



المبادرة الفلسطينية لتعميق الحوار العالمي والديمقراطية

The Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of **Global Dialogue and Democracy**

# Annual Activities Report



2 0 0 5

First published in 2006 by

**MIFTAH**

Jerusalem 95908      Ramallah, Al Massayef St.

P.O.Box 69647      Rimawi Center, 4th Floor

Tel: +972 2 5851842      Tel: +970 2 2989490/1

Fax: +972 2 5835184      Fax: +970 2 2989492

info@miftah.org      www.miftah.org


Copyright © 2006, MIFTAH

Prepared by Dolly Nammour

Design & Printing:  **Dimension** 02 2986385

# Table of Contents

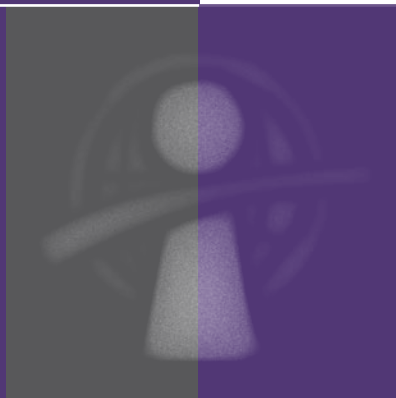
## Table of Contents



5	Foreword by the Secretary General of MIFTAH
9	Letter from the Chairman of the Board of Trustees
11	MIFTAH's Vision
13	MIFTAH's Objectives
15	MIFTAH's Programs
19	MIFTAH's Board of Trustees
23	Organizational Structure
25	Who's Who at MIFTAH
29	Major Programs
29	Good Governance and Democracy Program
30	Empowerment of Palestinian Women Leaders
35	Empowerment of Palestinian Young Leaders
44	Advocacy
54	Promoting Active Citizenship
55	Public Sector
57	Policy Formulation
58	Media Monitoring
67	Media and Information Program
74	External Relations Program
75	Activities of the Secretary General
89	Audited Financial Report
97	Among MIFTAH's Supporters



# Foreword by the Secretary General of MIFTAH



This year's annual report offers yet another opportunity to share with you MIFTAH's achievements for the year 2005 and its hopes and aspirations for the years ahead. It documents the diverse efforts undertaken by MIFTAH during 2005 to promote the principles of democracy and good governance within various components of the

Palestinian society, and to engage local and international public opinion and official circles on the Palestinian cause. It also highlights the increasing number of initiatives undertaken by MIFTAH and the enhancement of its unique network.

While we, at MIFTAH, continued to focus throughout 2005 on our primary objectives of providing strong advocacy in issues especially related to the empowerment of women and youth, and strengthening the role of the media in enhancing principles of accountability and access to information, and increasing networks and partnerships, we continually revised our objectives in the face of a rapidly changing environment.

MIFTAH continued its *Program of Empowerment of Women in Politics: Elections* that aims at addressing the gender deficit in local politics and governance by developing a support network for Palestinian women aspiring to assume a more prominent role in public life. The primary vehicle for such a network was the establishment of Women Electoral Support Points (WESPs) throughout the West Bank and Gaza devoted to training, empowering and mobilizing women in pursuit of inclusion and equality in all sectors of public life. Strategically located in nine major population centers, the WESPs provide training, support and coalition-building opportunities for women who express the desire to fill greater leadership roles in the evolution of a democratic Palestinian state.

MIFTAH's project *Women in the Peace Negotiations: Phase II* is an attempt to build on MIFTAH's experience in the areas of advocating human rights and the promotion of participatory governance and to create linkages between gender equality issues, conflict management and peace building. The main goal of the second phase of Women in the Peace Negotiations is to enhance women's political participation in peace building and the negotiations process through networking, capacity building and simulated negotiations with Israelis.

MIFTAH's advocacy towards raising the awareness of decision makers of a gender-sensitive and gender-responsive Palestinian national budget strives to draw attention to the significance of mainstreaming gender in the budgetary process as a first step of engendering the system as a whole.

In addition to the empowerment of women leaders, MIFTAH has given concerted efforts to empowering young leaders and in providing them with incentives, and skills that boost their roles and lead to further advancement within their community and to increase their influence in decision making.

In the media monitoring arena, MIFTAH has continued to encourage a public and media discourse free of incitement, prejudice and dehumanization of the other as part of its project *Words Can Kill – A Joint Palestinian-Israeli Action for an Alternative Public and Media Discourse* in the hope that it will facilitate the development of an independent media and a

culture of moderation, tolerance, and understanding between the two peoples, and implementation of the anti-incitement provisions in the Road Map and in agreements between Palestinians and Israelis, all of which will assist in the re-launching of the peace process.

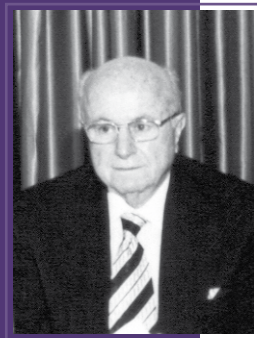
These are only a few of the many achievements of the past year. During the year, we continued our emphasis on performance and evaluation, focusing on lessons learned, mistakes to be avoided and successes to be built upon. We continually strive to improve the efficiency with which we manage and use our resources.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to MIFTAH's staff, supporters and volunteers for their loyal support, commitment, and dedication, all of which have played an invaluable role in our success.





# Letter from the Chairman of the Board of Trustees



It is with great pleasure that I present MIFTAH's annual report. For the seventh year, MIFTAH has consolidated its position as a driving force in promoting the principles of democracy and good governance within the various components of Palestinian society and in seeking to engage local and international public opinion and

official circles on the Palestinian cause. To that end, MIFTAH has adopted the mechanisms of an active and in-depth dialogue, the free flow of information and ideas, as well as local and international networking. The various projects implemented demonstrate that MIFTAH took many significant strides forward in fulfilling its multifaceted mission to serve the Palestinian cause and people as a whole.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I extend my gratitude to all those who have contributed to the advancement of the mission of MIFTAH and in particular the professional and dedicated team at MIFTAH. We honestly could not have done it without you.



# MIFTAH's Vision

## MIFTAH's Vision



The Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy, MIFTAH, is a non-governmental non-partisan Jerusalem-based institution dedicated to fostering democracy and good governance within the Palestinian society through promoting public accountability, transparency, the free flow of information and ideas, and the challenging of stereotyping at home and abroad. Established in December 1998, with Hanan Ashrawi as its Secretary-General, MIFTAH's aim is to serve as a Palestinian platform for global dialogue and cooperation guided by the principles of democracy, human rights, gender equity, and participatory governance. To this end, MIFTAH undertakes the pro-active generation and presentation of policy proposals and the focused dissemination of reliable information. Since its establishment, MIFTAH has established the cogency of its positions in Palestine and in the region, and has formulated long and short-term policies and strategies to deal with particular pressing issues. Through networking with like-minded organizations locally, regionally and internationally, and with Palestinian expatriate communities, MIFTAH has forged lasting relationships and partnerships in pursuit of a common vision of dialogue and democracy.





- Reinforcing the Palestinian state-building process through ensuring democratic practices, the rule of law, and respect for human rights.
- Promoting the free access and flow of information.
- Empowering Palestinian women and youth leaders in different fields and promoting the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.
- Providing a forum for innovative public discourse and free debate on issues of Palestinian concern, bringing together decision-makers and members of civil society.
- Increasing global awareness and knowledge of Palestinian realities by providing reliable, accurate and comprehensive information, policy analysis, strategic briefings and position papers.
- Complementing and solidifying international efforts pertaining to cooperation and conflict-resolution based on genuine understanding of the facts, the issues at stake, and the implications of foreign policy decisions on national, regional and global realities.



# MIFTAH's Programs



MIFTAH's programs are carried out by interdependent teams and are concentrated in three main areas:

## **A. Democracy and Good Governance**

MIFTAH's Democracy and Good Governance programme aims at strengthening governance and the rule of law, establishing efficient and transparent systems of accountability, promoting political pluralism and participatory governance, and supporting leadership among women and youth.

The program comprises the following specific components:

1. Empowerment of Palestinian women leaders in the media, politics, economics and information technology.
2. Empowerment of Palestinian youth leaders.
3. Policy formulation.
4. Palestinian media monitoring.
5. Strengthening the role of the media in enhancing principles of accountability and access to information.

6. Enhancing integrity, transparency and accountability in the Palestinian public sector.
7. Promoting women's participation in all stages of the political process.
8. Supporting reform

Projects include public awareness campaigns, thematic discussion meetings, workshops and seminars, training of potential leaders, political party dialogue, public fora, networking and outreach, civic education, nation-building and long-term planning.

**MIFTAH** is a founding member of the Coalition for Accountability and Integrity (AMAN), established in February 2000. **AMAN** has begun work on a national plan aimed at combating corruption, administrative and financial mismanagement across all sectors. **MIFTAH** has taken upon itself the implementation of particular core components of **AMAN's** comprehensive program for strengthening integrity, transparency and accountability in Palestine.

## **B. Media and Information**

**MIFTAH's** Media and Information program aims at an accurate presentation of Palestinian social, economic and political realities for the region and internationally. The components of the program include:

1. A website in English and Arabic that offers analytical examination of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict as well as issues of Palestinian concern, in addition to fact sheets, reports and special studies.
2. Intensive media activity on particularly pressing issues through interviews, commentary, and targeted press releases and briefings.
3. Networking and coordination with media institutions at the local and international levels.
4. Timely statements and petitions
5. Media monitoring at the regional and global levels.



## **C. External Relations**

The External Relations program focuses on Palestinian-US and Palestinian-European relations with a view to promoting **MIFTAH's** guiding principles of democracy, human rights, gender equity and participatory governance in Palestine through:

1. Networking with international interlocutors, institutions of civil society, grassroots organizations, and other similar bodies;
2. Monitoring policy positions taken by individual countries vis-à-vis Palestine;
3. Conducting regular policy briefings to the Jerusalem-based diplomatic corps;
4. Conducting regular meetings with media institutions at the international and local levels;
5. Participating in conferences, meetings and other activities at the international level; and
6. Conducting meetings with decision-makers and opinion-formers in the US and in European Union states.

## **Support and Administration**

Support and assistance for the core programs are provided by **MIFTAH's** Administration and Finance Unit and the Information Technology Unit. The institution's accounts are audited by Ernest and Young.



# MIFTAH's Board of Trustees



## *Hanan Ashrawi*

Secretary General of MIFTAH  
Founder and Head of MIFTAH's Executive  
Committee

Member of the Palestinian Legislative  
Council

## *Sa'id Khoury*

Chairman of MIFTAH's Board of  
Trustees; President and Co-owner of Consolidated  
Contractors International Company (CCC), Athens

## *Ziad Abu Amr*

Former President of the Palestinian Council on Foreign  
Relations;

Member of the Palestinian Legislative Council.

## *Maha Abu Dayyeh*

Director of Women's Center for Legal Aid and Counseling

## *Ghassan Khatib*

Director of JMCC

***Mustafa Barghouti***

President of the Union of Palestinian Medical Relief  
Committees and Member of the Palestinian Legislative Council

***Mahmoud Darwish***

Palestinian National Poet

***Sawsan Fahoum-Ja'far***

Board of Trustees Chair for the friends and Cancer Patients charity

***Rima Hammami***

Professor of Anthropology, Head of Women's Studies/  
Higher Education Program, Birzeit University ;women and  
human rights activist.

***Khalil Hindi***

Professor, Brunel University, UK and AUB, Beirut

***Mohammad-Abdel-Qader Al-Huseini***

Head of the Board of Directors of Faisal Hussein  
Foundation; Member of the Board of Trustees of the Jerusalem  
Society for Welfare and Development

***Khalil Jahshan***

President of the National Association of the Arab  
Americans (NAAA); Former President of American – Arab  
Anti Discrimination Committee (ADC) Washington, D.C

***Rashid I. Khalidi***

Professor, Columbia University

***Sabih Al-Masri***

Chairman of ASTRA Group

***Muhammad Masrouji***

President of Jerusalem Pharmaceuticals Co.Ltd.,

Chairman of Masrouji Co. Ltd

***Abdel-Muhsin Qattan***

Founder and President of A.M. Qattan Foundation, London

***George Salem***

Attorney at Law and partner at Akin, Gump, Strauss,

Hauer and Feld, Washington D.C

***Eyad Al-Sarraj***

Director General of Gaza Community Mental Health Program

***Azmi Shuaibi***

General Coordinator of the Coalition for Accountability & Integrity-AMAN;

