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*TRAINING FOR LEGAL AND JUDICIAL REFORM, RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, AND THE ENHANCEMENT OF GOOD GOVERNANCE  
ACROSS NATIONAL BORDERS, TIME ZONES, AND LANGUAGE BARRIERS*

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**Dr. Yassin El-Ayouty, Esq.**  
**Founder and President**

**October 25, 2004**

**SUNSGLOW's Final Report on**  
**The Cairo Program (September 18-20, 2004)**

**I Introduction**

On April 28, 2004, OPIC contracted with SUNSGLOW for the training of Iraqi judges in the critical area of safeguarding foreign investments through legal frameworks. This contractual relationship was preceded by several discussions between OPIC and SUNSGLOW, in order to refine the activity as much as possible. At first, it was thought that Kuwait, where SUNSGLOW maintains a liaison center, would be an appropriate venue, especially that Kuwait and OPIC have an agreement of cooperation between them. However, Kuwait was soon to be replaced by Bahrain as the Kuwaiti bureaucracy was moving at a very slow pace with regard to government approval. Yet, Bahrain again was to be abandoned because of US government advisory on security threats.

It was finally agreed that Cairo University School of Law, where SUNSGLOW also has a liaison center, was to be the chosen place for the program. It was a good choice because the new Egyptian Cabinet happened to be investment-oriented; the new President of Cairo University was very enthusiastic; Dr. Anwar Raslan, former Dean of the Law school and Regional Center Director is a first class organizer; and the judiciary and Ministry of Justice in Cairo welcomed their Iraqi brethren in a magnificent way.

The OPIC funding of the above-mentioned program on "Legal Protection of Foreign Investments", was fully justified. In spite of minor lacunae, the program was worthy of both SUNSGLOW and OPIC, as it attracted

high-level delegations from Iraq and other countries of the region who later vouched for the benefits they drew from that activity. On the basis of the Cairo experience, SUNSGLOW is encouraged to go forward with OPIC, if OPIC is so inclined, possibly on the basis of a year to year contract.

## **II Composition of the Audience**

The central component of the audience consisted of twelve (12) senior Iraqi and other judicial personnel, including two (2) Vice Presidents of the Supreme Court of Iraq (Court of Appeals) and three (3) women from the Ministry of Justice and the Central Bank of Iraq. They were joined by senior delegations from Qatar, Oman, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Egypt. When we take the nationalities of the faculty into account, we should add the following countries: United States, India and Switzerland. The total audience participation fluctuated from 85-100, including several young judges and prosecutors from Egypt who were given special leave by their superiors, to benefit from the program which covered a three (3) day period from September 18-20.

## **III Substantive Aspects of the Program**

The three (3) day period was devoted to covering the following substantive areas; (1) Arabs and Islamic practices, (2) European and U.S. practices, (3) Arbitration, (4) specific Iraqi needs during this difficult period of reconstruction.

The faculty numbered fifteen (15), who gave brief twenty (20) minutes presentations, followed by discussions from the floor in both Arabic and English. The entire faculty remained together throughout this period in order to ensure the enrichment of the discussions either from the floor or from the rostrum.

## **IV Organizational Aspects of the Program**

The program was inaugurated by the new President of Cairo University, H.E. Dr. Aly Abdel-Rahman; Mark Garfinkel, Esq., on behalf of OPIC (who was later joined by Mr. Ross Connelly); by the new Chairman of the Investment Authority of Egypt, Dr. Ziad Bahaul-Din; by the head of the Iraqi delegation; and by SUNSGLOW's founder and president, Dr. Yassin El-Ayouty, Esq.

That ceremony was repeated in a different form at the closing session which was

addressed by Mr. Connelly; the new Dean of Cairo School of Law, Dr. Ahmed Bilal; by the heads of various delegations, as well as by Justice S. Mohan (ret.) of the Supreme Court of India, who was also on the faculty.

During that final session, the shield of Cairo University was distributed to the faculty and the members of the non-Egyptian contingents, as a commemorative gift. All participants and faculty were presented with a Certificate of Participation memorializing the OPIC / SUNSGLOW / Cairo University partnership effecting that symposium.

