



Arab Thought Forum

Annual Report

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ATF MISSION

Palestinian civil society is a fundamental requirement of statehood, and that Palestinian people need to play their role as active participants in the democratic process and state building ATF is committed to the belief that state structures must be developed to serve and be responsive to an active and critical public, which is conscious of its obligations and duties, as well as its rights and entitlements.

ATF BACKGROUND

The Arab Thought Forum (ATF), also recognized under the Arabic name Al Multaqa, was established in Jerusalem in 1977 as an independent Palestinian institution. It is a democratic, open forum for Palestinian decision makers, public opinion leaders and citizens at large, and has no affiliation to any government, political party or organization. The strength of the Arab Thought Forum lies in its political independence, which allows it to freely engage in a broad range of subjects related to the Palestinian cause. As one of the leading Palestinian organizations specializing in socio-economic development, ATF has served for two decades as an important platform for the presentation of development strategies of Palestinian nation building. Initially focused on scientific studies and research, ATF has expanded to actively identify critical issues for analysis, and public debate, and has selectively initiated important pilot and long term projects in order to influence and contribute to the development of the Palestinian people.

Under its founding mandate, the ATF has succeeded to play a major role in influencing and shaping the thinking of policy makers. The ATF has opened and maintained strong lines of communication with the Palestinian National Authority and Palestinian intellectuals, as well as citizens in all geographical locations throughout the West Bank and Gaza. Through these relationships, the ATF has been able to contribute to debates on the new Palestinian Authority Constitution and draft laws, and has demonstrated the capability to quickly respond to the challenges of critical issues requiring public discussion, assessment and well-considered policy recommendations. Following the signing of the Oslo Agreement between the Palestinian Liberation Organization and the Israeli Government in 1993, the Palestinians were placed at the threshold of realizing their struggle for freedom, independence and prosperity. Recognizing the importance of sound economic and democratic formation and development, the ATF began in 1994 to work on redefining its strategies and philosophy to correspond with these changes in Palestinian society.

QUICQ OUTLOOK

This Annual Report for the Arab Thought Forum covers the period from January 1-December 31, 2007. The period included significant developments concerning Palestinian society. The ATF concentrated on developing its awareness activities rendered to target groups ranging from the top leadership to the simple citizen in areas of concern to everyone. The ATF also worked to connect conceptual issues to tangible and operational processes when appropriate choices allowed.

The tense relationship between Fateh and Hamas continues to have a negative effect on the ground encompassing all levels of daily life in Palestine especially when the two parts of the country are separated and almost on complete halt each one with its own government. With ignorance to any constitutional reference and freezing of democratic means of governance, it is true that external assistance has been resumed and employees are starting to have their salary back, however instability is the dominant factor.

As for implementing ATF interventions, the fact that the PLC was not functioning, and government institutions are not stable, effect smooth work and in some cases delayed the anticipated progress. This mainly had an effect at the impact level as the planned interventions required the involvement of such institutions. Efforts have been made in all cases to include representatives of these institutions to assure certain links so that cooperation processes may resume at the appropriate time.

The ATF contribution covered an important range of issues related to good governance, reform and human rights issues, the subjects include: the Israeli policies in Jerusalem, transparency at both public and local government level, awareness-raising publications on the status of democratic formation in Palestine, and the 1948 narrative project. The civil society participation component of the program included important public debates and round table meetings that discussed issues of concern.

At the institution level, progress has continued on website development and the resources centre, in both cases increasing numbers of visitors led the ATF to start a new initiative to serve the students by establishing an electronic unit to provide students with access to web services. Both the Israeli ministry of interior, intelligence and the Israeli municipality of Jerusalem, the income tax department have imposed hardship on ATF to what could be explained as a means of pressure aiming at forcing ATF to move its offices out of Jerusalem, with the assistance of a specialized lawyer and other auditors it was possible to prevent the implementation of this increase at least temporarily which in itself consider a proof of the negative intention of the other side, however valuable time, efforts and cost were consumed in the defence process.

In total 83 program activities have been conducted with a total participation of 1265 participants including 366 females, ten publications have been issued in addition to 10 analysis papers and different reports, additionally; ATF staff participated in more than 80 different event including some training courses, the local media covered the ATF activities widely, more than 30 times has been detected.

The outputs of ATF interventions include documents like the “Declaration on good governance” which opens up the possibility of activation of the law on fraud law together with the proposed “Authority of combating Fraud”. The low ranking of Palestine on the Global Corruption Index issued by Transparency International (TI) was examined, Israeli policies in Jerusalem documented in two main publication in addition to simple guidelines to help citizens of Jerusalem, a Code of Conduct for local government councils, a complaint system for local and public institutions were developed, a new project was approved to establish and upgrade centers to teach blind students on computer applications, a draft of historical narrative texts and maps related to the events led to 1948 Nakbeh aiming at producing an objective Atlas of 1948 war in Palestine for the benefits of the new generation. In addition to create awareness and develop the planning process for

the major effort concerning the declaration of Jerusalem as the Arab cultural capital for 2009.

The “MU”ASSASAT” support although was essential and timely to enable the ATF to continue its initiatives for serving the Palestinian society, the unexpected negative development that led to holt its activity had made negative effect on the level and timely implementation to some activities. From their side, the donor countries start patiently and carefully a process to overcome the negative impact of this situation, and by the end of the year the donors countries were successful in meeting all commitments, however the pledged amount and the mechanism it self, would naturally require more lengthy process.