Member of the Palestinian Legislative Council

***Raji Sourani***

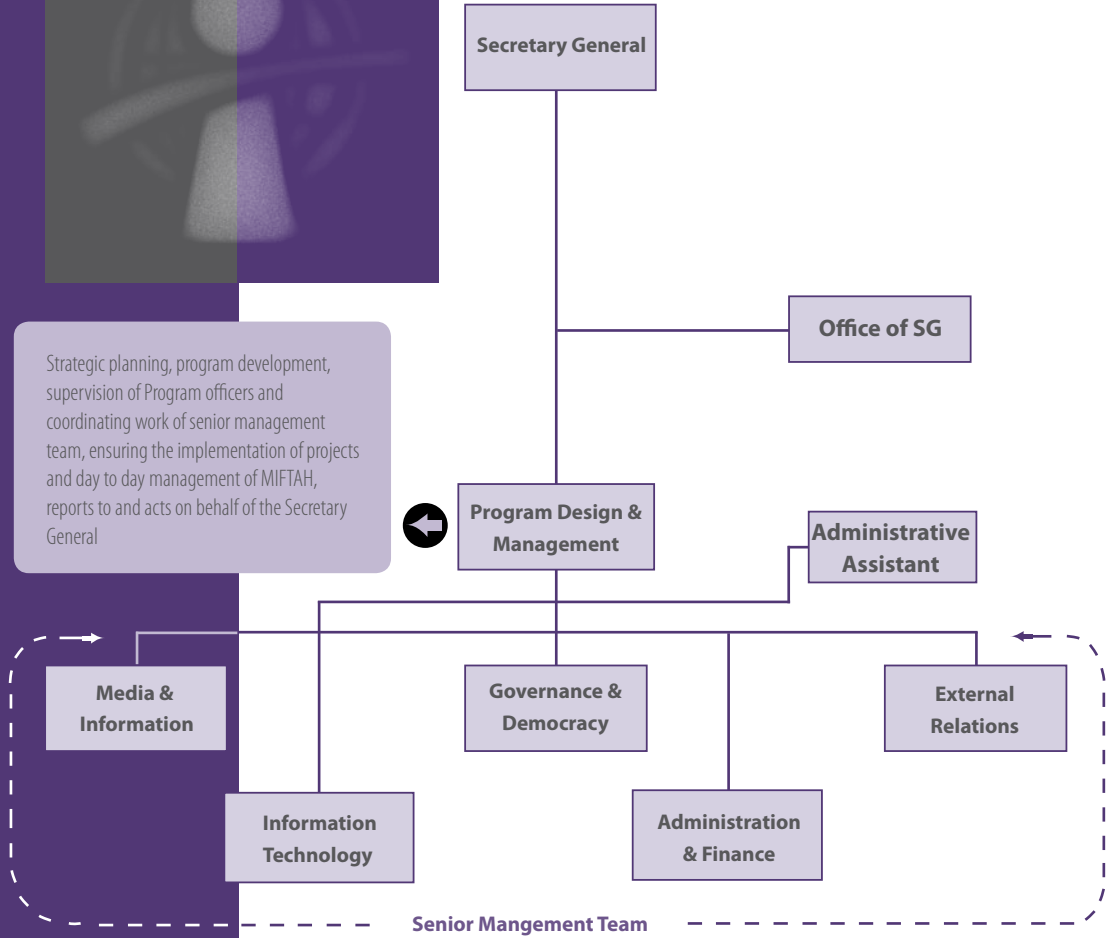
Director of the Palestinian Center for Human Rights



# Organizational Structure



Strategic planning, program development, supervision of Program officers and coordinating work of senior management team, ensuring the implementation of projects and day to day management of MIFTAH, reports to and acts on behalf of the Secretary General







# Who's Who at MIFTAH



## NAME

## JOB TITLE

Dr. Hanan Ashrawi

Secretary General

Margo Sabella

Special Assistant to the  
Secretary General

Dr. Lily Feidy

Deputy/ Program Design and  
Management

Dolly Nammour

Development Director

Rula Muzaffar

Administration and Finance  
Director

Wadad Bu Shahin	Director/ Good Governance and Democracy Program
Bisan Mousa	Gender Coordinator/ Good Governance and Democracy Program
Sana' Asi	Project Coordinator / Advocacy for Reproductive Health Project
Ruba Hasan	Administrative Assistant/ Good Governance and Democracy Program
Husam Madhoun	Media and Information Coordinator
Mousa Qous	Arab Press Coordinator
Ruham Nimri	Information Coordinator; Palestinian Media Monitoring Unit
Mohammad Yaghi	Media Analyst (Part-time)
Muath Bakri	Information Technology Coordinator
Nahed Abu-Sneineh	Secretary (Jerusalem Office)
Kholoud Al-Joubeh	Secretary (Ramallah Office)
J'afar Ladadweh	Receptionist
Eyad Awar	Driver
Mohammad Misleh	Messenger (Jerusalem Office)
Uhud Abu Ein	Messenger (Ramallah Office)

## **AMAN-The Coalition for Integrity and Accountability**

Dr. Azmi Shuaibi	General Coordinator
Nidal Hasan	Program Coordinator
Issam Haj Hassan	Administrative Assistant
Rami Mousa	Web site and Resource Center Coordinator



# Major Programs

## Democracy and Good Governance Program



MIFTAH's Governance and Democracy program aims at strengthening governance and the rule of law, establishing efficient and transparent systems of accountability, promoting political pluralism and participatory governance, and supporting leadership among women and youth.

The program comprises the following specific components:

1. Empowerment of Palestinian women leaders in the media, politics, economics and information technology
2. Empowerment of Palestinian youth leaders
3. Advocacy
4. Policy formulation
5. Palestinian media monitoring
6. Strengthening the role of the media in enhancing principles of accountability and access to information
7. Enhancing integrity, transparency and accountability in the Palestinian public sector

Projects include public awareness campaigns, thematic discussion meetings, workshops and seminars, training of potential leaders, political party dialogue, public fora, networking and outreach, civic.

## Empowerment of Palestinian Women Leaders

### I. Women in Peace Negotiations: Phase II

[Effective dates of project : March 2005-February 2007)

[ Funder: The Ford Foundation]

#### Overview

The project Women in the Peace Negotiations: Phase II is an attempt to build on MIFTAH's experience in the areas of advocating human rights and the promotion of participatory governance and to create linkages between gender equality issues, conflict management and peace building. It responds to the outcomes of MIFTAH's project *Women in Peace-Phase I* implemented in November 2003-September 2004. The main goal of the second phase of Women in the Peace Negotiations is to enhance women's political participation in peace building and the negotiations process through networking, capacity building and simulated negotiations with Israelis.

#### Activities

Phase II focuses on the following activities.

**1. Women's Political Forum:** In response to the priorities identified by women in Phase I, MIFTAH assisted in the formation of a Women's Political Forum by giving women activists space to discuss political, social and cultural issues from a purely women's perspective. The Women's Political Forum was created after extensive research MIFTAH undertook to identify committed women to the Women in Peace Negotiations project. Over 400 women were initially identified in this phase; the exiting membership comprises 50 women from governmental, non-government and the private sectors. The Forum has been meeting on a regular basis and has elected a steering committee in order to develop its vision and perspective of the participation of women in politics and negotiations

with a clear plan of action for future activities. The Forum also hosts briefings on political issues and presentations on specialized topics pertaining to political negotiations.

An information kit was collated in order to provide the participating women with factual information about final negotiations issues and the many Middle East peace initiatives and agreements. The kit also includes articles, reports and other relevant documents on such issues as engendering the peace process and the efforts made to implement UN Security Council Resolution 1325.

## **2. Capacity Building**

**a. Training sessions:** MIFTAH will organize eight days of training to focus on specific issues such as communication, public speaking, mobilization, gender awareness and international law.

**b. Partnering with Israeli women's peace groups:** In cooperation with the Palestinian Center for Israeli Studies – MADAR, MIFTAH conducted a mapping of Israeli women's peace organizations to identify potential partners that would be willing to join the simulated negotiations exercise.

## **3. Simulated Negotiations:**

The training sessions will be followed by simulated negotiations as a practical exercise. The participants will take part in simulated negotiations with Israeli women so that they put to use the skills learned in the training and establish real and important contact with Israeli peace groups. Simulated negotiations will be preceded by several dialogue meetings between women on both sides to facilitate the exercise.

## Women in Peace Negotiations: Phase I (2003–2004)

In Phase I, MIFTAH was able to achieve the following:

- Develop and publish a women's resource list;
- Create a women's forum to assist in networking, lobbying for women's inclusion and exchange of information and experiences;
- Build the capacity of potential women negotiators in the areas of communication skills, public speaking, mobilization skills, gender awareness and international law;
- Establish contact with Israeli women's peace groups where simulated negotiations would be held as a training tool;
- Develop mechanisms to guarantee the adoption of Security Council Resolution 1325 by the Palestinian Authority;
- Develop a gender perspective and insert a women's vision for peace negotiations issues within the different peace initiatives.

Phase I provided guidance to the participating women toward the roles that they prefer to play in the peace process, whether as negotiators in the political teams, as members of technical teams, or as consultants to the negotiators on issues pertaining to engendering politics.

## II. Women and Elections: Women Electoral Support Points

[Effective dates of project: August 2004 – March 2006]

[Funder: International Republican Institute]

### Background

This phase of MIFTAH's *Program of Empowerment of Women in Politics: Elections* aims at addressing the gender deficit in local politics and governance by developing a support network for Palestinian women interested in assuming a more prominent role in public life. The primary vehicle for such a network would be the establishment of Women Electoral Support Points (WESPs) throughout



the West Bank and Gaza devoted to training, empowering and mobilizing women in pursuit of inclusion and equality in all sectors of public life. Strategically located in nine major population centers, the WESPs provide training, support and coalition-building opportunities for women who express the desire to fill greater leadership roles in the evolution of a democratic Palestinian state.

## Implemented activities

### 1. Candidate and newly-elected members' capacity building

Capacity building for potential candidates for local and national elections, and newly-elected members is one of the main component of MIFTAH's project. Some of the training conducted were on *electoral campaign planning, campaign fundraising, coalition-building and public speaking*.



Capacity building session - September 2005

### 2. Lobbying and networking

MIFTAH has continued its contribution and active participation in the civil society collective efforts to lobby the electoral law and include the quota system in it. During 2005, The Civil Society Committee for Elections in Ramallah and Gaza met on weekly bases through video conference to discuss the latest development on



Capacity building - Bethlehem October 2005

the preparation of the electoral law, and follow up the implementation of the lobbying camping plan after passing the law in its first reading.

### 3. Media and advocacy

MIFTAH's coordinators centrally and at the district level facilitated the hosting of potential candidates for national elections in the media

on the occasion of Women International Day. For example local TV stations in Jenin, Tulkarem, Nablus and Ramallah, Uzis Radio in Bethlehem and Voice of Palestine in Ramallah hosted women recommended by MIFTAH's coordinators to talk about women's status in Palestine.



### 4. Public meetings

Due to the need for raising public awareness in areas of active political participation, on women's involvement in the electoral process, and encouraging women's registration for elections, several public meetings were conducted in each district by MIFTAH and in coordination with local organizations to advocate women's active citizenship. At each meeting, the coordinators ensured the involvement of potential candidates



Celebrating victory in local elections-May 2005

and newly-elected members as speakers to give them the opportunity and the space to interact with the people in the local communities.

# Empowerment of Young Palestinian Leaders

## I. Media Capacity Building for Young Leaders: Palestine

[Effective dates of project: October 2005-September 2006]

[Funder: National Endowment for Democracy]

### Overview

This project emerged from recommendations put forward by the young political and community leaders who had participated in previous MIFTAH projects. The prevalent feeling among the youth is that because they lack certain skills, they are not taken seriously enough and are therefore marginalized as players who have a thirst for effective contribution to society and being a building block as the Palestinian state continues to be formed. The youth find in themselves the energy and vision to participate in a nation building process, and in order to gain the respect and confidence of those in decision making positions, many of MIFTAH's beneficiaries requested that the former implement a project that will enable them to compete with the most experienced people in various sectors of society, especially since there has been no known mechanism within the existing Palestinian systems that allows for the youth to air their grievances and to demand to be taken more seriously.

### Objectives

- To build the capacity of young Palestinian leaders in addressing the media more effectively to build a national consensus on young leaders' issues in Palestine;
- To provide assistance to young leaders in drawing up their messages and delivering them successfully;
- To provide young leaders with incentives, skills and teaching tools that would boost their roles and lead to further advancement within their community and to increase their influence in decision making;
- To provide young leaders with a framework and tools to formulate effective communication



channels that would enhance their intra and inter communication within and across communities and organizations;

- To establish links and networks between young leaders and their local media in order to facilitate monitoring and initiate programs about young leaders in their community, and support and strengthen a partnership between the media and young leaders;
- To boost young leaders' self-confidence in their leadership role.

### **Project Activities**

MIFTAH has assisted in strengthening the media and communication skills of young Palestinian leaders from diverse political parties and movements. Its staff and local media experts will lead a 20-hour training course on communication, media presentation, public speaking, and audience outreach to 100 young leaders aged 25 to 40. Each of six training courses will target a different area of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The training courses will be held in Nablus, Ramallah, Bethlehem, Gaza City, Northern Gaza, and Khan Younis, drawing young men and women from the regions. The selection of the youth is based on their participation in MIFTAH's previous youth empowerment project, where the young leaders worked with MIFTAH's staff to develop radio and television programs that provided a youth perspective on political reform and development. The new training will build on previous work by enhancing the youth's ability to effectively reach their audiences. It will also provide them with greater facility to use the media to include more youth perspectives. MIFTAH will specifically target young leaders who are likely to run as candidates in upcoming elections. Most will be drawn from political parties, community organizations, women's centers, unions, media organizations, nongovernmental organizations, and local councils.

The training will include skills-based exercises on message development and delivery, public speaking, communication methods, interaction with media outlets, TV interviewing skills, planning for and holding press conferences, and writing press releases. MIFTAH's staff and trainers will work with the young leaders during the group sessions and in one-on-one follow-up sessions refine each young leader's communications skills. MIFTAH's trainers will conclude each training course by interviewing the youth in a real-life setting, where trainers will bring each participant before a

camera for a short interview. MIFTAH's staff, media trainers and other participants will comment on each interview, providing immediate and direct feedback on the leader's use of skills.

