, the International Criminal Court (ICC), the State Council, the Ministry of Security and Justice and the Peace Palace. The delegates benefited from an overview of the administrative simplification policy in the Dutch

legislative system. They were notably introduced to a comprehensive overview of the Parliamentary legislative procedures with a focus on the safeguards of quality and inclusiveness. Moreover, the visit to the State Council and the ICC gave the Delegation the possibility to understand the mission and mandate of these institutions. In addition, the delegates discussed the role of bilateral relationship between The Netherlands and Egypt, as well as the Dutch efforts to promote democracy and good governance in Egypt.

HIGHLIGHTS

THE WAY FORWARD

The study visit has shaped further options for consideration for: 1. The development of a Guide for the drafting of legislation; 2. The use of Better Regulation tools such as Regulatory Impact Assessment and improved consultations; 3. The establishment of a training course for legal drafters, such as the Legislative drafting academy on the lines of the one in The Hague, to train officials in the art and science of legislative drafting; 4. The need to organize regular seminars, conferences and

discussions about legislative drafting in Cairo so as to develop an understanding of its importance and encourage lawyers to take an interest in it.



“The study visit was really thought-provoking in terms of training of legal drafters,, Judge. El attar (EG)

TRAINING LEGISLATIVE DRAFTERS



The Academy for Legislation is the most important educational institute for legislative lawyers in the Netherlands. The Academy selects legal professional graduates to take part in a training programme it has developed to become a legislative lawyer. The Delegation was really interested in learning how operates an institution that enhances administrative simplification through the training of legislative drafters.

INSTRUCTIONS OF LEGISLATIVE DRAFTING

Delegates were introduced to both the **Instructions for Legislation** (*Aanwijzingen voor de Regelgeving, 2011*) and **Handbook for Legislation** (*Draaiboek voor de wetgeving, 2011*). The documents contain drafting directions for all civil servants who deal with the drafting of rules at the State level. They provide a detailed description of all procedures for the Council of Ministers, Council of State and Parliament leading to the approval of a Bill.



From left to right, Judge El attar (EG), Dr. Albaki (EG) and Miriam Allam (OECD)

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RECOMMENDATIONS

The study visit has shaped further options for consideration to:

1. **Develop** a Guide for the drafting of legislation and use of Better Regulation tools such as Regulatory Impact Assessment and improved consultations.
2. **Establish** a training course for legal drafters, such as the Legislative drafting academy on the lines of the one in The Hague, to train officials in the art and science of legislative drafting.
3. **Organize** regular seminars, conferences and discussions about legislative drafting in Cairo so as to develop an understanding of its importance and encourage lawyers to take an interest in it.