ATF MANAGMENT

ATF is committed to democracy and a democratic society. For ATF, democracy begins at home. It possesses built-in democratic structures at all levels of the organization. The policy guidelines of the organizations are set by the Board of Trustees, which is composed of 25 to 40 intellectuals. The Board of Trustees consists of the chairman, deputy chairman, and reporter. A Monitoring Committee is formed form the Board of Trustees to follow-up on the administrative and financial affairs of the organization.

The Board of Trustees elects the Board of Directors, which consists of seven members serving in the following posts: head, two deputies, secretary, treasurer and members without portfolio. The Board of Trustees elects all posts for a two-year period.

The ATF director supervises the overall activities of the organization. There are 10 full time staff employed by the ATF, in addition to several consultants, volunteers and trainees. The ATF maintains and operates two offices, one in Jerusalem and a second in Ar-Ram, south of Ramallah. The locations of these two offices, which also serve as centers for ATF work, meetings and activities, are strategically important especially at this time of irregular travel disruptions and restrictions.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Several systems are used to monitor and evaluate the activities of the ATF. In addition to a Monitoring Committee, a separate computerized evaluation system tracts and analyzes all activities and indicators, and measures their performance and impact. The ATF also maintains a computerized accounting and financial reporting system, in addition to a baseline data system to assist in carrying out regular periodic reporting.

Over the last 29 years, the ATF has maintained a disciplined tradition of conducting annual meetings for the Board of Trustees, monthly meetings of the Executive Committee and weekly staff meetings, in addition to special meetings for ad hoc committees and identified task and interest areas. Finally, all funded activities are monitored jointly with the respective donor organization, through both periodic reporting and evaluation sessions.

Financial Management and Accountability

ATF possesses the experience and management skills to financially administer its projects. ATF’s computerized accounting system produces the required financial reports. In addition, ATF accounts are audited annually by Ernst and Young International.

Programs and Activities

ATF interventions covered several issues either on targeted issues or as a result of the civil society participation component or through the research and publication component. The following narrative clarifies these interventions:

Civil Society Participation

This program aims to enhance and develop democratic awareness and practice in Palestinian society by providing forums for dialogue and discussion between and among citizens and decision-makers from all levels of society. To meet this objective, the Arab Thought Forum promotes and facilitates three different styles of meeting formats, incorporating participation of the general public, intellectuals, local and national government officials and leaders of civil society organizations and institutions. The three styles include:

Public Debates

Public Debates provide a platform to address and discuss issues of special importance to Palestinian civil society. Presenters include officials and leaders from governmental and non-governmental organizations, institutions and concerned individuals who are involved in the focus topic of the meeting. These debates are designed to attract an active audience who are encouraged to raise questions, present their thoughts and contribute to developing recommendations.

Public Debates focus on special issues of concern to Palestinian society and call on relevant experts as well as responsible officials to present and discuss their views, provide information and respond to questions before public audiences. Recommendations emanating from the discussions at the Public Debates are disseminated to concerned parties. In addition, as part of the follow-up, issues of the Public Debates often become subjects for further research by the Arab Thought Forum.

Following is a summary of the Public Debates conducted in the year 2007:

In 2007, the Arab Thought Forum organized 4 public debates to address the most concerning social issues. A total of 60 citizens, including 22 women, turned out for these sessions.

1. Jerusalem the Arab Cultural Capital of 2009

Output:

Awareness raised on the Arab League resolution to declare Jerusalem as the Arab Cultural Capital for 2009. Furthermore, the scope of this event and the necessary preparation for the associated activities has been explored. Follow-up Committee headed by the ATF was formed to establish the necessary contacts. 50 page document concluded by ATF outlining the planning strategy.

Indicators: Document was drafted and discussed through a participatory mechanism. Two debates and three meetings were conducted.

Outcome:

More than 120 personalities participated in the events representing many public and civil society institutions including the religious and political entities. It was agreed that the event is of high importance and that it needs very careful preparation and full participation of all concerned parties.

The ATF document has been discussed by the president office, the PLO Executive Committee, the Palestinian Cabinet and the Ministry of Culture. Mr. President, Mahmoud Abbas issued a presidential decree establishing the National Committee to prepare for the festival of Jerusalem as the Capital of Arab Culture 2009.

The committee is headed by Palestinian poet Mahmoud Darwish, and its membership includes political, cultural, media, social and academic figures.

The committee would have the capacity for preparation, management and supervision of the festival, and communication with the various Arab and international bodies aimed at mobilizing the necessary support for the celebrations, in addition to coordinating with all committees, to be formed in the neighboring Arab countries to prepare for the celebrations.

The ATF was informed that the President office allocated 250.000\$ for the preparation effort, the Welfare association informed the ATF on its willingness to support the preparation effort with 50.000\$

Impact:

The Palestinian public institutions become aware of the upcoming opportunity and of the need to plan ahead to assure successful implementation, decisions are expected for formulating the proper structure necessary to plan and supervise the implementation of programs and activities. The events will provide valuable opportunity to the Palestinian people in general and to the citizens of Jerusalem in particular to express and emphasize their identity, culture and rights in the occupied city. ATF follow up is on hold currently until the issuance of presidential decree on the subject.

2. Supporting Jerusalem's institutions

Out puts:

Obstacles facing the civil institutions in Jerusalem as related to closure, taxes, support and the economic crisis discussed in 2 roundtable meetings.

Indicators: Tow meetings conducted and institutional issues discussed through a participatory mechanism.

Outcome:

The need for more cooperation among Jerusalem institutions was highly recommended as mean for empowering the civil society and its institutions. The event in which 20 Jerusalem based institutions participated was organized with the cooperation of the

Development Studies Center (Beir Zeit University) and The Civic Coalition for Defending the Palestinians' Rights in Jerusalem.¹

Impact:

The event represented an additional call for considering Jerusalem civil society institutions and the need to support, enable and increase their contribution to serve the citizens of Jerusalem in the lack of the public institutions.