## **Training**

### **Preparatory Phase**

#### 1. Suggested topics for the training:

MIFTAH's staff contacted some local trainers and held meetings with each of them to discuss potential topics and methods of training. For each training two trainers were contracted; one with an academic background to conduct the theoretical session and the other with professional background for the practical part.

#### 2. Potential trainees:

In coordination with the partner organizations that assisted in implementing the previous project of empowerment of young politicians in the districts, MIFTAH made a selection of trainees and updated its lists of young leaders. Individual meetings were held in advance with most of the trainees to explore their expectations and identify their exact needs.

#### 3. Training sessions:

The first training took place in Hebron on Dec 12-13-14, 2005 and about 22 participants from both genders attended the sessions. The first day of training focused on theoretical background on communication skills and building relations with the media. The second focused on televised interview skills, crafting messages, public speaking skills and writing press releases, while the last day provided the trainees with the opportunity to practice the learned skills in real studios (Arroub College Studios were used). Each participant gave a short interview in front of the camera and the rest of the trainees, together with the trainer, assessed his or her performance.

The second training was conducted in Gaza city on Dec 14-15-17, 2005 where 22 participants attended the session. The same methods used in the Hebron training were used in this session.

The third training will take place in Bethlehem on February 1-2-3, 2006. Another training session will be conducted in Southern Gaza (Khan Younis) on March 25-26-27, 2006. The same methods used in the previous trainings will be used in this session. During this session a discussion will be made on the reality of local media and its role in encouraging the emergence of young leaders.

## **II. Promoting Youth Participation in the Political System: Palestine**

[Effective dates of project : October 2004-September 2005]

[Funder: National Endowment for Democracy]

### **Overview**

The project Promoting Youth Participation in the Political System: Palestine aimed at providing a forum for young leaders to engage in active public discourse and debate on their rights, supporting and strengthening a partnership between the media and the young leaders, and raising public awareness on the role of young leaders and their perspective.

The objectives of the project were accomplished through developing and broadcasting a series of six television and six radio programs on independent television and radio stations in the various Palestinian governorates. Topics for the programs included: *the needs of Palestinian youth, youth perspective of the political situation, political pluralism and young politicians and the current democratic transition.*

### **Implemented activities**

#### **A. Radio Talk Shows**

MIFTAH contracted the "Voice of Palestine" to produce six radio shows.

Below are all the details about the shows:

##### **1. The First Show**

Date: July 3, 2005

Title: *The Role of the Media in Promoting Youth Participation in the Political Process.*

The show focused on the role of the media in supporting young leadership and youth representation in the media outlets at the decision-making level.

## 2. The Second Show

Date: July 10, 2005

Title: *Security Issues from the Perspective of Young Leaders.*

This show came at a very critical situation in terms of security disorder in the Palestinian cities. It sent a positive message through exploring the negative impact of this phenomenon. It also discussed the reasons behind this situation whereby the youth use military action to make their voices heard.

## 3. The Third Show

Date: July 17, 2005

Title: *Obstacles Facing the Youth in Decision Making Positions.*

This show was recommended by the radio staff to make people more familiar with the concepts related to youth participation and more aware of the obstacles that the youth face. Throughout the previous projects of empowering young leadership it was clear that the main reason behind marginalizing this target group is the lack of trust in the ability of the youth in leading public work.

## 4. The Fourth Show

Date: July 24, 2005

Title: *Young Leaders' Perspectives on the Democratic Transition in Palestine.*

This show discussed the process of democratization in the Palestinian context from the perspective of the young generation, the role of youth in this process, and the relation between democracy and the fair representation of the youth and women in the elected positions.

#### 5. The Fifth Show

Date: July 31, 2005

Title: *Young Women's Political Participation.*

This show discussed women's political activism and their role in the political parties. It also highlighted the kind of support needed by young women to involve actively in the political life and the great competition among them in the political parties taking into account the limited opportunities provided for women in the decision making posts inside the political parties.

#### 6. The Sixth Show

Date: August 7, 2005

Title: *Youth in the Political Parties.*

This show highlighted the reality of the young generation in the partisan life and their role in developing and invigorating the existing political parties. The young guests criticized the current situation and considered internal party elections a must to give youth the opportunity and bring in new blood to the parties.

### **B: TV Talk Shows**

Ma'an TV network was also contracted by MIFTAH to produce six TV talk shows. Each talk show was broadcasted on 13 TV stations throughout the West Bank at the same time in the evening. In addition, a bi-monthly show was produced and broadcasted in July, August and September 2005.

Following is a briefing of each show.

#### 1. ***The First Talk Show*** : (Al Quds Educational TV-Ramallah)

Date: July 10, 2005

Topic: *Corruption, Transparency, and Accountability in Palestine.* MIFTAH's aim in the selection of this topic is to raise public awareness of a critical topic that takes priority on the Palestinian agenda. The guests discussed the important role of the young leaders in promoting a culture of integrity and accountability and fighting corruption, in addition to the importance of integrating a youth organization in AMAN coalition.



2. *The Second Talk Show* : (Al-Farah TV-Jenin)

Date: July 30, 2005

Topic: *The Role of the Media in Promoting Youth Participation in the Political Process.*

This show focused on the role of the media in supporting young leadership and youth representation in the media outlets at the decision-making level. The guests discussed the important role of the media in promoting young leaders' perspectives and activism in the political and public arena.

3. The Third Talk Show: (Al-Fajer Al-Jadeed TV- Toulkarem)

Date: August 12, 2005

Topic: The Role of Young Leaders in the Unions, Syndicates and Community- Based Organizations.

The show highlighted the lack of democratic practices, especially internal elections, in most social and political structures.

4. The Fourth Talk Show: (Al-Rua'at TV – Bethlehem).

Date: August 26, 2005

Topic: The Role of NGOs and Other Organizations in Promoting Young Leadership.

This show discussed the role of civil society organizations in supporting youth, building their capacity and advocating their issues.

5. The Fifth Talk Show: (Gama TV-Nablus):

Date: September 9, 2005

Topic: Security Issues from the Perspective of Young Leader.

This show came at a very critical time in terms of security chaos in the Palestinian cities, especially in Nablus city. It explored the negative impact of this phenomenon and the reasons behind it where the youth use military action to make their voices heard.

6. The Sixth Talk Show: (Alamal TV-Hebron):

Date: September 29, 2005

Topic: Obstacles Faced by Young leaders in Decision- making Positions.

This show discussed the definition of “young leadership,” the criteria used in the definition of “young leaders,” and the importance of youth representation in the different governmental, private and non-governmental institutions.

### C. Poster

As a tool for advocating youth participation in the local and national elections, a poster was published at the end of the project. It aimed at encouraging citizens to vote for the young generation.

The poster carried the slogan of “Intikhabaat – ‘elections’” with a photo of a young woman voting in the last presidential elections, and a circle of key words such as: *participation, youth, women, reform, citizenship, responsibility, equality, future, democracy.*

The poster was widely distributed among MIFTAH’s women and youth groups, partner organizations and during MIFTAH’s activities and events.

## III. Empowerment of Young Palestinian Community Leaders

[Effective dates of project: March-December 2004 and January-March 2005]

[ Funder: Friedrich Ebert Foundation]

### Overview

MIFTAH’s project *The Empowerment of Young Community Leaders in the West Bank and Gaza* aimed at empowering young Palestinian community leaders. The objectives of the project included identifying the needs of young community leaders, building their capacity, raising their awareness on democratic values and principles; facilitating a network of young community leaders and fostering dialogue and coordination between the old and young generations in the local communities so that the needs of the youth are better addressed.

The Palestinian society is widely regarded as a young society with over 50% of its population under the age of 18 years. It is natural to assume that these youngsters will grow up to take leadership

positions in Palestinian society. MIFTAH chose young community leaders between the ages of 25–40 years for the project. They were specifically chosen with strong community involvement backgrounds and most young leaders had gained experience and knowledge through activism in youth sports clubs, municipal councils, women’s centers in refugee camps, and working for emerging NGOs.

The overall goal of the project funded by the Friedrich-Ebert-Foundation was to increase and develop these young leaders’ capacities in various areas to ensure that they become more competent and gain prominence in the political, social and economic sectors, where they have been traditionally marginalized.

## **Implemented Activities**

### **1. Information Kit**

In order to raise the awareness of young community leaders on issues of democracy, good governance, women’s rights and citizenship, MIFTAH prepared an Information Kit using a collection of articles and statistics from different sources including the internet, books and studies published by Palestinian organizations. MIFTAH also distributed its publications which include posters and postcards promoting women’s participation in the elections, a booklet in the form of Q&A on women’s quota, and a booklet on young politicians.

### **2. Needs Assessment**

At the initial stage of the project, a needs assessment for young leaders was conducted in Hebron, Ramallah, Bethlehem, Jenin, Nablus, Gaza city, Northern Gaza, and Southern Gaza. At least 150 participants attended those needs assessment meetings.

This needs assessment helped identify the obstacles, the needs and the most appropriate interventions to be implemented by MIFTAH and other like-minded organizations.

### **3. Dialogue Sessions**

The next stage of the project comprised four dialogue sessions held in Ramallah, Nablus, Bethlehem,

and Gaza city that placed young and older community leaders side by side. Discussions between both were very fruitful as highlighted by young leaders since it gave them the opportunity to present their perceptions and opinions.

### **Workshops**

Two central workshops were conducted in Ramallah and Gaza to draw a strategy for supporting young leadership in the social and political institutions. At least 80 participants from West Bank cities and Gaza Strip attended the workshops and were divided into groups. The workshops were concluded with proposed advocacy strategies at the level of the media, the institutions, and the political parties.

### **Training Sessions**

In response to one of the target group's needs, two training sessions were conducted in Ramallah and Gaza city, where about 60 young leaders participated. The training covered a variety of topics such as *community mobilization, networking, leadership skills, and communications skills*.

### **Publication**

At the end of the project, a booklet, containing the outcomes of the project and the target group's recommendations and perceptions, was published and widely distributed.

## **Advocacy**

### **I. Advocacy for Reproductive Health**

[Effective dates of project: October 2003–December 2005]

[Funder: UNFPA]

#### **Overview**

Gender equity and women's rights top MIFTAH's agenda. Through its leadership, MIFTAH, was able to provide new vision and values, energy and strength towards eradicating gender inequality in

Palestinian society. This project is implemented in coordination with the UNFPA to advocate the promotion of reproductive health and gender issues in Palestinian society. The advocacy program for Palestine is built around three target groups; the first focuses on enhancing the capacity of NGOs and selected national institutions on issues pertaining to RH. Legislators and other decision makers are the second target group and aims at increasing their understanding of priority issues for population and gives policy makers access to pertinent information on the topics. The third target group is media students whose focus is on population, reproductive health and gender issues.

### **Objectives**

- Get access to key decision makers;
- Get access to local media;
- Build a team of experts.

### **Success and Outcomes**

This project nurtured good relationships among the various parties involved which will prove useful in future projects. MIFTAH's carefully vetting process helped choose partners with the skills and experiences necessary to carry out this project. These partners underwent extensive capacity building in order to develop their work with both the grassroots and high-level decision makers.

There were several success stories on the impact that the project partnerships had on key target groups. One specific success pertained to violence against women. MIFTAH lobbied, with the help of the partners, the Qadi al Quda'a – the chief Islamic authority in Palestine – to take a stand on this issue. Responding to the pressure and constructive discussions that went on between MIFTAH and its partners on the one hand, and the Qadi al Quda'a on the other, the latter is planning to establish a family support unit that will address the many issues related to this grave social phenomenon.

One of the foremost issues that MIFTAH is proud of is that it was empowered to institutionalize reproductive health issues into the overall mandate of organizations working in Palestine. To illustrate, many at the onset of the project felt that the issue of gender was secondary and not relevant to their mandate. The project was able to highlight the importance of gender issues within

the mandates of these organizations through vigorous training in cooperation with the women's empowerment projects and through working with youth leaders.

Another important success was the passing of a public health law that requires pre-marital medical testing, due to the prevalence of hereditary disease and marriage between relatives in Palestinian society.

### **Five Priority Issues of Advocacy for Reproductive Health**

The following are the five priority issues that the project targeted and the objectively verifiable indicators used to measure progress towards project goals:

*1. Raise the age of marriage to 18*

The key indicator for this issue was the submission of a draft law in the PLC stipulating that girls must be 18 years old in order to marry.

*2. Reduce female school drop out rates, especially at the secondary level*

The key indicators for this issue were a draft law in the PLC raising the mandatory level of school from grade 10 to 12, a memo within the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) limiting dropping out of school before grade 10, and a memo from MEHE to the Ministry of Justice requesting their support for the initiative.

*3. Address the issue of violence against women*

The key indicator was the number of NGOs working on violence against women includes all forms of violence in their training and awareness raising activities.

*4. The rights and needs of adolescents to reproductive health information and services*

The key indicator for the project was the amount of media coverage of adolescent reproductive health.

*5. Promote women's employment.*

The key indicator for this issue was the inclusion of women's employment opportunities as a part of the regulations for the disbursement of emergency funds in the occupied Palestinian territories and advocacy for its monitoring.

## II. Raising Awareness of a Gender Sensitive National Budget

[Effective dates of project: August 2004–December 2005]

[Funder: Kvinna till Kvinna]

### Overview

The national budget is an instrument that drives policy in any given country. It can highlight the concerns and priorities in government spending and strategies. The national budget also serves as a means to holding the government accountable and therefore transparent.

