

Establishment of **SUNSGLOW**

It was 12 years ago, in 1998 that Yassin El-Ayouty focused on the establishment of **SUNSGLOW**. The purpose was to bridge the cultural gaps among various judicial systems through training and exchange of experiences on a worldwide scale.

Our Mission

Our motto sums up our mission: *Training for Legal and Judicial Reform, Respect for Human Rights, and the Enhancement of Good Governance Across National Borders, Time Zones and Language Barriers.*

As an organization, we are neutral, non-ideological, non-partisan, and respectful of each country's sovereignty. We seek to train the legal and judicial community within the structure of its own legal traditions. The philosophy of our action is fully served by creating connectors between one judicial system and another. We serve well-selected issues emanating from those who call for our services. The evaluation produced by the participants effectively guides our future action. **SUNSGLOW** responds to specific invitations provided that funding has been secured; selects its faculty from the region in question and from its Board of Advisors and Associates. The duration of our programs does not exceed three days including group evaluation of the activity.



Dr. Yassin El-Ayouty, Esq. addressing the audience at the US Courthouse, Eastern District of New York. From left are Chief Judge Raymond Dearie (Eastern District) and Judge Paul Gardephe (Southern District). Seated to the left of Dr. El-Ayouty is his Executive Assistant, Ms. Hind Al Shnayen who hailed from Iraq.

Principles Governing **SUNSGLOW** Operations

SUNSGLOW is independent of any outside control, be it governmental, intergovernmental, non-governmental, ideological, political, racial or religious. It reserves its full freedom to accept programs and funding relevant to its mission.

SUNSGLOW accepts, acts and reports on its program commitments and sources of program funding with full transparency, and within a framework of professional ethics. **SUNSGLOW** respects national sovereignty, domestic jurisdiction, internal laws and practices, and cultural diversity.

The sources of program funding of **SUNSGLOW** activities may be governments, international organizations, non-governmental institutions, businesses, charitable organizations or individuals. Factors dictating acceptance of program funding are: (a) relevance to **SUNSGLOW** basic mission of globalization of the Rule of Law; (b) neutrality of **SUNSGLOW** programs, particularly non-interference in internal affairs; (c) clarity of the linkage between programs and the economic and social development of civil society, including societies emerging from internal or external conflict; and (d) transparency through consultation with the **SUNSGLOW** Board, and subsequent public reporting on program implementation.

Prior to **SUNSGLOW** engagement in any program or activity, **SUNSGLOW** undertakes the fullest possible consultation with the entity requesting and/or funding such programs or activities and with its Board.

Subsequent to the fulfillment of any engagement, a full-scope evaluation is undertaken primarily on the basis of written questionnaires addressed to trainees and other participants. Such an evaluation constitutes an integral part of **SUNSGLOW**'s post-activity reporting to the Board.

The Emergence of a Structure

SUNSGLOW's Board of Advisors was established in 1998-1999 (previously known as the Board of Directors). It also has the equivalent of a Peace Corps – volunteers from more than 35 countries who are called “Associates”. This corps has been the staff of **SUNSGLOW**, learning from its involvement and facilitating its overseas programs. In 2001, **SUNSGLOW** concluded a cooperation agreement with the League of Arab States, Cairo, Egypt. **SUNSGLOW** is assisted directly by an executive committee made up of Advisors.

To complete its structure, **SUNSGLOW** established several Liaison Centers around the world. Each Center is headed by a distinguished personality, called Regional Representative. Each Center is activated in two ways: advice regarding issues of legal and judicial concern to that region; logistical support when a program is conducted within the Center's perimeter. These Centers are provided with valuable assistance from the corps of Advisors and Associates within its area.

Joint Programming with Fordham University, School of Law

In 2006, arrangements were made for joint programming with Fordham University School of Law (The Louis Stein Center for Law and Ethics), New York City. The Stein Center is headed by Professor Bruce Green, an Advisor of **SUNSGLOW**. Dr. El-Ayouty is a fellow of that Center.

Funding

Presently, we rely on program per program funding. We are not a funding organization, but a funded organization. Among our goals is to secure a grant or grants to sustain our mission in developing countries and to respond to more invitations from developing countries.

Liaison Centers

Nassau, The Bahamas
Sao Paulo, Brazil
Montreal and Toronto, Canada
Cairo, Egypt
Lyon, France
Freiburg, Germany
Baghdad, Iraq
Amman, Jordan
Safat, Kuwait
Amsterdam and the Hague, The Netherlands
Singapore, Singapore,
Istanbul, Turkey



Explaining **SUNSGLOW** Mission: Dr. El-Ayouty on a visit with Hon. Justice Stephen Breyer at the U.S. Supreme Court, Washington D.C.

Dr. Yassin El-Ayouty, Esq.

In 1952, Yassin came from Egypt to the United States as a Fulbright Scholar. In 1948, he earned a diploma from the Teachers Institute, Cairo, Egypt, and another B.S. in 1953 from the then State Teachers College, Trenton, N.J., and an M.A. in 1954 from Rutgers University N.J. In 1966, he received a Ph.D. from New York University in international law and international organization and, in 1994, a J.D. from the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, New York City.

Prior to practising law, in the U.S. and internationally, he served the United Nations for 32 years, retiring in 1986 as Principal Officer. During the U.N. period, he was adjunct professor of government at St. John's University, New York City, and later at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, where he is now emeritus professor.

He taught as an adjunct professor of law at Cardozo School of Law and, simultaneously, at the Nova Law Center, Fort Lauderdale, Florida as a Distinguished Visiting Professor. At present, he is an adjunct professor at both St. Francis College and Fordham University School of Law, both in New York City. He continues to be adjunct professor of law at Cairo University School of Law, Cairo, Egypt.



A follow-up after a **SUNSGLOW** activity in New York City: El-Ayouty in conversation with Hon. Senior Judge Jack B. Weinstein of the Eastern District, New York

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Hon. Paul G. Gardephe
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Joint programming with SUNSGLOW

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TRAINING IN THE RULE OF LAW

"... at this crucial time in world affairs ... the UN is your partner and looks forward to working with you,"

Kofi Annan,
UN Secretary General,
To the **SUNSGLOW** Board, September 1999,

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