3. Crisis Facing the Palestinians in Iraq

Output:

National and civil society institutions in Jerusalem discussed the hardship facing Palestinians in Iraq in which more than 650 Palestinian lost their life on the streets of Baghdad.

Indicators: Work shop conducted with the participation of key figures in Jerusalem, A Plea signed.

Outcome:

A Plea signed by religious, national and nongovernmental institutions and different active parties in Jerusalem has been issued and published in the daily newspapers calling to stop Palestinian bloodshed in Iraq resulting from acts of violence which is escalating day after day threatening the safety of tens of thousands of innocent citizens including Palestinian refugees staying in Iraq.

Impact:

Plea from Jerusalem is a contribution to the to the world's conscience and international and humanitarian organizations efforts of raising voices and interference in the action towards providing protection to Palestinian refugees in Iraq and to exert more efforts to put an end to bloodshed in Iraq and to provide a safe heaven to Palestinians whose lives are at a great risk.

4. The Deteriorating Relation between Fateh and Hamas

Output:

Citizens and representatives of political parties and civil society organizations gathered to protest against the current violence that taking place between Hamas and Fateh. The Protestants gathered first in front of the presidential headquarter in Rammallah, were a statement has been announced and distributed condemning those involved; the demonstrators then walk toward the cabinet offices with the same message.

Indicators: Community representatives discussed the crises, issued statement and organized demonstration in Rammallah.

Outcome:

The act came as a follow up to the public debate organized by the Arab Thought Forum on the deteriorating relation between Fateh and Hamas held on January the 3ed, the working

¹ Among the speakers were; Azzam Abu al-Saoud, Rana Nashashibi and Emad al-Jauni, the meeting was moderated by Abdel Rahman Abu Arafah.

group established during the public debate met on February 2, 2007, it was agreed to issue a statement on the issue and to organize two demonstration to protest against the violence one in front of the presidential compound and the other on front of the cabinet offices in Ramallah. The group formed of religious, national and nongovernmental institutions met again on February 6 to review the final preparations.

Impact:

The continuous deteriorating of the internal Palestinian security emerging from the confrontation between Fatah and Hamas is raising angers among the silent majority of the Palestinian citizens, voices of the silent majority has to be raised to create the necessary affects on the those causing the tragedy. As demonstrated when opinions expressed during public meetings, a state of frustration and despair looms amongst Palestinians who continue to be the victims of the deteriorating conditions with the additional deepening of the economic crises.

40th anniversary of the Israeli occupation

On the 40th anniversary of the Israeli occupation of 1967, civil society organizations organized several events to remember this sad occasion. Among the events, three were organized by the Civic Coalition for Defending the Palestinians' Rights in Jerusalem, including one in Jerusalem on June 5th, it was prohibited by the Israeli police.²

Activist Meetings- Round Table Discussion

The Activist Meetings encourage pluralism in the Palestinian political system. For the past nine years, the Arab Thought Forum has brought key leaders of Palestinian political parties to participate in a round table discussion. Activist Meetings or the Round Table Discussions invite participants with specific interest and/or experience in a prioritized topic and facilitates in-depth discussions, the sharing of ideas and information, and the development of pertinent recommendations. As a result of these meetings, position papers are developed and published in the ATF journal to reach a wider audience.

Each Activist Meeting is dedicated to a current issue of concern about which the participants express their respective points of view and experience, and then contribute to a group discussion on the topic. Position papers that are formulated as a result of these meetings are often published in the Arab Thought Forum journal for dissemination to a wider audience. 118 people participated, including 54 women.

Following are the political issues that were addressed:

² The speakers were supposed to be Abdel Rahman Abu Arafah, Ekremeh Sabri, Attalah Hana and Abdel Latif Gaith. The second event took place in Ramallah, speakers included; Mustafa Barghouthi, Hasan Khreisheh, Sheikh Tayser Tamimi, Amir Makhoul, Naser Rayes, Muhammad Dahle, Azzam Abu Saud, Hania Betar, Suha Barghouthi The third Event took place in Um Alfahem on June 13th, the speakers included; Housein Abu Housein, Abdel Rahman Abu Arafah, Khalil Tufakji, Rana Nashashibi, Nizar Ayoub, Sheikh Raed Salah, Amir Makhoul, Jamal Zahalka, Muhammad Barke, Ibrahim Sarsour.

1. Arab peace initiative in the balance

Output:

The Arab Peace Initiative has been under discussion and evaluation by a group of Palestinian activists in a public debates organized.³

Indicators: Public debate with the participation of political and community leaders conducted.

Outcome:

The strategic situation in the Middle East which resulted in developing the Arab Peace Initiative, and the functions that the initiative serve which include the unification of the Arab position within the frame work of the minimum rights, in addition to influencing the public opinion by a balance initiative were the main conclusion.

Impact:

The event is a modest contribution in increasing public awareness on this initiative for its important effect the future of millions of Palestinians both refugees and non refugees. Analysis paper produced and disseminated through the ATF Journal and website.

2. Call for mutual understanding between Fateh and Hamas

Output:

Leaders of several Palestinian parties and the Palestinian community call for immediate understanding between Hamas and Fateh. The call came in round table meeting to discuss the Palestinian conflict based on ethical standards.

Indicators: Leaders from most Palestinian Parties discussed the internal crises in a public debate.⁴

Outcome:

Critique of the Palestinian performance during the last ten months is of vital importance in order to assist in exploring means to bring about escape from the current crisis. The current situation is a result of many mistakes made by the main parties and elements of the intentional community. Views expressed call for acceptable solution based on acknowledging the PLO as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and forming a government of national unity as the only mean to overcome the international siege.