The project Raising Awareness of Gender Sensitive National Budget is in its preparatory phase and works to bring together policy and decision makers in order to discuss the various topics related to the Palestinian political, economic and social circumstances and how that affects the national budget. It strives to draw attention to the significance of mainstreaming gender in the budgetary process as a first step of engendering the system as a whole.

### Objective

To raise the awareness of decision makers of a gender-sensitive and a gender-responsive Palestinian national budget.

### Activities

As the field of this particular project of engendering the budget is relatively new, MIFTAH worked profoundly at the beginning of the project on forming a team which encompasses three MIFTAH staff members and two contracted researchers. This team was delegated the responsibility of

- a. collecting materials, including numerous articles and documents, showing varied international experiences in the field of engendering national budgets, in addition to several theoretical approaches and analytical frameworks in the same context. The materials were obtained from local libraries, the publications of governmental and nongovernmental organizations, and the internet;

- b. exchanging thoughts, proposing recommendations and evaluating the whole process of the project; and
- c. reviewing the assessments and the training materials.

## **Implemented Activities**

### **1. Assessment of national budgetary procedures**

A researcher was contracted to carry out an assessment of the Palestinian national budget.

The assessment includes the following four sections:

*a. National budgets: characteristics and types*

As a theoretical introduction, this section defines the concept of national budgets, budgetary procedures, the chronological development of the process, methods of showing revenues and expenditures, concepts of accountability and transparency, and finally formats of budgets.

*b. Budgetary procedure in the Palestinian law.*

This section illustrates the different stages of formulating the national budget as delineated in the Palestinian law.

*c. Budgetary procedure in the Palestinian reality*

This section presents implementation procedure in the real context.

*d. Recommendations*

### **2. Gender review of the Palestinian national budget**

The review comprises the following sections:

- a. Gender as an analytical tool
- b. Budget as a development mechanism



- c. Budget as a tool towards enhancing social equity
- d. International experiences in the field of engendering the budget.
- e. Quick and short analysis of the 2004 national budget from a gender perspective.
- f. A comprehensive framework for a gender analysis of the budget and recommendations for the next phase.

### **3. Lobbying and networking**

To publicly announce the results of both assessments, a one-day workshop was conducted in Ramallah on January 12, 2005, during which both papers were presented by the researchers using PowerPoint facility.

About 30 participants from the line ministries, some women's organizations, research institutes, as well as the media, attended this workshop during which an enriched and open discussion took place.

The workshop concluded with the following recommendations:

- a. A national team (Gender Budget Initiative) has to be established to start the process of engendering the national budget. It has become internationally evident and significant that a cross-sectors team of researchers, activists, officials and media tackle the task and be well trained to do so.
- b. Civil society organizations should start engendering their budgets to be a model and to make the overall process more practical and visible.
- c. A training manual has to be developed and distributed by the end of this project.

At the end of the workshop a small follow-up committee was formed. The committee comprises MIFTAH, the Ministry of Women Affairs, Economic Policy Research Institute/MAS, Central Bureau of Statistics, and Women's Studies Institute at Birzeit University.

The first meeting of this committee was held on February 12, 2005 during which a discussion of the mechanisms of forming the national team (Gender Budget Initiative) was made.

At the end of the discussion, the committee members agreed on the following:

- a. MIFTAH has to begin preparing a training manual and to test it out by organizing a one-day training session for 3 different groups of researchers, officials, and activists.
- b. The training should focus on three main topics: *budgeting procedures, gender and development, and gender sensitive budgets.*
- c. At the end of the three training sessions, the primary members of the national team should be identified.

#### **4. Training**

The first training session took place in Gaza on June 4-5, 2005 and targeted 20 employees at the financial departments at most of the ministries.

In the West Bank, a one-day training session was held in Ramallah on June 26, 2005 for 15 participants from the financial departments at the main ministries. The second training session in Ramallah was held on June 27, 2005, and about 10 trainees from the women's organizations participated in this one-day session.

MIFTAH conducted a quick assessment of the status and procedures followed in budget formulation within the Palestinian context. A rapid gender review of the current national budget revealed gender gaps; the results were published and distributed to stakeholders. In addition, two fact sheets were printed to highlight the budgeting procedure and outline the main steps towards engendering the national budget.

Officials and employees in charge of developing the budget in various governmental and non-governmental entities were brought to a two-day gender awareness training session.

## 5. Media and advocacy

### a. Fact sheets:

Two fact sheets (brochures) were developed, published and distributed. The first one focused on the budgetary process and dates, while the second one focused on gender issues related to budgeting. The content of the fact sheets was based on the previously prepared assessments and was prepared by the same researchers.

### b. Radio and TV talk shows

To enhance the role of the media in the process and reach the decision makers through the media, a radio talk show was produced and broadcast on November 6, 2005 by the national radio "Voice of Palestine." The two guests who were hosted were the Deputy Minister of Women's Affairs and a gender specialist (The same researcher who prepared the paper on Engendered Budgeting for MIFTAH).

The televised talk show was produced and broadcast on December 29, 2005 through 13 local privately-owned stations in the different West Bank cities. There were three hosted guests : one is the previously mentioned gender specialist; another is a legislator (Head of the Economic Committee in the Palestinian Legislative Council -PLC); and a third is a representative of the Ministry of Women's Affairs.

A member of the project team published an article entitled "Role of Female Parliamentarians in the Process of Engendering Budgets" in a feminist magazine (Yanabii) issued by the Palestinian Working Women Association for Development in November 2005.

## III. Gender, Peace and Security

[Effective dates of project: March 2005–December 2005]

[Funder: UNFPA]

### Overview

This project was funded by UNFPA, as part of their overall all Gender, Peace and Security Program,

which is a multiple country project, in this instance documenting the specific case of Palestine. It aimed to raise awareness among decision makers and key stakeholder on Gender Based Violence (GBV) in the Palestinian society and come out with practical recommendations that can help coalitions campaigning on the issue of violence against women to better develop their plans and services.

The case study included a series of activities that aimed at a unified understanding of terminology and concepts involved in GBV, primarily by strengthening the platform of organizations in coalition using media events to promote key GBV issues.

The case study report was able to provide institutions with an analytical view of the reality of GBV in Palestinian society; the role of governmental and non-governmental organizations, and the obstacles encountered in curbing violence against women. In addition, it put forward recommendations at a national, regional and international levels to be considered and followed up.

## **Objectives**

- To produce a lexicon of GBV terms and concepts, documenting best practices of participating organizations in the Coalition of NGOs Combating Violence Against Women;
- To execute two media events in regard to the launch of the lexicon and at least one key issue on GBV;
- To document a case study for combating GBV in Palestine as part of the Gender, Peace and Security Initiative.

## **Main activities and achievements**

### **1. Produce a lexicon of GBV terms and concepts, documenting best practices of participating organizations in the Coalition of NGOs Combating Violence Against Women.**

A researcher was contracted. A questionnaire with three sections was developed. The first section of the questionnaire included background information on the organization and services provided by the organization. The second section included a series of questions related to concepts of gender-based violence. The third section gave multiple examples of violence and required respondents to

analyze and classify examples in terms of types of gender-based violence. The questionnaire was distributed among 27 institutions that include all members of the VAW Forum and other selected government institutions, and the police. A sub committee was formed whose main task was to review and comment on the questionnaire, and to discuss the outcome of the questionnaire. The first draft of the lexicon was prepared.

2. Execute two media events in regard to the launch of the lexicon and at least one key issue on GBV.
3. Produce a unified plan of action for 2005 for the Coalition.
4. Document a case study for combating GBV in Palestine as part of the Gender Peace and Security Initiative. A researcher was contracted for the activity and a case study report was prepared. A presentation on the case study report was given at the Conference of the Global Initiative for Gender Peace and Security held in Bucharest on October 17-20, 2005. Facts on gender-based violence in Palestine were printed. The case study report is being translated into Arabic.

## Promoting Active Citizenship

### Mass Media Campaign Promoting Active Citizenship and Democracy

[Effective dates of project: July 16, 2005 – January 15, 2006] – [Funder: UNFPA]

#### Overview

This project was launched in the summer of 2005 with the support of UNDP/ECTAO to encourage Palestinians eligible to vote to actively take part in the Palestinian Legislative Council elections, as well as the third phase of local elections.

Women were particularly targeted in this “active citizenship” campaign, not only as voters, but also as potential candidates. The campaign also delivered vital and accurate information regarding the Palestinian electoral system.

#### Objectives

- To encourage women’s participation in the elections processes as voters, candidates and monitors;
- To encourage the Palestinian public to actively participate in elections;
- To raise Palestinian public awareness to issues of local and national significance pertaining to elections and the importance of the PLC elections in defining the future of the Palestinian political system;
- To provide accurate information about the electoral system and candidates with moderate agendas.

#### Activities

MIFTAH launched a mass media campaign focusing on the how crucial it is for each and every individual eligible to vote to do so in the third phase of municipal elections. MIFTAH’s campaigns highlighted the importance of voting for candidates that have a progressive and developmental agenda. Some of the media campaigns highlighted the fact that women and youth standing as candidates are trustworthy and can deliver on promises and therefore can be entrusted with the responsibility of public office. Women and youth were a specific target group in these campaigns, not only as potential candidates, but also as citizens participating in democratic change through voting, educating about and monitoring elections.

Various media were employed in driving these messages across, such as TV and radio spots, talk shows, advertisements in local daily newspapers, as well as holding town hall meetings and using billboards.

## Public Sector

### Enhancing Systems of Accountability in the Palestinian Public Sector

[Effective dates of project: March 2005–February 2007]

[Funder: The Ford Foundation]

#### Overview

Building on MIFTAH's joint work with the Coalition for Accountability and Integrity (AMAN) in an inception phase, this project serves as an integral part of the overall strategy of the Palestinian civil-national initiative for combating corruption.

The inception phase, implemented in 2002, prepared the ground for this current phase through data collections, preliminary analysis of the problem and design of the work plan.

#### Objectives

The main aim of this project is to enhance systems of accountability, principles of transparency and values of integrity in the Palestinian public sector through promoting public information and expanding public participation at the decision-making level to consequently curb corruption.

#### Activities

##### 1. Separation of powers between the three state branches (the Legislative, Executive, Judiciary):

An in-depth study was conducted on the financial dependency of the Judiciary and Legislative systems on the Executive branch and its ramifications on the performance of these three bodies.

The findings of the research were discussed with representatives of the three bodies; their recommendations were raised to the Ministry of Finance, the Palestinian Legislative Council and the Palestinian Cabinet for approval and adoption. The final findings were announced in a seminar where representatives of the three powers and Palestinian civil society active in this field met and gave their input and recommendations before disseminating the final draft.

A TV talk show will be aired to further promote the principle.



## **2. National Budget**

- a. A public opinion poll will be conducted in order to determine the priorities of the public in terms to the national budget.
- b. Sectoral meetings will take place between civil society and governmental institutions based on the findings of the public opinion polls.
- c. The outcomes of the meetings and polls will be presented before the PLC and the Cabinet requesting that the budget be amended in response to civil society and public demand.

## **3. Public Servant Best Practices**

- a. Public opinion polls will take place to find out civil servants perceptions and attitudes towards and behavior with recipients of their services.
- b. A Booklet will be published for civil servants, based on the polls findings, on best practices with the public. The booklet will also be distributed among public institutions and to the Ministerial Committee on Reform for to be adopted in reform plans, after their recommendations are received.
- c. Workshops will be held for public servants, specifically for those who work directly with the public.

## **4. Citizens Awareness**

- a. Five town hall meetings will be held in various governorates throughout the West Bank, aiming to hold officials accountable to their constituencies;
- b. Eight call-in TV shows will be produced and broadcast where the public will be able to direct questions to the officials participating in each show;
- c. Six radio spots will be produced and aired on local radio stations on issues of accountability and democratization.



## Policy Formulation

### Overview

MIFTAH's Policy Formulation project aims at promoting the accountability and transparency of the public sector in all policy issues pertaining to good governance, particularly reform and security and political developments, including short term ad hoc and long term plans. MIFTAH believes that genuine reform must take place through a transparent process whereby the public sector, the private sector and civil society are brought together on policy formulation on a range of issues that are vital to Palestinian decision making.

The main component of the program is the policy dialogue meetings that aim at enhancing multi-channel communication between and among all society members, including government, civil society organizations, and the private sector on a number of different but related issues with a view to supporting policy formulation. The participants included intellectuals and professionals, leaders from various political factions, members of the Palestinian Legislative Council, ministers and security officials in addition to a number of specialists, who were invited to specific sessions to further augment the discussion. The variety and diversity of the participants' backgrounds, opinions and skills were carefully considered.

The policy areas identified include *reform priorities, processes and participatory governance, questions of factional politics and decision making, approaches to peace and requirements for peace making generating a discourse of nonviolence, laws and legislations*. Future-oriented dialogue areas include *Palestinian-Israeli Dialogue, Palestinian Arab Dialogue and Palestinian-Global Relations*.

### Objectives

1. Promote policy dialogue among the various stakeholders and present timely analyses of issues that inform policy decision making.
2. Raise awareness among Palestinian decision makers of the importance of the inclusive participatory approach to policy formulation processes.
3. Identify gaps and weaknesses in existing public sector policies.