At that final session, it became clear that the program was a significant success; that assessment was reflected in the final statements and comments on the program made publicly by the participants. That positive assessment could also be gleaned from the evaluation forms which were filled out by the participants at the end of each session, indicating that our objective has been fully met.

It should, however, be noted that the simultaneous interpretation into Arabic and English, was not exactly up to the task—a deficiency which was in part remedied by summaries of important statements delivered in both English and Arabic by Dr. Yassin El-Ayouty, Esq., as in the case of the statement delivered on the last day of the symposium by Mr. Ross Connelly on the broad principles governing OPIC operations, as well as OPIC's continued commitment to remain active in that part of the world.

Here, a word is in order with regards to the valuable contribution made by the Administrative Committee of ten (10) young attorneys, prosecutors, judges and senior law students from Cairo School of Law, headed by Carol Maluje, Esq., which insured a smooth running of the program, from beginning to end.

## **V Future Programs**

SUNSGLOW is most appreciative of our partnership with OPIC, and we wish to build on the Cairo success story.

As SUNSGLOW goes forward with the implementation of our 2005 / 2006 / 2007 programs listed below, we invite OPIC involvement through funding from 100% to a lower percentage of each of our programs, if possible. It will be noted that the entire Iraqi Delegation, which was used as a focus group by both OPIC and SUNSGLOW in Cairo, on September 21, 2004, showed considerable enthusiasm for all of these programs.

Here follows a list of our programs projected for the period 2004-2007 and are ready for implementation once funding is at hand.

**2005**

<b><u>Brief Title of Program</u></b>	<b><u>Source of Proposal</u></b>	<b><u>Projected Date and Venue</u></b>
1) Law and Water Resources	Government of Egypt	March – Cairo or Alexandria
2) Role of the Judge and the Attorney in Promoting Human Rights	The New York City Bar & Iraqi Judiciary	June – Geneva, Switzerland
3) Anti-Money Laundering	OPIC & the Iraqi Judiciary	September – Nassau, the Bahamas
4) Legal Drafting	The Iraqi Judiciary and OPIC	December – Kuwait

**2006**

1) Legal Education for the Masses	The Iraqi Judiciary, Oman, Egypt, and OPIC	March - Cairo, Egypt
2) Islam and International Criminal Law	Durham University, UK, Qatar, Germany and the Iraqi Judiciary	June – Durham, UK
3) Professional Ethics	The Iraqi and Indian Judiciary	October – Madras, India
4) Banking Laws	OPIC/The Iraqi Judiciary	December – Cairo, Egypt

**2007**

1) Intellectual Property Protection	Kuwait and Oman	March – Oman
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We look forward with anticipation to your response to this report, especially, at our envisaged meeting at your offices, on November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2004, at 3:00 p.m.

**VI Final Note**

From an administrative perspective, I would like to inform you that as of September 2004, C. Carolina Maluje, Esq., and Heba Raslan, LLM, are my Executive Assistant and Deputy Executive Assistant, respectively.

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September 24, 2004

Dr. Yassin El-Ayouty, Esq.  
President  
Sunglow  
800 Second Avenue, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
New York, New York 10017

Re: Cairo Symposium

Dear Yassin:


In the confusion of trying to leave Cairo early on Tuesday, I could not get to you to congratulate you on your magnificent effort with the symposium. Somehow you held together so many moving parts that it all turned out as hoped for.

I came away with a new understanding of the problems in the Arab world and the important contributions to be made to the rule of law by the Arab countries.

I can't thank you enough for affording me the opportunity.

I look forward to seeing my new friends from the symposium and, of course to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,



John R. Horan

JRH/kg

Karen Kupersmith  
Director of Arbitration  
212-656-4865



Sept. 28, 2004

Dr. Yassin El-Ayouty, Esq.  
Sunglow  
800 Second Avenue, 3rd Floor  
New York, NY 10017

Dear Yassin,

Thank you for inviting me to participate in the most interesting and inspiring of conferences. I am certain from the comments I heard that your vast efforts will be but the beginning of a continuing and beneficial process of protecting foreign investments in Iraq.

I look forward to further discussions.

With warm regards and best wishes,



Karen Kupersmith