Impact:

³ Hani al-Hassan, member of Fateh Central Committee and Qais Abdel kareem member of the DFLP political bureau were the main discussants in the debate which was participated by a group of Palestinian political activists.

⁴ Attended including Hassan Khrisheh the deputy speaker of Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC). Azzam Al Ahmad head of the Fateh group in the PLC, Wasfi Kabaha Minister of HAMAS government, Khalida Jarrar PLC member represents the PFLP and Qais Abdel Kareem, PLC member representing the DFLP.

The event is a modest contribution in increasing public awareness on this initiative for its important effect the future of millions of Palestinians both refugees and non refugees. Analysis paper produced and disseminated through the ATF Journal and website.

3. The Autumn Conference

Output: Leaders of several Palestinian parties and the Palestinian community provide in depth analysis to the extremely pertinent and specific questions posed, upon which a standpoint can be accordingly built. the reaction of the official Palestinian leadership's reaction to this analysis.⁵

Indicators: Important analysis paper produced by the participated political leader produced and includes recommendations for the considerations of the decision makers.

Outcome:

Views expressed were forwarded to the PLO, government and those involved with the negotiation. Analysis paper produced and disseminated through the ATF Journal and website.

Impact:

The event is a modest contribution in increasing public awareness on the anticipated conference for its important effect on the future of Palestinians people.

Good Governance

1. Constitutional Factors

Output: Main constitutional factors on the basic law and on the election law are associated with certain weaknesses that contribute to the political unrest and increasing tension between parties have been specified and incorporated in a special document; the document has been distributed to the concerned parties. Awareness exists among the political parties and other interested persons and institutions of the importance of introducing constitutional changes.

Indicators: *Two debates and three meetings were conducted with representatives of main political parties to discuss the document have been conducted. Document was drafted and discussed through a participatory mechanism.*

Outcome:

A document titled “Declaration on good governance” has been developed. The original document of 10 points has been discussed unilaterally with representatives of some

⁵ interventions held on 1/10/2007 in Ramallah were presented by: Mr. Qais Abdul Karim, Mr. Azzam al-Ahmad, and Mr. Hani al-Masri. The meeting was also attended by a number of qualified analysts and individuals interested in the political situation, representing all hues of Palestinian society and including politicians, civil society activists, and representatives of the private sector including:- Dr. Hanan ‘Ashrawi, Dr. Ahmad Subuh, Dr. Hasan Abu Libdeh, Mr. Muhammad Masrouji, Dr. Samir Huleileh, Dr. Muhammad Qirresh, Dr. Ahmad Majdalani, Mr. Mahmoud Abu elRub, Mr. Ziad Abu Zayyad, Ms. Janet Mikhail, Mrs. Amal Khreishe and others. The discussion was moderated by Mr. Abdul Rahman Abu ‘Arafah and the minutes of the meeting were prepared and edited by Mr. Naser Omar Yacoub.

political parties and with representatives of all parties in two round tables; the input of the parties has been incorporated in the document which became a 12 point document. In the second meeting the 12 points were reclassified to three categories; a) constitutional elements b) awareness elements and c) PLO matters. It is anticipated that the document will form a good base for constitutional reform when the PLC start to act normally.⁶

Impact:

Although ATF was able to have written feed back on the document by key officials of the main parties and further develop the document with more elaboration based on the nature of its use, it was not possible to go further to the point of adaptation and processing because of the attributed problem of the unstable political situation including the fact that the PLC it self was and still is unable to function. Nevertheless, the document will be there when the situation allows.

2. The non active law on Fraud

Output:

The Financial and Administrative Control Bureau (FACB), the president of the PNA and other interested entities are aware of the need to activate and respond to the fact that the law on fraud needs to be activated together with the proposed “Authority to combat Fraud”.

Indicators: A meeting was conducted with the head of the Financial and Administrative Control Bureau (FACB), followed by a workshop with the participation of representatives of interested parties including PLC members, auditors, relevant governmental institutions and the Bar association. Another to meetings were conducted with the legal advisor of the PNA President indicate that the process of activation most likely will start only after solving the internal political situation.

In the working group meetings, it was agreed on the following

1. Specifying the exact point to be raised on the official meeting.
2. Conclude comparison analysis between the two laws; (FACB) and fraud laws.
3. The necessary public awareness.

Smaller groups were formed to prepare for the follow-up.

Outcome:

As the “Law of fraud” and the decree on establishing the “Authority of combating fraud” has not yet materialized, they become under discussion by influential figures and community leaders in addition to media coverage including a broadcast interview with the working group coordinator. Feed-back from the president of the PNA will be requested. A working group has been formed by the participants of a workshop on the law and fraud Commission (IIC). Both the (FACB) and the (IIC) would have clear and effective role.⁷

⁶ Parties representatives provided feedback individually includes; Qais Abdel Karim, Khalida Jarar, Hanan Ashrawi. Representatives of other parties provide feed back in the meeting includes Azam Al Ahmad and Wasfi Qabha.

⁷ Members of the working group includes: PLC members Qais Abdel Karim and Hasan Khrisheh, Muhammad Abu Al-Rub the head of the "Office of Financial Supervision and Management", Muhammad Hassoneh head of the Palestinian auditors association and Shaher Arouri from the Palestinian PAR Association, in addition to Abdel Rahman Abu Arafah the ATF director.

Impact:

Both the (FACB) and the (IIC) would have the possibility to function more properly to handle reform and combat corruption in the public sphere and the community institutions using public resources. Ways of how to activate these entities will be further explored by the working group.