#### Topics discussed in the meetings

- After Gaza disengagement: the possibility of forming two states
- The role of civil society

## **MEDIA MONITORING**

### **I. Monitoring the Coverage of the Presidential Elections in Palestine**

[Effective Dates of Grant: December 23, 2004- February 28, 2005]

[Funder: International Media Support]

#### **Project Summary**

MIFTAH's project "Monitoring the Coverage of the Presidential Elections in Palestine" builds on MIFTAH's experience in monitoring Palestinian media. The overall objective of the project was to monitor the coverage of the presidential elections in Palestinian official, party and private media as well as two major Arab satellite channels. The project entailed conducting research on elections local laws and regulations, media laws and regulations, in addition to international national standards of media coverage of elections. In addition, a group of local monitors were trained by an international trainer prior to election day and the actual monitoring was conducted through the official media campaign. On election day, a preliminary report was composed and the results were announced in a press conference three days after the elections. A final report was prepared by the international expert and translated into Arabic and disseminated to all concerned parties. Upon the completion of project activities, MIFTAH conducted an evaluation session for team members that included staff and local monitors.

#### **Project Activities**

The project activities were carried out smoothly as the preparation was worked out carefully and the selection of monitors and the follow up with them was done on a daily basis.

##### **1. Literature Review**

Research was conducted prior to the determination of monitoring sample. A literature review was done for all related documents such as Palestinian media law, election law, basic law, and international standards of media coverage during elections. A paper of best practices during election coverage was finalized and discussed amongst the team in order to determine the sample

of monitoring. The sample and all those documents were shared with the international consultant David Ward.

The following media outlets were monitored:

**Table 1: Newspapers monitored**

Title	Ownership	Period
Al Ayyam	Private	25.12.04-7.1.05
Al Hayat Al Jadida	Public (financially assisted)	25.12.04-7.1.05
Al Quds	Private	25.12.04-7.1.05

**Table 2: Broadcasters monitored**

Channel	Ownership	Hours monitored	Period
Palestine Television	Public	18.00 – 23.00	25.12.04-7.1.05
Watan	Private	18.00 – 23.00	25.12.04-7.1.05
Al Jazeera	Private	18.00 – 23.00	25.12.04-7.1.05
Al Arabiya	Private	18.00 – 23.00	25.12.04-7.1.05
Voice of Palestine	Public	07.00-11.00	25.12.04-7.1.05
Wafa (Internet)	Public*	25.12.04-7.1.05	

\* The Internet portal of Wafa, the official public news agency in Palestine

## 2. local Monitors' Training

MIFTAH went through a selection of local monitors who were either media students or new graduates of media colleges. The training was conducted one day prior to the actual monitoring and led by the international expert and with the assistance of the project director. The training continued throughout the monitoring period.

## 3. Daily Monitoring

The process of monitoring the media covered the official campaign period that was on December 25, 2004 till January 7, 2005 as announced by the Central Election Committee. Monitors were providing the data to the international consultant who was doing the data entry for the quantitative analysis.

The qualitative side targeted presidential candidates, journalists, official media representatives, Central Election Commission, private media owners and political parties.

In addition to interviews for the report, several meetings were conducted with international and domestic media monitors in order to exchange information. A detailed report was finalized with supporting documents and sent the Central Election Commission, media outlets, civil society organizations, political parties and diplomatic missions and international NGOs working in Palestine. A copy of this report was posted on MIFTAH's website for the public to know.

#### **4. Preliminary Report and Press Conference**

The first report with the 'preliminary results' was prepared on the night of voting day. The report was translated into Arabic and invitations for a press-conference. A power point presentation was made in Arabic and English. Dr. Hanan Ashrawi introduced the project and its main findings followed by a short presentation on sample and methodology by the director of the project. Tens of media outlets were present and covered the conference. Two daily newspapers and Wafa News Agency covered the results in long reports on their front pages. Palestine TV and Radio reported the results of the report in different news bulletins that were supported by audio visual scenes from the conference. The director of the project was hosted on two talk-shows, one on the national radio and the other on the national TV to talk about the results. The feedback was very positive and all media outlets appreciated this effort and they called for MIFTAH's continuation of monitoring during the upcoming PLC elections.

#### **5. Dissemination of Final Report**

The final report was translated into Arabic, edited, color printed and distributed widely to all media outlets, governmental and official organizations and NGOs. The report is posted on MIFTAH's two websites the Arabic and English.

## Evaluation and recommendations

MIFTAH's team leader conducted a special evaluation session for monitors and staff members who were involved in the project. The feedback was very positive with some remarks for MIFTAH to take into consideration in future monitoring of elections.

### 1. The training of volunteers

One day training was too exhausting for the trainees during the actual monitoring as their work had to be double checked and some times they were asked re-do the work.

### 2. The content of coverage

Monitors didn't feel comfortable by not monitoring the content of broadcasted messages. According to them the content was important in determining the tone. It is recommended that the content be evaluated in the PLC elections as the election law prevents incitement and provocation.

## II. Words Can Kill – A Joint Palestinian-Israeli Action for an Alternative Public and Media Discourse

[Effective dates of project: October 2004-June 2006]

[Funder: EU]

**The aim:** To encourage a public and media discourse free of incitement, prejudice and dehumanization of the other in Palestine and Israel, through monitoring, research, advocacy and lobbying activities. The action will facilitate the development of an independent media and a culture of moderation, tolerance, and understanding between the two peoples, and implementation of the anti-incitement provisions in the Road Map and in agreements between Palestinians and Israelis, all of which will assist in the re-launching of the peace process.

The action seeks to increase trust between the parties and develop a peace environment. To accomplish this, it is necessary to raise public awareness in Palestine and Israel of the incitement, bias, defamation, de-legitimization, and dehumanization of the other commonly found in the media and in public discourse regarding the peace process and relations between the two peoples.

The objectives are defined as follows:

1. Promote moderation: To promote a culture of moderation, tolerance, and understanding that is conducive to a peace environment.
2. End incitement: To contribute to the halting of incitement and defaming against the other side in the media and by politicians and public officials.
3. Build an alternative discourse: To build a new platform for developing a common language and agreed-upon terms for use by Israelis and Palestinians, and for promoting an independent media and an alternative discourse in the media, among decision-makers and in the general public on both sides.
4. Create a model of cooperation: To show that Palestinians and Israelis can indeed work together on this important subject, but not only on this issue, and that cooperation between the peoples is feasible to achieve various common goals that affect the lives of both peoples.
5. Establish monitoring mechanism: To establish a mechanism to monitor incitement and bias against the other side that will offer lasting coverage of incitement on both sides, and assist the sides in reaching a final political arrangement, or, during the interim period of negotiation, an arrangement of the kind set forth in the Wye Plantation Agreement, and especially in the Road Map.
6. Advance minority interests: To promote an environment that benefits minority rights, specifically those of the Arab population in Israel, which group has an important role to play in establishing the kind of public discourse and peace environment that the action seeks to achieve.

**The target groups:** The Palestinian and Israeli media, Palestinian and Israeli policy makers, civil society organizations, law enforcement officials and the legal community, media students, and the Palestinian and Israeli general public.

**The main activities:** Setting up media-monitoring units, information gathering and research, holding seminars and workshops, publishing findings and reports, and advocacy.

## Implemented Activities

### 1. Publication of Professional Guidelines (January – March 2005)

MIFTAH's professional guidelines were published as part of its first research report, in Arabic and English, on March 7, 2005. The guidelines were published at slightly later dates than originally proposed, because they were integrated into each organization's first research report.

KESHEV's professional guidelines were published as an appendix to its first research report, on January 30, 2005. They have also been posted on KESHEV's website, where they appear in Hebrew and English.

### 2. Monitoring the Media (September 2004 – Present)

MIFTAH began monitoring in September 2004. Its monitoring has focused on three major issues: The separation wall, the Sharon plan for withdrawing from Gaza and the Road Map. In addition to these subjects, special attention was given to the Israeli incursion into northern Gaza and the suicide bombing in Tel Aviv. MIFTAH is monitoring three daily newspapers in addition to the official Palestinian TV channel.

Each day, KESHEV monitors pore over three television news broadcasts (Channels 1, 2 and 10) and three major Israeli newspapers (Yedioth Ahronoth, Ma'ariv and Ha'aretz), scouring these sources for their coverage of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and their representation of Palestinians. The monitors enter key facts about the articles into a computerized database and note factors concerning the contents and presentation of each item, as stipulated in the methodological guidelines.

### 3. Advocacy in the Media (January 2005 – Present)

Media advocacy through this project began with the issuance of a joint press release by MIFTAH and KESHEV on January 30, 2005, which, with the help of Ben-Or Media Consultants, was sent to scores of media outlets. The press release announced the launch of the project and described its scope and its goals. It stressed that the project is meant to "facilitate the development of an

independent media and a culture of moderation, tolerance, and understanding between the two peoples, and implementation of the anti-incitement provisions in the Road Map without jeopardizing the freedom of expression.”

The first MIFTAH report was released in English and Arabic at a press conference in Ramallah on March 5, 2005 that was attended by Palestinian and international media outlets. The first MIFTAH report received considerable coverage in the Palestinian and Israeli media. In terms of its effectiveness as a tool for advocacy, Dr. Lily Feidy of MIFTAH reported that upon hearing about the report, a senior figure in the Palestinian Authority phoned MIFTAH to personally request a copy.

At a time when the subject of reform in Arab politics is all over the international headlines, MIFTAH's contribution to this project has been widely hailed. The MIFTAH report was nuanced and called attention to some lesser known problematic practices in the Palestinian media, such as the dehumanization of Palestinian and Israeli casualties. The report also placed the issue of outright incitement in the Palestinian media (little of which was found), in proper perspective.

#### 4. Periodic Reporting of Findings and Conclusions (January 2005 – present)

MIFTAH issued its first full report in the framework of the project on March 5, 2005. The report, titled “Public Discourse and Perceptions: Palestinian Media Coverage of the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict” mapped out the Palestinian media landscape and submitted several principal critiques of Palestinian media practices. Aside from its critique of specific content, trends in coverage and journalistic practices in the media, the report offered valuable information on key issues such as media ownership and the reach and circulation of various Palestinian media outlets.

The principal findings of MIFTAH's first report included the following: 1) The Palestinian media tends not to present the Israeli narrative and the suffering of the other side and operates within a conceptual framework that maintains that the Israeli occupation is the reason for the current clashes; 2) The Palestinian media refrains from criticizing Palestinian violent attacks within Israel and is not interested in humanizing the conflict; 3) The Palestinian media seldom investigates or criticizes corruption in Palestinian society; 4) Palestinian Television relates to Palestinian victims as faceless numbers and ignores the identity of Israeli victims, as if all of them, including children and



civilians, belong to the security forces; 5) There is almost no criticism of participation by children in Palestinian militant acts; 6) The Palestinian media reflects the dominant culture and does not improve critical thinking.

KESHEV issued its first full report in the framework of the project on January 30, 2005. The report, titled "When thy Enemy Falls: Coverage of Arafat's Death in the Israeli Media" examined coverage of Arafat's illness and death in three Israeli daily newspapers (Yediot Aharonot, Ma'ariv and Ha'aretz) and in the main television news editions (Channel 1, Channel 2 and Channel 10), from the first reports of his illness on October 25, 2004, until November 19, a few days after his burial.

The KESHEV report criticized the Israeli media for being beholden to the "conception" that Arafat alone instigated the second Intifada and that only he is to blame for the impasse of the past four years. The report described how the media demonized Arafat in his dying days and how headlines expressed delight at his impending demise. The analysis also showed that Israeli media treated Palestinian sources of information with contempt, even when they delivered the same information as more "trustworthy" Western sources. The report further analyzed the media's scandalous treatment of Suha Arafat and the media's exaggerated prediction of the anarchy and chaos that would occur in the Palestinian Authority after Arafat's death.

In conclusion, the KESHEV report warned that based on its treatment of Mahmoud Abbas and its prediction of "wars of succession" in the Palestinian Authority, the Israeli media may already be laying the groundwork for the propagation of a new myth that there is still "no one to talk to" on the Palestinian side. Finally, the report expressed hope that "its conclusions will help bring certain changes to the conduct of the Israeli media, changes that will make possible coverage that is more balanced and more responsible and less impassioned, that will present the full picture of reality to the public, its complexity and the contradictions that we live with. Although words can kill, they can also offer hope".

In the course of KESHEV's work, the project director and the project staff came to the realization that in light of the tremendous amount of media content that the monitoring team is analyzing and in light of the many problematic media practices that have been identified, KESHEV should

issue additional reports, besides those called for in the grant contract. Therefore, in February 2005, KESHEV began publishing periodic reports on findings from daily monitoring of specific topics in the Israeli media. The reports study how specific news issues have been covered by different media outlets. Five reports have been issued so far.

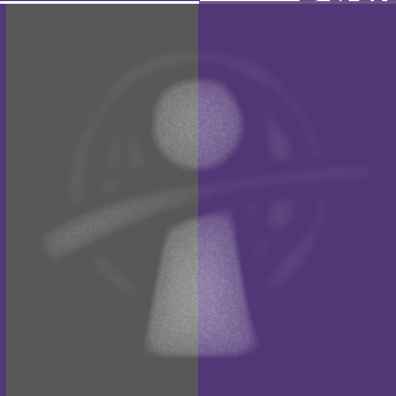
The research reports have highlighted how the Israeli media overstates purported Israeli generosity, how it understates the warnings made to Israel by the United States President, how it dehumanizes Palestinian civilians (by giving more media coverage to a dog killed in the service of the IDF than to six Palestinian civilians killed in the same period), and how one media outlet blamed settlers' attacks on a Palestinian family in Hebron on the Palestinian victims of the violence. These shorter focused research reports advance the project's mission on a weekly basis and they have been read on-line by thousands of visitors to KESHEV's website.