3. The low ranking of Palestine on the Global Corruption Index**Output:**

The low ranking of Palestine on the Global Corruption Index issued by Transparency International (TI) were examined, it was assessed that the low ranking is not justified objectively and also based in comparison to other similar states.

Indicators: Public debate on the subject conducted with the participation of experts. The local media has covered the subject.

Outcome:

Transparency International was asked to temporarily remove Palestine from the index till new evaluation process is in place. A working group of experts is under formation to establish and develop suitable indicators for Palestine to be used as assessment tools for the perception of corruption in Palestinian society.

The concept of the Palestinian Corruption index has been explored and a recommendation has already been made to develop this index together with the proper mechanisms.⁸

Impact:

The possibility of developing a Palestinian Corruption Index would help evaluate the level of corruption as a means to accurately eliminate it. Additionally, ways for regional support through consultation with interested groups in some Arab countries will be explored. This process would lead to the drafting of a proper index including more fair indicators to which TI would make possible adaptations to be used on the Corruption Perception Index.

4. Code of Conduct for members of local government councils**Output:**

A Code of Conduct has been developed for members of local government councils and top management. A complaints system has been identified to be used by the Palestinian local councils in which citizens would have secured channels to present their claims on the performance of their council.

Indicators: Several Workshops and meetings organized in cooperation with AMAN coalition and (Association of Palestinian Local Authorities) APLA.

Outcome:

⁸ In cooperation with AMAN Coalition, the ATF will form a group of 5 experts in the field including representation from the Financial and Administrative Supervision Department, the Central Statistics Bureau and representatives of civil society. The group will conduct a scientific research to identify the reasons behind the low ranking of Palestine on the World Corruption Perception Index. At a later stage it will present a draft of indicators and their method of measurement will be based on Palestinian priorities. The draft will be submitted for discussion and analysis. The individuals invited to attend the workshop to amend the index, are those directly involved with the topic discussed.

Awareness created among local councils on the articles of the code of conducts, and the need to have a functioning complaints system

The Code of Conduct signed by more than 100 councils and a wide number of members and officials.

Impact:

Potential for more accountable and transparent Local Government was created based on increased awareness among local government officials on principles of good governance, although there are no assurances that the code's articles will be respected by all concerned people, the fact that the code already exists and is signed will certainly contribute to the transparency and accountability of the local government institutions, a process that started but never ended. The same with the complaints system, it will require time to be functioning in a more systematic way.

5. Model Complaint System for the Public Sector

Output:

Model complaint system for the public sector developed with direct cooperation with the complaints department at the Ministerial councils.

Indicators: Five training sessions divided between the West Bank and Gaza Strip held to train officials on the use of the system. The sessions were implemented by the Arab Thought Forum with the cooperation of the Coalition for integrity and accountability - AMAN

Outcome:

Officials in ministries are aware and trained on how to functioning complaints system in their institutions

Impact:

Potential for more accountable and transparent Government was created based on increased awareness among government officials on principles of the complaints system, although there are no assurances that the complaints system will be respected by all concerned people, it will require time to be functioning in a more systematic way the fact that the system already exists will certainly contribute to the transparency and accountability of the government institutions, a process that started but never ended.

Human Rights

1. Israeli policies in Jerusalem

Output:

Awareness and promote opposition against the Israeli plans of destroying Palestinian homes in East Jerusalem -particularly in Silwan- under the "Article 212" of the Israeli "Planning and Building Law".

a. The Israeli policies in Jerusalem are documented to be used in lobbying against Israeli violations. Two reports about Jerusalemite displacement have been issued in cooperation with of the Civic Coalition for Defending the Palestinians' Rights in Jerusalem.

b. Citizens Guidelines were produced to help Jerusalem citizens avoid the Israeli measures used against them.

c. A paper written by expert was produced to serve as a base for discussion in consultation meetings and workshop regarding article 212 of the Israeli planning law and its negative affects on the citizens of Jerusalem particularly the Silwan area.

Indicators:

Tow publications, guidelines and research paper issued. 7 consultation meetings conducted with lawyer and laws experts to explore means to confront this article. Form a local lobby to advocate against this article and to stand against actions used in accordance with this article. Initiate a process to generate international interest of the threat of this article with the aim of forming international solidarity with the Palestinian threaten by this article.

Outcome:

- Awareness increased among citizens of Jerusalem on Israeli practices based on informative reports that would be used in lobbying against Israeli violations.
- The produced Citizens Guidelines is available to citizens of Jerusalem to assist them reduce the effect and avoid the Israeli racist measures.
- Study on the effect of article 212 is available to be used in consultation meetings and workshop.

Impact:

Citizens of Jerusalem subject to the Israeli harassment policy are more able to confront the measures used against them with the assistance of material provided and involvement of lawyers and experts, legal advocacy would be developed using the produced reports for wider effects.

2. Computer Literacy for Blind University Students

In cooperation with the Welfare Association and Al Quds Open University, this project aims to establish two specialized computer centers for blind university students in Palestine, providing services previously unavailable in the West Bank. This expansion of services to blind students will enable them to expand their career prospects, benefit from computer and technological advancements, and more fully develop their potential. Initially, twenty visually impaired persons will take part in training at the centers in Jenin and Hebron. It is hoped that the centers will be enlarged and expanded over time in order to serve a greater number of clients.

The project were lunched in mid 2004 and completed in July 2005, the current report covers accomplishment during 2005. Recently upgrading for the two centers and a new center will be established in Ramallah.

This project is considered an advanced practical step for the Arab Thought Forum in serving those with special needs, following several initiatives within a theoretical framework which the ATF had already undertaken in their interest.

ATF was awarded an insignia from Al Quds Open University in appreciation for its endeavors in this regard.

Output:

Tens of students and other beneficiaries from the local community benefit from these centers. Professor ‘Amer expressed his aspiration for the consolidation of this cooperation and partnership in future projects. support educational institutions and commending previous cooperation, which had resulted in the establishment of two computer labs for the blind, one in Jenin and another in Hebron.

Indicators:

A Memorandum of Understanding for cooperation between al-Quds Open University and the Arab Thought Forum was signed at al-Quds Open University premises on the 26th of September 2007 to establish a computer lab for the blind at the al-Quds Open University, Ramallah Educational Center. The project will be funded by the Welfare Association.⁹

Outcome:

The establishment of a new center for blind students in Ramallah expansion of their services through offering courses and training which targets the blind within the local community and not only university students.

Impact:

opened wide prospects for the blind to advance their studies and has provided them with the opportunity to gain awareness and knowledge.

3. Conflict Resolution Project

The Arab Thought Forum’s participation in this project is in response to an offer from an institution in Salzburg, Austria to collaborate with its special conflict resolution project, which aims to contribute to finding solutions to international conflicts. The project is a form of dialogue about history, and it takes place between two working groups – Palestinian and Israeli – each composed of 10 to 15 intellectuals. The initiative is playing a pioneering role in having an objective, academic and historical dialogue on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, and is not a repetition or imitation of previous initiatives.

Output:

A draft was issued for part of the historical narrative texts and especially designed maps related to the events that led to 1948 Nakbeh aiming at producing an objective Atlas of 1948 war in Palestine in addition to narratives related to the associated issues of the Palestinian refugees and the holy sites.

Indicators: Number of texts and maps is drafted and discussed through participatory mechanism.

Outcome:

- 40 out of 80 proposed maps for the Atlas of the 1948 war in Palestine were drafted with the associated narratives.
- The draft narratives for the holy places and refugees were evaluated during a meeting in Salzburg. Critique editing is anticipated by experts to assure accuracy and acceptance to the public.

⁹ The Memorandum was signed by the President of al-Quds Open University, Yunis ‘Amer and Director of the Arab Thought Forum Abdel Rahman Abu Arafah.

Impact:

The results of the 1948 war including the suffering of the Palestinian refugees and the racist practices of the Israeli measures will be carefully analyzed and illustrated objectively by joint Palestinian and Israeli groups with the assistance of international experts.

Claims by Palestinians on their properties and rights in Palestine will be carefully documented for further use.

Capacity building and Outreach

1. Publications and Research

In 2007, ATF completed ten main publications, in addition to its smaller publications, such as analytical reports and quarterly and monthly reports on democratic formation in Palestine.

Democratic Formation in Palestine

This initiative has been an ongoing project since 1998 and has produced six consecutive reports culminating in the 2007 edition under the title of “The Annual Report on Democratic Formation in Palestine,” that covered the time period from January 1 through December 31, 2007. This is the only program that provides an independent comprehensive report and analysis of actions and activities influencing the state of governance and democracy in Palestine.

The overall objective of this project is to detect major trends reinforcing or weakening the process of democratic formation in Palestine through monitoring and analyzing the performance of public and civil society institutions, developing conclusions and recommendations and disseminating the outcome in a comprehensive annual report on the state of governance and democracy in Palestine.

The project targets all groups, governmental and non-governmental, that contribute to bringing about any changes to democratic development in Palestine. Monitors and evaluates the actions and activities of these groups. Provides a framework that highlights and assesses the effect and influence of these groups on governance and democracy.

Analyzes activities, identifies trends, pinpoints strengths and weaknesses and develops conclusions and recommendations, and provides a wide range of specific and quantitative information included in various tables and annexes to the report. Raises awareness through publishing and disseminating Periodic Reports and the Annual Report and conducting meetings to present and review the findings. Offers a credible source of information to decision-makers, researchers and organizations and individuals involved in governance, democracy and reform in Palestine and contributes to the historical record of the Palestinian people.

The Arab Thought Forum’s Annual Report on Democratic Formation in Palestine is recognized as an important monitoring tool and record of state building in Palestine, and is

considered a credible resource for Palestinian researchers, decision-makers and advocates for social change and reform.

The ninth Annual Report on Democratic Transformation was published in both Arabic and English, but it was difficult to hold the general discussion meeting due to closures within the territories at the time of publishing. This report has received a lot of attention and appreciation from public, national and journalistic sides; it is worth noting that the report's analysis and conclusions were especially relevant and essential in light of the reform process which started in the middle of 2002. The Arab Thought Forum's reports determined precisely which reforms were most critical and proposed ways to undertake them even before the issue of reform became a top national priority.

Output:

The 9th issue of the annual report on the Democratic Formation in Palestine is issued.

Indicators: Members of the Arab Thought Forums Board of Trustees held a special session to discuss the contents of the ninth annual report on Democratic Formation in Palestine compiled by a team of the ATF.

Outcome:

Careful analysis and assessment on the status of the democratic development in Palestine are provided through an annual report covering main factors affecting the democratic process. A public meeting will be conducted shortly with the participation of community and political leaders to discuss the report's findings and obtain feed back and comments that will help in improving the next issue and at the same time create awareness of the findings. Local daily newspapers covered the contents.

Impact:

The process constitutes a form of public awareness on the shortcomings of the Palestinian democratic process and causes of the weaknesses, the effects of the strengths and steps required to improve development. Additionally, a continuous accurate report on the status of democracy will benefit and provide lessons for the coming generation.