(Latest MIFTAH-Keshev Media monitoring reports are found at [www.miftah.org](http://www.miftah.org).)

# Media and Information Program

## Background

---



The importance of the media, with regard to this conflict, can be no better described than by the Secretary General of MIFTAH, Dr. Hanan Ashrawi, when she told Reuters Israel about the importance of the media, and she quoted Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon as saying that “winning the struggle was 80-90 percent dependent on the media’s effectiveness.” Because

of the importance of the media in this lingering conflict, the Media and Information Program at MIFTAH has taken upon itself the goal of keeping up-to-date with the latest developments as well as giving expert and balanced analyses to the current affairs.

MIFTAH’s Media and Information Program (MIP) is one of the major programs in which the organization’s overall mission is translated into action; namely the presentation of the Palestinian narrative on the local, regional, and global levels. The program currently comprises 2 central components: 1) Information Material (in Arabic and English) and 2) External Relations.

- 1) Information Material is primarily concerned with the collection/documentation, formulation, and dissemination of information on key Palestinian issues and concerns; these include political and field developments as well as civil society issues. Our information material comes in the form of news stories, opinion and editorials (Op-Eds), statements, fact sheets, and special studies (in-depth reports). The information is disseminated through 1) our website ([www.miftah.org](http://www.miftah.org)), 2) our email database, 3) our media fax lists, and 4) during our briefings to visiting delegations (i.e. in the form of hard copy information packages).
- 2) External Relations is our direct and active interaction with our key target groups, on the local and external levels. These include 1) conducting briefings to visiting delegations of students, activists, journalists, associations, among others, during which we respond to requests for information on political issues, internal issues, and any topics that we are able and willing to engage in, 2) participating in local and international workshops and/or conferences relevant to our field of work, and 3) participating in various committees and initiatives (locally and internationally).

## **MIFTAH's English Website**

The scope of content covered by the website has expanded significantly while ensuring user friendliness. Sections have been added or developed so as to best cater to our viewers needs and ensure a comprehensive and constructive treatment of the various developments. Following are major forms of information disseminated through the website.

### **News & Analysis**

This section includes articles published by journalists, academics, activists, and analysts, among others. It reflects Palestinian, Israeli, as well as global views on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict at different levels, and aims to present a comprehensive database of current affairs and issues. The views represented in News & Analysis are solely those of their authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of MIFTAH, but rather fulfill its mandate for open dialogue.

## **Opinion & Editorials**

The Opinion and Editorials section is strictly focused on providing timely and analytical opinion-editorials, mostly, but not exclusively, drafted by MIFTAH's writers; it includes op-eds written by people exclusively for the organization. The Opinion and Editorials section is a central feature of MIFTAH's website, whereby a concrete effort is placed on providing accurate as well as challenging analysis on the situation in Palestine, Israel, as well as in the region. This is also MIFTAH's regular editorial column, which reflects the organisations' perspectives and positions on political developments and current affairs. The Editorials are issued in MIFTAH's name and not as opinion or analytical articles by specific individuals.

## **Special Studies**

MIFTAH's Special Studies section provides a detailed, comprehensive and analytical examination of areas concerning the Palestinian-Israeli conflict as well as issues that Palestinian society needs to tackle. The objective is to provide factual information in an engaging and inquisitive manner. Among the reports that MIFTAH published in 2005 are : Palestinian Women Under Occupation ( July 2005) and How to Create a State: Israel's Settlement and Immigration Policy ( April 2005).

## **Fact Sheets**

MIFTAH views the flow of accurate information as a vital part of its mission. MIFTAH's fact sheets offer specific information on major topics dealing with the Palestinian reality and the Palestinian-Israeli conflict; the fact sheets are a collection of key facts, figures, and information on topics that tackle the core of the conflict; these include topics such as Israeli settlements, Palestinian refugees, Jerusalem, water issues, as well as various other topics that currently constitute the major elements of conflict in the region. MIFTAH's fact sheets are updated frequently to maintain an accurate analysis of the socio-political reality of the Palestinian struggle, and a comprehensive interpretation of major developments.

## **Insight**

This section addresses pressing issues of Palestinian concern by interviewing those who specialize

in the particular field being examined. This section aims to shed light on all the angles affected by the Palestinian Israeli conflict and provide an avenue to those charged with the task of dealing with these issues to give their expert opinions on the subject matter. It also allows prominent key players in the conflict to divulge their concerns, trepidations and fears as well as their hopes and future outlook. The views presented in this section do not necessarily reflect the views of MIFTAH.

### **Statements**

MIFTAH issues statements on a continuous basis, offering up-to-date positions on key developments in Palestine. MIFTAH issues statements in both Arabic and English, and tackles key issues such as political developments, Intifada reporting, and general statements on regional developments. One of the central objectives of MIFTAH's statements is to provide adequate positions and reactions to current affairs in the occupied Palestinian territories. MIFTAH issued 55 statements during 2005.

### **Press Releases**

This section aims to highlight the positions of other institutions on relevant issues by presenting and documenting their official press releases and statements. It offers up-to-date analysis of key developments in the region and tackles both political issues and developments as well as social and economic topics concerning the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories.

### **Photo-Essays**

MIFTAH's Photo-Essays section aims to document photos which convey a particular message; political and otherwise. Based on our belief that a picture may tell a thousand words, MIFTAH highlights pressing issues in Palestinian society by providing highly evocative pictures that allow our readers and viewers to reach their own conclusions concerning the relevant issues.

### **Pop-up Picture of the Day**

This section, where "pictures tell thousands of words," has become a very popular section with our visitors and readers. The archive contains selected pictures and their captions (unedited) from various news agencies and media sources. The intention of having this section on MIFTAH.org is

primarily to reflect the daily life of Palestinians under Israeli occupation; it is also a platform that offers a photographic narrative of current political affairs, developments, and other aspects of life for the Palestinian people.

## **True Stories**

This section includes factual stories depicting the daily suffering of the Palestinian people. It is about ordinary Palestinians whose stories have been overlooked and forgotten. The views presented in these stories do not necessarily reflect the views of MIFTAH, but rather compliment its mandate of open dialogue by providing a wide platform for these tales of hardship.

## **Key Issues**

This is the analysis of MIFTAH's Secretary-General, Dr. Hanan Ashrawi. The key issues cover key political developments, ranging from internal developments within the Palestinian territories to global issues and concerns related to the Middle East peace process. This year's Key Issues include The Changing Palestinian Political Landscape, April 2005 and Palestinian Democracy and Peace: A Global Investment, January 2005

## **Official Reports**

This section presents various aspects of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict as well as on the socio-economic situation in the occupied Palestinian territories.

## **Polls**

This section provides the latest polls to give an indication of public opinion on key issues and concerns related to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

## **Maps**

The map section includes relevant current and historical maps. It provides a comprehensive visual illustration of the land in conflict. The maps are categorized as: historical, general, Jerusalem and partition plans and proposals.

## **Letters & Speeches**

### **Bilateral & Multilateral agreements**

The section includes agreements related to the Middle East Peace Process and the Palestinian-Israeli conflict; international treaties, such as the Geneva Conventions, that are related (or affect) the Palestinian-Israeli conflict; historical documents related to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, and vital documents that shaped the current reality of the region.

### **UN Resolutions**

The section presents United Nations Security Council and General Assembly resolutions concerning the question of Palestine.

### **MIFTAH's Arabic Website**

Realizing our services were primarily tailored towards the international community, the Media and Information team felt the need to rival the English website and provide the same quantitative and qualitative information to the local community. To that endeavor, they have developed an Arabic website that provides high standard of analysis, while targeting the issues that are of particular significance to local readers. The Arabic website continues to be steadily improved and developed to match the success of the English website. The Arabic website includes MIFTAH's Perspective, Special Studies and Reports, Press Releases, Headlines and a growing database of compiled articles, polls and other material relevant to the conflict.

### **Impact and effects of the Media and Information program activities**

Throughout the past year, the Media and Information team have been monitoring the scope of coverage of the information material, including a weekly internet search for our publications on major websites that provide information on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. It would be safe to conclude that the vast majority of our Op-Eds have been either reposted on these websites, or communicated by some groups through various online forums. The same applies to our fact sheets, special studies, and statements, which have been quite frequently used by other institutions and



reposted by several websites. Copies of republished articles and material are available upon request. At the qualitative level, the overall impact of our information is difficult to pinpoint. However, as mentioned, the overall impact of the type of work in which the MIP is involved cannot be specifically identified or quantified. Part of the reason why we have introduced “News Stories” in our website is to be able to infiltrate mainstream media in their reporting of events in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Basically, if we can provide alternative information and news reporting, then media outlets would find the logic and means to use it, as long as it is credible, accurate, and well-researched.

### **Undesirable effects**

The Media and Information program target group is predominantly composed of human rights groups, political groups, media, academics, students, and interested individuals. These groups often provide feedback in writing, which is available on our website. While we cannot claim that there have been any undesirable effects, particularly as we encourage freedom of expression, there have been several instances where comments provided in response to certain articles on MIFTAH have been abusive and aggressive towards our authors. This, however, is expected in light of the controversial topics we often aim to cover.

### **Lessons learnt and conclusions**

In order to be able to reach the desired objectives of our program, namely the communication of vital information and analysis on the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories, it will be very important to infiltrate mainstream media, particularly print media. For that purpose, we feel that the time is ripe to try to establish direct contact with media institutions in order to ensure, to some degree, that our material is taken into account. It will also be vital to develop our news reporting capacity. In conclusion, MIFTAH’s MIP has placed the organization in a reputable position as far as information is concerned; however, there is agreement among members of the organization that we will need to expand our program and incorporate more diverse forms of information material.

## External Relations Program

MIFTAH has continued to solidify its external relations program through the Media and Information and Good Governance and Democracy programs that aim at facilitating Palestinian/US/European/Arab relations by networking and partnering with international locutors, institutions of civil society, grassroots organizations and other similar bodies, by monitoring various country positions vis-à-vis Palestine and by conducting regular policy briefs to the diplomatic corps. MIFTAH's External Relations Program continues to grow in scope, complexity and intensity. It continues to take on a more sophisticated and interactive form especially with the European partners.

# The Activities of the Secretary General of MIFTAH

## Dr. Hanan Ashrawi

---



Dr. Hanan Ashrawi, Secretary General of MIFTAH, member of the Palestinian Legislative Council and a prominent Palestinian figure has greatly contributed to the promotion of Palestinian rights and to the principles of good governance and democracy in Palestine and elsewhere and to the better understanding of Palestinian realities.

## Meetings

No.	Description	Date
1.	Dr. Ashrawi had lunch with Mr. Kohl and his accompanying delegation to hear her views on the upcoming presidential elections and the prospects for the future.	Jan. 05 2005
2.	Dr. Solana talked about how impressed he was with how the elections had gone the day before. The majority of the meeting focused on the Palestinian outlook towards a viable peace process and the importance of carrying out PLC elections and EU's support for that in the months ahead; Europe's role and its importance; EU must take a unified stand (establish a unified foreign policy) and come out with a real political will to help the peace process along.	Jan. 10 2005
3.	The National Council of Churches delegation discussed the US churches' divestment efforts, the issue of Jerusalem, and the absentee property law, which was being implemented in Jerusalem at the time.	Jan. 19 2005
4.	(MIFTAH's Executive Board Meeting)- Dr. Ashrawi gave a Political briefing to begin with, in order to put the organization's activities (past, present and future) into context. The members reviewed MIFTAH's financial statements and budgets.	Jan. 31 2005
5.	Dinner meeting: Dr. Ashrawi talked about current political events with the Swiss Foreign Federal Councilor and the Swiss Representative to the PA.	Feb. 03 2005
6.	Dr. Ashrawi spoke to the Ford Foundation delegation about the current political climate in Palestine.	Feb. 07 2005
7.	Pierre Pettigrie, Foreign Minister of Canada, Ms. Francine Lalonde, Member of Parliament, Foreign Affairs Critic for Bloc Quebecois; Ms. Alexa McDonough, Member of Parliament, Mr. Ron Willson, Representative to the PA; Dr. Riyad Al- Malki; Dr. Azmi Shuaibi; Dr. Mahmoud El Aker; Dr. Rima Hamami  The delegation wanted to explore what Canada's role could be in supporting the peace process in Palestine. They were informed of the importance of 3rd Party intervention and involvement here; that Canada should push for a bigger role perhaps help to re-activate the Quartet.	Feb. 09  2005
8.	Mr. Peter Gooderham, Dr. John Jenkins, Dr. Ashrawi, current political events/ changes were discussed.	

9.	Amb. Kattouf heard about political development in Palestine and introduced AMIDEAST activities in the area.	Feb. 12 2005
10.	M. de Charette wanted to know what help France can offer given the political development. The role of women and women's movements in Palestine; the Wall and Jerusalem were also discussed, and the upcoming PLC elections.	Feb. 15 2005
11.	Baroness Kennedy was touring the area as the new president for MAP- UK. Dr. Ashrawi gave them a political briefing and an interview about the needs of the Palestinian people.	Feb. 16 2005
12.	Dr. Ashrawi gave John Dugard, (the UN Special Rapporteur of the Commission of Human Rights) an overview of the political situation on the ground, especially about Jerusalem, prisoners, the Wall and other Israeli human rights violations, in addition to the up-coming PLC elections.	Feb. 18 2005
13.	Dr. Ashrawi gave an overview of the political challenges facing Palestinian society. The delegation which consists of (Mercy Corps, Nancy Lindborg, Landrum Bolling, Paul Butler.) Introduced some of their activities in the West Bank.	Feb. 19 2005
14.	Ambassador Chinmaya Gharekan, Special Envoy of the Government of India for West Asia and the Middle East Peace Process- Lunch Meeting with Dr. Ashrawi.	Feb. 25 2005
15.	Dr. Ashrawi spoke to group (20- member from Meretz USA) about the Gaza disengagement plan in the context of an overall peace process, the importance of reactivating women's dialogue and involvement in negotiations, new developments in Palestine politics and an overview of Palestinian text book analysis.	Feb. 26 2005
16.	Dr. Ashrawi gave a political briefing to Prime Minister of Sweden Goran Persson. Participants of the briefing were: Mr. Yasser Abed Rabbo, Mr. Jamal Shobaki, Dr. Mustafa Al Barghouti	Mar.14 2005
17.	Dr. Hanan Ashrawi gave a political briefing to Spanish Parliamentarians and discussed recent political developments	Mar. 16 2005
18.	Dr. Ashrawi gave Jim Beaver, Mission Director, USAID; Peter Weibler, Neill Hop an overview of the current political developments on the Palestinian scene. The participants were also were interested in hearing from Dr. Ashrawi what they could do to help in the area of reform and good governance.	Mar. 01 2005

19.	Dr. Ashrawi gave a political briefing to Dr. John Jenkins, Department for International Development (UK). The participants discussed PLC reform plan, basic law, and other issues pertaining to reform and nation building	Mar. 31 2005
19.	A meeting to discuss issues pertaining to the Road Map, especially security and reform, and to discuss the upcoming PLC elections and the need to build a better relationship with the Congress and engage with them. Dr. Ashrawi stressed the importance of acknowledging that the occupation still exists and the need to tackle that in order to achieve a viable peace process.	Mar. 29 2005
20.	Meeting and political briefing: Mr. Rob De Vos, Deputy Director General for International Cooperation – Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Arjan Kraijjo, Advisor to Director General, Ms. Marjolijn Van Deelen, Middle East Division, Mr. Rob Dekker, Netherlands Representative Office – Ramallah,  The meeting touched upon the issue of anti-corruption and reform work being done by the PLC Reform Committee, further work that needs to be done and the kind of support that the Committee would prefer from donor countries.	Mar. 16 2005
21.	Dr. Ashrawi gave a group of German Parliamentarians a political briefing on the elections, the new cabinet formation, and the «peace» process with Israel.	Mar. 03 2005
22.	Dr. Ashrawi and the French Minister for the rights of Victims, Nicole Jeudy, discussed the role of women in elections and the political arena; the challenges women face in Palestinian Society in terms of the occupation and all that entails.	Mar. 29 2005
23.	Dr. Ashrawi met with the German Federal Agency for Civic Education: Mr. Suleiman Abu Dayeh + 25 editors and journalists from Germany and gave a political briefing.	April. 16 2005
24.	Dr. Ozer wanted to introduce himself to Dr. Ashrawi as he was newly appointed to Jerusalem and the PA. He talked about what Turkey would like to be doing to support the Palestinian and heard Dr. Ashrawi's recommendations.	April. 19 2005
25.	Dr. Ashrawi met with CM Partners, to discuss prospective projects with MIFTAH and other organizations.	Apr. 19
26.	At a meeting with US officials, Dr. Ashrawi stressed the need to pressure Israeli to stop expanding settlements and the Wall, and the need for the US to have a larger role and include other third parties within any future negotiations.	Apr. 20 2005
27.	The Palestinian Delegation stressed the need for the return to the roadmap and ending the occupation. Dr. Ashrawi stressed the need for a political process and reassured Mr. Bush the Palestinian people are committed to peace and reforms and justice.	May, 22 2005

28.	Dr. Ashrawi gave the fact finding mission a political briefing, specifically on the upcoming Palestinian elections, the current political situation and the challenges for Mahmoud Abbas, reform issues.	May, 26 2005
29.	The Carter Center wanted to introduce themselves as they've recently opened their offices in the West Bank and Gaza to monitor elections. They also heard from Dr. Ashrawi about the political climate and system in Palestine, national reform, women's role in peacemaking and negotiations.	Jun. 30 2005
30.	Discussion on current political issues in Palestine and the US regarding the disengagement and prospects for the resolution of the conflict post-disengagement.	Jun. 30 2005
31.	Ms. Oslen asked Dr. Ashrawi about several issues, including the Gaza Disengagement plan, the Wall, Refugees, the role of the UN, EU and US in the Peace process.	Jun. 23 2005
32.	A number of Presentations were given to raise awareness on issues pertaining to Jerusalem, especially the Wall, the demolition order in Al Bustan Neighborhood of Silwan, the E1 plan and freedom of movement, elections.	Jun. 07 2005
33.	Dr. Ashrawi gave a group of academics and students a briefing on current political issues, including the Wall, internal difficulties, Israel's policy vis a vis the disengagement.	Jun. 09 2005
34.	Dr. Rice met with a group of Civil Society Representatives from Gaza and the West Bank to discuss issues of concern to this sector, namely the lack of a political process.	Jun. 18 2005
35.	A group heard from Dr. Ashrawi about the Wall, especially around Jerusalem, settlements activity, reforms in the Palestinian political system, U.S. foreign policy vis a vis the Palestinians and divestment.	Jun. 20 2005
36.	Discussion about what can be done, in terms of concrete actions in the US to mobilize people to voice their opinion in support of Palestinian rights and aspirations a on specific issues such as the Wall and Jerusalem.	Jul. 01 2005
37.	Dr. Ashrawi gave a short briefing to Mr. Daniel Davies about current issues in Palestinian politics and listened to Mr. Davies' explanation of some of their projects and activities in the region.	Sep. 24 2005
38.	Dr. Ashrawi gave a political briefing to the Honorable Kim Howells Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (UK); HM Consul General Dr. John Jenkins with the participation of Dr. Ali Jarbawi, Dr. Nabil Qassis, Dr. Mustafa Barghouti.  Dr. Howells listened to Dr. Ashrawi and her guests about current political issues post the Israeli unilateral disengagement from Gaza. Dr. Ashrawi and her guests also spoke about the upcoming elections and what needs to happen on the ground in order to ensure a free and fair elections.	Sep.29 2005

39.	Dr. Hanan Ashrawi and Dr. Nabil Kassis; Mr. Ron Willson, Canadian Representative to the PA and an official Delegation of State Officials in the Canadian Government. Dr. Ashrawi and Dr. Kassis spoke to the group about current political issues worrying the Palestinian public. The delegation also listened to Dr. Ashrawi regarding the upcoming elections and her analysis on Israeli policies.	Sep.29 2005
40.	Dr. Ashrawi gave a political briefing to Mr. Jacob Walles, U.S. Consul General She discussed with Mr. Walles current political developments and future hopes for the upcoming PLC elections	Oct. 10 2005
41.	Dr. Ashrawi met with the new Greek Consul General Mr. Andreas Papastavrou and gave him a brief overview of the political situation in Palestine.	Oct 05 2005
42.	Dr. Ashrawi met with Ms. Hina Jilani, Special Representative to the UN Secretary General on Human Rights Defenders and answered questions about the current human rights situation in Palestine and contributed her analysis of it.	Oct.06 2005
43.	Dr. Ashrawi gave a political briefing to Mr. Lieu Weiman, Representative of China's People's Republic.	Oct. 12 2005
44.	Dr. Ashrawi gave a briefing to Mr. David Welch, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs.	Oct. 19 2005
45.	Dr. Ashrawi met with Dr. Condoleezza Rice at the State Department in Washington DC in order to update her on recent political changes in the region and to discuss the importance of the PLC elections with Jerusalem as an essential component.	Oct. 19 2005
46.	Dr. Ashrawi met with a delegation from the Swedish People's Party and discussed recent political development and the upcoming Palestinian Legislative Council elections.	Nov. 15 2005
47.	Dr. Ashrawi gave a political briefing to Ms. Benita Ferrero-Waldner, European External Relations, and discussed current political issues, especially the upcoming PLC elections. The participants also discussed the International Women's Commission and prospects of her contribution in it.	Nov. 11 2005
48.	Dr. Ashrawi gave a political briefing Mr. Leonhard Moll, Austrian Representative to the PA. Dr. Ashrawi and Mr. Moll discussed current political issues and the upcoming PLC elections.	Nov.11 2005
49.	Dr. Ashrawi gave a political briefing to Mr. Guido Courtois, Consul General of Belgium and Dr. Laurette Onkelinx, Deputy Prime Minister, Belgium. She gave the accompanying delegation an analysis of the current political situation. They later discussed the International Women's Commission, when members of the Palestinian IWC group joined the meeting.	Nov. 12 2005



50.	Dr. Ashrawi met with representatives from the Presbyterian Church (USA) She heard from them and commented on the proposal for the church's work and support of divestment from Israeli products.	Nov.16 2005
51.	Dr. Ashrawi met with Mr. Brendan O'Connor, Federal Member for Gorton, Australia, Mr. Kelvin Thomson MP, Australia; Hon Roger Price, MP Chief Opposition Whip.  Dr. Ashrawi and the visiting Australian Parliamentary delegation discussed current issues in the Palestinian political scene as well as the upcoming PLC elections.	Nov. 19 2005
52.	Dr. Ashrawi met with Dr. Iain Scobie, Ms. Sarah Hibbin, School of Oriental and African Studies, and discussed issues related to human rights in Palestine.	Nov.24 2005
53.	Dr. Ashrawi met with Mr. Thomas Berringer, Konrad Adenaur Institute, and answered some of Mr. Berringer's questions regarding current issues in Palestine and the upcoming PLC elections.	Nov. 29 2005
54.	Dr. Ashrawi met with Mr. Izuru Shimmura and discussed the current political situation and the upcoming PLC elections	Nov.29 2005
55.	Dr. Ashrawi met with Ms. Lucy Mair and Farida Deif, Human Rights Watch, as part of HRW's research on violence against women, specifically violence inside the family (honor crimes, sexual violence, physical violence, etc.) Ms. Mair and Ms. Deif wanted to examine the role of the Palestinian ministries, draft criminal legislation, police and judiciary in addressing this problem.	Dec. 01 2005
56.	Dr. Ashrawi gave a political briefing to Mr. John Dugard, Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in the Palestinian Territories. She spoke with Mr. Dugard about the deteriorating conditions in Palestinian society due to the pressures that Israel continuously imposes on the population. Dr. Ashrawi also shared with him her opinion of the upcoming PLC elections and what needs to be done in order to ensure free and fair elections in the West Bank and Gaza, but especially in Jerusalem.	Dec.03 2005

## Lectures and Seminars (2005)

No.	Description	Date
1.	Dr. Ashrawi gave a lecture to Yale Community. She outlined the basic challenges of the Palestinian society in the post-Arafat Era, under the new leadership of Mahmoud Abbas, the need for reform, and the need for a serious re-activation of third party intervention in the conflict	April 04 2005
2.	Dr. Ashrawi gave a lecture at Sarah Lawrence College, New York. She talked about internal Palestinian conditions, challenges to Mahmoud Abbas, the upcoming Palestinian elections and reform.	April 05 2005
3.	DR. Ashrawi gave a lecture entitled «Beyond Rhetoric: Towards a Palestinian-Israeli Peace» at The Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs – Princeton University, as part of their 2005 Colloquium. She talked about the need to support peace and reform minded persons in the Palestinian community, to cease the «opportunity» that is on offer these days to make a peace deal before it is too late.	April 08 2005
4.	The Palestine Center – Washington DC Purpose of Activity: Lecture Activity Description: Dr. Ashrawi gave a briefing to a full house of invitees at the Palestine Center on the Palestinian political landscape, the changes ahead and the upcoming summit between Mahmoud Abbas and George W. Bush.	April 11 2005
5.	Dr. Ashrawi gave a public lecture “The Global Context and Human Imperative of Peace in the Middle East” at Queen’s University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada.  Purpose of Activity: Public Lecture  She also met with various faculty, namely at dinner hosted by Dr. Patrick Deane, Academic Vice President. She also held 2 seminars for post graduate students.	Oct. 25 2005
6.	Dr. Ashrawi participated in a memorial event held on the occasion of the 1st year anniversary of the passing of Yasser Arafat.	Nov. 14