Development Affairs Journal "Shuun Tanmawiyeh"¹⁰

Through the ATF's Civil Society Participation Project, one edition of the ATF Development Affairs Journal, "Shu'un Tanmawiyeh," were published in the year 2007. The Journal is printed in Arabic with an accompanying English Translation, and includes original articles, position papers, special reports and copies of pertinent documents. Copies of each edition are published and disseminated to government and non-governmental bodies, institutions, organizations and concerned individuals. A reserve of a limited number of copies are available through the ATF Resource Center for researchers and interested parties.

One issue of *Shu'un Tanmawiyeh*, the quarterly Journal of ATF, has been published during the year 2007.

Output:

¹⁰For a content list of previous issues, see our website.

In depth analysis of relevant issues concerning democracy, human rights, governance and needs of the Palestinian society is provided through compiling the 33rd issue of the journal- *Shu'un Tanmawiyyeh*. Issues covered includes; Elections under Occupation: A Framework for Analysis, Formulation the National Food Security Strategy, Direction of the Palestinian Compass in the Midst of Historical Transformations, Human Rights violation in Jerusalem, Statistical role in development planning in Jerusalem and Evaluating the Financial Performance of the Tenth Government.

Indicator: The journal has been issued and disseminated to local and international interested individuals and institutions.

Outcome:

The editorial committee evaluated and edited the contents of Journal *Shu'un Tanmawiyyeh*, No. 33.

Impact:

The journal forms a part of a continuous record and analysis and a form of public awareness on issues of concern to the Palestinian public.

Resource Center and Library

ATF continued its efforts to develop its Resource Center and Library by investing in new collections of books relevant to the nature of its programs and activities, and by taking inventory of existing collections and classifying them according to subject. The majority of books were electronically indexed to facilitate research and use of the center. The library now holds 3,800 books, 1,300 documents, 150 video tapes, and hundreds of pictures and maps.

The process of developing ATF's Resource Center continued throughout the reporting period. An electronic database has been established to organize and classify the Center's contents. This will not only facilitate better documentation and safekeeping, but will also help researchers and beneficiaries to better use the facility. Work has been underway to link this database with ATF's web site to facilitate electronic access to users.

Additionally, the process of developing ATF's web site has continued throughout the reporting period. The site has been announced on various search engines. We welcome your feedback. The site's address is www.multaqa.org. In addition, newspapers are received on a daily basis and available to readers and researchers. Acquisitions, particularly those that fit the nature of ATF projects and interests, are regularly added to the library through a computerized classification system that makes the collection easier to access. In the year 2004, approximately 200 titles were added to the Library. The Library is open to the public during business hours and by special appointment in the evenings and on weekends. The ATF Library is an important resource for ATF staff members involved in ATF projects as well as for students, journalists and researchers from both the local and international community.

Output:

- A New initiative was started to provide secondary school students and other researchers with access to web services through establishing an electronic unit composed of six computers using extra space and equipments.

- New additions of about 70 books and other materials added to the ATF library. Up grade the classifying of the new acquisitions continued.

Indicators: New electronic research unit is functioning, students and researchers are provided with the necessary assistance.

Outcome:

The increasing number of visitors to the ATF Resources Centre led to widen the service by establishing an electronic unit. As this service just started there are no indicators so far on its success, however the research environment together with the help of the internet expert would attract and help needy students and researchers.

Impact:

As specialized libraries with relevant subjects to governance, human rights and development is almost not exist in Jerusalem, the ATF resource centre serves as an important venue for needy students and researchers.

The ATF Website

The ATF Website www.multaqa.org is currently being updated to include more recent and current projects and publications, and to offer qualitative and quantitative information to viewers and researchers. In the meantime, the site provides a general overview of the ATF mission and objectives as well as its implementation of forums and previous publications.

Output:

The contents of the ATF website updated to accommodate and be responsive to the needs of the site visitors, the search engine as will promoted for wider accessibility, and the new additions organized and classified for simple retrieving.

Indicators: During the period, number of visits to the website reached to 19084 including 168442 pages reviewed, and 422872 hits. In addition to traffic not reviewed which includes 537053 pages and 547943 hits. Compared to the highest number in 2006, a 90% increase has been recorded for each of Jan, Feb. and March. However the number dropped the following 3 months to the same level of highest in 2006, that could be explained as a result of the universal trend due to the exam period in which a decline is witnessed on research work.¹¹

Outcome:

¹¹ Visits came from 110 countries, the highest no of hits were from: European Union 83057, United States 192420, Germany 64921, Russian Federation 13352, Italy 8035, Palestinian Territories and Israel 7821 2772, United Arab Emirates 7099, Saudi Arabia 6423, Jordan 5331, Great Britain 3039, Egypt 4429, Canada 3197 hits, the rest came from all other countries.

Users and interested institutions and individuals in Palestine and around the world are accessed to wealth of information on ATF and Palestine.

Impact:

Several important contacts have been received by ATF resulting from reviewing the page. It should be noted however, that the web has been attacked by several Zionist sites.

Resources Development

Output:

ATF staff gained more skills through training and participating on meetings and symposia including out of country events. Regarding the development of the technical and administrative skills of the ATF team, staff attended local and international courses and workshops in order to both support the institution-building process and to develop individual specialized skills. Training subjects included administration, finance, research, and the technical aspects of personnel management. ATF carefully selected which activities best suited the needs of the institution, including considering the cost of the training, how it would help improve business management at the institution, and especially how it would contribute to increasing ATF's capacities and skills that could be used on the largest possible number of programs and activities.

Indicators: 3 training courses and more than 50 meetings and symposia attended by relevant staff members.

The ATF participation in the international delegation as part of leadership together with Jorge Quiroga, former President of Bolivia is an indicator on the impact of ATF Work.