### Conferences/ Workshops (2005)

No.	Description	Date
1.	Dr. Ashrawi chaired a plenary session for the Gender, Displacement, Memory, and Agency Conference organized by the Ministry of Women's Affairs in collaboration with Al Quds University, the UNDP, York University, Canada. Participants included representative of the Ministry of Women's Affairs; Dr. Islah Jad, Birzeit University; Dr. Mike Perry, York University; Metta Berg, UK; Susan Babbit, Queen's University	March, 05, 2005
2.	Dr. Ashrawi, together with women from Iraq, Afghanistan and other Arab and Islamic countries, Laura Bush, Condoleezza Rice, highlighted the role of women in the recent Iraqi, Afghani and Palestinian Elections at meetings on the occasion of the International's women's day, held at the State Department, Washington DC.	March, 08, 2005
3.	Dr. Ashrawi, together with Mr. Yasser Abed Rabbo, held a press conference in light of a recent land deal between the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate in Jerusalem and a Jewish developer.	March, 17, 2005
4.	Dr. Ashrawi gave an opening speech at the conference held by AMAN Coalition for Accountability and Integrity entitled «No Wasta, Favoritism & Nepotism.	March, 28, 2005
5.	Dr. Ashrawi spoke at the Save Jerusalem Conference held in light of the recent sale of Greek Orthodox church property in Jerusalem	March, 31, 2005

6.	<p>Isam Abdul-Hadi, Yusra Berberi, Nafeesa Al Deek, Zahira Kamal, Salma Khadra Jayyusi, Amneh Abdul-Jaber Al-Rimawi, Hanan Mikhail Ashrawi and Amneh Jibril Sulaiman were nominated for the Project 1000 Women Project for Noble Peace Prize 2005</p> <p>Purpose of Activity: Announce the nominations</p> <p>Activity Description: Project 1000 Women for Noble Peace Prize 2005 aims at searching for 1000 women all over the world to be nominated for the Noble Peace Prize for the year 2005. The idea behind the project is to direct global attention to the vital role those women play in all aspects of life to build and support peace in their societies.</p>	June, 29, 2005
7.	<p>The opening speech at the conference entitled «Political Parties Laws»</p>	Sep. 21, 2005
8.	<p>The Ministry of Information :Conference</p> <p>Activity Description: Dr. Ashrawi spoke to the conference participants about the means and importance of addressing the west, namely the U.S. and Europe.</p>	Sep.24, 2005
9.	<p>Hanan Ashrawi, Zahira Kamal, Maha Abu-Dayyeh Shamas and IWC members</p> <p>Purpose of Activity: Launching of the International Women's Commission</p> <p>Activity Description: Ashrawi, Kamal and Abu Dayyeh Shamas gave a press conference to launch the International Women's Commission in Palestine. The IWC calls for the active participation of women in peacemaking and negotiations as per the UN SC resolution 1325.</p>	Nov. 21, 2005

## Other Activities in 2005

No.	Description	Date
1.	<p>How Palestinian journalists can penetrate the US Press</p> <p>Dr. Ashrawi and Qumsieh spoke to Palestinian journalists about the significance of the humble steps taken in raising awareness in the American media, for example, meeting with editors and editorial boards and challenging their coverage, not only by voicing criticism but by offering information that would help them produce a more balanced story. Palestinian media should also gain better media savvy skills in order to improve their communication to get their point across.</p>	<p>Feb. 26, 2005</p>
2.	<p>Dr. Ashrawi discussed elections outcome with M. Michel Rocard, Chief Observer of the Elections</p>	<p>March, 02, 2005</p>
3.	<p>Dr. Ashrawi gave the keynote speech at the annual PCRf (Palestinian Children Relief Fund) Washington DC Benefit Gala.</p>	<p>Oct. 29, 2005</p>
4.	<p>Dr. Ashrawi and MIFTAH team, Jawwal, and Osama Silwadi launched a book of photographs by Osama Silwadi. She thanked the participants and explained that the book comes as a testament to our resiliency as a people of all walks of life and all ages</p>	<p>Jun. 28, 2005</p>
5.	<p>Dr. Ashrawi was interviewed by John King CNN, White House correspondent, on the recent visit by US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.</p>	<p>Jun. 20. 2005</p>



# Independent Auditors, Report

## To the Board of Trustees

---

### **The Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy (MIFTAH)**

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial position of the Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy (MIFTAH)

as of December 31, 2005, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of MIFTAH's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the

accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy as of December 31, 2005, and the results of its operations, and its cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with International Financial Reporting Standards.

**Ernst & Young**

**Ramallah, Palestine**

**November 1, 2006**



**THE PALESTINIAN INITIATIVE FOR THE PROMOTION OF GLOBAL  
DIALOGUE AND DEMOCRACY (MIFTAH)**

**Statement of Financial Position**

**As of December 31, 2005**

**(Currency: U.S. \$)**

	<b>Notes</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2004</b>
<b>Assets</b>			
Current Assets:			
Cash	4	583,552	441,932
Contributions receivable	5	271,844	292,141
Other current assets		<u>26,079</u>	<u>8,770</u>
Total Current Assets		881,475	742,843
Property and equipment, net	6	<u>33,554</u>	<u>59,039</u>
Total Assets		<u>915,029</u>	<u>801,882</u>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>			
Liabilities:			
Current Liabilities			
Temporary restricted contributions	7	655,743	634,852
Other accounts payable		37,913	23,173
Accrued expenses		<u>23,130</u>	<u>16,907</u>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>716,786</b>	<b>674,932</b>
Deferred revenues	8	26,354	36,002
Provision for severance pay	9	<u>71,345</u>	<u>66,348</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>814,485</b>	<b>777,282</b>
<b>Net Assets:</b>			
Unrestricted net assets		<u>100,544</u>	<u>24,600</u>
Total Net Assets		<u>100,544</u>	<u>24,600</u>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>		<b><u>915,029</u></b>	<b><u>801,882</u></b>

**THE PALESTINIAN INITIATIVE FOR THE PROMOTION OF GLOBAL  
DIALOGUE AND DEMOCRACY (MIFTAH)**

**Statement of Activities**

**For the Year Ended December 31, 2005**

**(Currency: U.S. \$)**

	Notes	2005	2004
<b>Revenues</b>			
Temporarily restricted contributions released from restrictions	10	742,100	690,900
Unrestricted contributions	11	175,000	75,000
Deferred revenues recognized	8	7,695	7,505
Interest revenue		1,055	2,196
Sundry		<u>4,788</u>	<u>7,420</u>
<b>Total revenues</b>		<b><u>930,638</u></b>	<b><u>783,021</u></b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Projects' expenses	12	742,100	690,900
Administration and general	13	<u>112,594</u>	<u>117,128</u>
<b>Total expenses</b>		<b><u>854,694</u></b>	<b><u>808,028</u></b>
Change in net assets		75,944	(25,007)
Net assets, beginning of year		<u>24,600</u>	<u>49,607</u>
<b>Net assets, end of year</b>		<b><u>100,544</u></b>	<b><u>24,600</u></b>

## THE PALESTINIAN INITIATIVE FOR THE PROMOTION OF GLOBAL DIALOGUE AND DEMOCRACY (MIFTAH)

### Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended December 31, 2005 (Currency: U.S. \$)

	2005	2004
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities:</b>		
Change in net assets	75,944	(25,007)
Adjustments:		
Non cash items:		
Depreciation	19,062	25,605
Deferred revenues recognized	(7,695)	(7,505)
Provision for severance pay	4,997	2,310
	<b>92,308</b>	<b>(4,597)</b>
<b>Change in working capital</b>		
Decrease in contributions receivable	41,188	9,951
Increase in other current assets	(17,309)	(4,781)
Accrued expenses	6,223	(21,771)
Other accounts payable	14,740	(5,329)
Deferred revenues	(1,953)	18,926
<b>Net cash flows from (used in) operating activities</b>	<b>135,197</b>	<b>(7,601)</b>
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities:</b>		
Purchase of property and equipment	(10,228)	(18,924)
Exclusion of AMAN's balances (Note 2)	16,651	-
<b>Net cash flows from (used in) investing activities</b>	<b>6,423</b>	<b>(18,924)</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in cash</b>	<b>141,620</b>	<b>(26,525)</b>
Cash, beginning of year	441,932	468,457
<b>Cash, end of year</b>	<b><u>583,552</u></b>	<b><u>441,932</u></b>

**THE PALESTINIAN INITIATIVE FOR THE PROMOTION OF GLOBAL  
DIALOGUE AND DEMOCRACY (MIFTAH)  
Projects' expenses**

Components of Projects' expenses are as follows:

	Institutional Support and Policy Formulation	The Ford Foundation	Empowerment of Women in Peace	Enhancing Accountability in the Public Sector	The Ford Foundation	IRI	UNFPA	UNFPA	Advocacy in Reproductive Health	Training-Gender Based Violence	RAGSNB 1 *	Empowerment of Young Community Leaders	Empowerment of Young Leaders through Media	Media Capacity Building for Young Leaders
	The Ford Foundation	The Ford Foundation	The Ford Foundation	The Ford Foundation	The Ford Foundation	IRI	UNFPA	UNFPA	UNFPA	UNFPA	Kvinnu Till Kvinna	FES	NED	NED
Salaries and related expenses	24,911	8,868	10,599	132,764	20,149	10,502	23,899	1,256	8,117	3,181				
Severance pay	8,185	-	-	-	-	3,375	-	-	640	385				
Experts honoraria and training fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	668	-	-	-				
Office, equipment and hall rental	10,300	-	-	31,563	1,800	-	5,300	1,982	2,160	540				
Workshop expenses	-	-	-	20,088	4,472	-	690	1,982	363	-				
Travel and accommodation	587	12	-	12,226	397	368	472	1,264	363	39				
Information and publications	2,102	450	600	44,230	18,047	3,955	10,324	1,677	12,672	-				
Professional fees	1,200	-	-	1,495	592	405	600	-	400	-				
Training expenses	-	-	-	38,785	251	1,254	1,380	4,355	1,911	-				
Hosting delegations and meetings	667	566	-	7,679	402	36	1,161	1,454	111	364				
Postage, telephone and fax	2,728	-	-	13,817	855	869	1,612	-	732	220				
Information technology expenses	715	-	-	578	273	76	276	-	64	-				
Utilities	2,355	124	-	4,046	758	785	1,365	-	971	413				
Sundry	80	-	-	438	90	130	128	-	19	3				
<b>Total</b>	<b>53,830</b>	<b>10,020</b>	<b>11,199</b>	<b>307,709</b>	<b>48,086</b>	<b>21,755</b>	<b>47,875</b>	<b>11,988</b>	<b>26,249</b>	<b>7,056</b>				

1 \* Kvinna Till Kvinna funded the project named "Raising Awareness to a Gender – Sensitive National Budget (RAGSNB)".

## Projects' expenses - continued

	Monitoring Printing of a Palestinian Photo-Essay		Monitoring Media Coverage during Presidential Elections		Support to MIFTAH's Prospectus for 2006		Mass Media Campaign for the Promotion of Active Citizenship		TOKTEN Palestinian Program Publications		2005 Total	2004 Total
	Monitoring in Palestinian Media	Incitement in Palestinian Media	Media Coverage during Presidential Elections	Media Coverage during Presidential Elections	Support to MIFTAH's Prospectus for 2006	Support to MIFTAH's Prospectus for 2006	Mass Media Campaign for the Promotion of Active Citizenship	Mass Media Campaign for the Promotion of Active Citizenship	TOKTEN Palestinian Program Publications	TOKTEN Palestinian Program Publications		
PALCEL												
Keshev through EC												
IMS												
Norway												
UNDP												
UNDP												
Other Projects												
Salaries and related expenses	489	58,405	4,400	14,746	14,938	18,000	-	-	-	-	355,224	359,638
Severance pay	-	-	-	8,185	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,770	5,818
Experts honoraria and training fees	-	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,350	9,218	20,753
Office, equipment and hall rental	-	-	-	-	1,500	-	-	-	-	-	53,163	38,510
Workshop expenses	-	229	-	-	1,828	-	-	-	-	-	29,289	32,917
Travel and accommodation	-	55	298	1,094	70	-	68	19,124	36,437	55,489	89,944	89,944
Information and publications	10,500	5,118	1,886	57	6,199	-	2,848	-	120,665	-	6,092	7,722
Professional fees	-	-	-	1,200	200	-	-	-	-	-	51,012	22,057
Training expenses	-	-	1,373	-	1,703	-	-	-	-	-	14,545	19,845
Hosting delegations and meetings	455	942	273	-	435	-	-	-	-	-	24,917	21,597
Postage, telephone and fax	-	687	275	887	1,635	-	600	-	-	-	2,032	1,505
Information technology expenses	-	-	-	-	50	-	-	-	-	-	14,114	13,479
Utilities	-	1,371	888	151	787	-	100	-	-	-	4,622	1,626
Sundry	-	3,287	307	2	81	-	57	-	-	-	742,100	690,900
Total	11,444	70,294	9,700	26,322	29,426	18,000	3,673	27,474	742,100	690,900		

2 \* Other projects include the expenses of long-term research and special activities.

## Administration and general

	2005	2004
Salaries and related expenses	77,227	68,874
Severance pay	769	16,370
Depreciation	19,062	25,605
Hosting delegations and meetings	852	44
Postage, telephone and fax	260	-
Information technology expenses	2,754	-
Travel and accommodation	4,244	1,175
Information and publication	1,069	-
Utilities	1,680	5,005
Sundry	4,677	55
	<u>112,594</u>	<u>117,128</u>

# Among

# Miftah's Supporters



- The National Endowment for Democracy ( NED)
- Freidrich Ebert Stiftung ( FES)
- International Republican Institute ( IRI)
- Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs
- Kvinna till Kvinna ( KtK)
- UNFPA
- EU Partnership for Peace
- The Ford Foundation
- United Nations Development Program (UNDP)
- United Nations Population Fund ( UNFPA)
- The Representative Office of Norway
- Consolidated Contractors Company (CCC)
- A.M. Qattan Foundation