Outcome:

Skills of ATF staff are increased through training courses and participation on coordination meetings and other local; and international activities organized by other institutions.¹²

Impact:

Umbrella organizations and specialized coalitions are gaining momentum with better position to serve their members and society.

¹² The Arab Thought Forum participated in the Japan-Arab Conference "A New Dawn: Arabs Looking East" held in Alexandria, Egypt on 20-21 November 2007. The Conference hosted by the "Bibliotheca Alexandrina", topics of the conference focused on Japan and the Arab Region. Also The ATF participated in the international delegation to monitor the election in Morocco held on September 7, 2007. The delegation, which was organized by the National Democratic Institution (NDI), is composed of 52 individuals who are current and former legislators, former government ministers and ambassadors, elections and human rights experts, civic leaders and regional specialists from 19 countries in Asia, Europe, the Middle East, North Africa, North America and South America.

Financial resources

Output

Four new projects will be added to the ATF program, two of them in partnership with other institutions; one with Carter Center regarding the Palestinian election law and one with Queen University in Canada regarding democracy research.

The other two includes Muassasat project regarding housing demolition and the Welfare Association regarding “Jerusalem the capital of Arab Culture 2009”.

Struggle with the municipality of west Jerusalem has been resulted in decreasing the tax value imposed on ATF from 20.000\$ to 1.000\$, effort is being made in order that the process would not repeat itself in the future.

Outcome

140 thousand dollar is the value of new projects proposed by ATF. The proposed project has been either approved or about to be approved.

The amount did not include the in kind contribution of 2 computers and one printer that has been donated by the Welfare Association.

Impact

Except for the staff end of service compensation which kept in special account, their are no any financial burden on the shoulder of the institution.

Indicators: Four proposals submitted with positive reaction.

Public Relations

During 2007, ATF continue its active cooperation among relevant coalitions. ATF was keen to place special emphasis on developing its local and international public relationships, as well as the skills of its personnel, since both are considered vitally important for the continuity, vitality, durability and respected presence of the ATF at all levels.

With regard to public relations, a large number of public figures, local and international delegations visited the ATF headquarters in order to familiarize themselves with its programs and activities and to receive its publications.

Of particular importance, the Arab thought Forum was awarded the Good governance Certificate in recognition of its role and its adherence to good governance, integrity and transparency. The award took place during AMAN annual conference held on 8th December. 2007.

In other development, An agreement was signed on November 1st, 2007 between the Arab Thought Forum and Markaz Tatweer at the Welfare Association, to implement the second stage of the visual impairment project. In the first stage, two computer centers in Hebron and Jenin were established to teach computer skills to students with visual impairments. In

this stage a third center will be established in Ramallah and the established centers will see their capacity increased. The project is implemented in conjunction with Al quds Open University. The signing was part of a ceremony including twenty eight institutions.

Major International Activities:

- **Participated in the Japan-Arab Conference**

The Arab Thought Forum participated in the Japan-Arab Conference "A New Dawn: Arabs Looking East" held in Alexandria, Egypt on 20th and 21st of November 2007. The Conference, hosted by the "Bibliotheca Alexandrina" concerned the relationship between Japan and the Arab Region with a focus on Arab-Japanese economic partnership, Globalization and its effects on culture and society, Perspective models of Japan-Arab cooperation, Prospects for the Middle East peace process, A new era for Arab-Japanese economic partnership, the future of the Arab region, the Agenda for modernization and reform, and Cultural exchange and peace-building.

- **Participated in observing Morocco's 2007 elections**

The ATF participated in the international delegation to monitor the election in Morocco held on September 7th, 2007. The delegation, which was organized by the National Democratic Institution (NDI), was composed of fifty two individuals including current and former legislators, former government ministers and ambassadors, elections and human rights experts, civic leaders and regional specialists from 19 countries in Asia, Europe, the Middle East, North Africa, North America and South America.

The delegation visited Morocco during September 3rd and 10th, 2007 at the invitation of the Consultative Committee on Human Rights (CCDH).held on September 7th, 2007.

- **Participated in the Historical Research Project**

The historical research project concludes another mile stone with a meeting in Salzburg between July 1st and 4th, 2007. Among the Palestinian participants were Abdel Rahman Abu Arafah, Jad Isaac, Nazmi Al Jubeh, Adel Yahya, Haydar Eideh, Noor Dkeidek and Issa Zabun. About 40 maps have been drafted to gather with the associated narratives in addition to drafting the Holy sites component. The outline for the refugee issue has also been drafted. The next stage should be completed in October

Coordination and Networking

ATF has contributed to the establishment of non-governmental networking organizations in Palestine and participated in coalitions that aim to coordinate the activities of national social institutions. ATF's most important coordination and networking activities in 2004 were:

1. Palestinian NGO Network: Arab Thought Forum continues to be a member in the coordination committee of the network; it is also a member in two other critical committees: the Jerusalem Committee, which facilitates continuous coordination regarding the development of Jerusalem-based NGOs, and the Information Committee, which is responsible for publishing the network's news annex.
2. Palestinian Coalition for Accountability and Integrity (AMAN): ATF participated in the establishment of this national coalition, which aims to implement programs that foster integrity in governance and administration in Palestine. In addition to

ATF, the coalition includes the following NGOs: Miftah, Center for Research and Studies, Muwatten, Mezan, Transparency International –Palestine Branch, Palestinian Council for External Relations, and Pal Trade.

3. General Union of Charitable Societies: Arab Thought Forum continues to coordinate with other member societies.
4. Transparency International : Contacts have been established with this world-wide institution, which has branches in more than 70 countries. These contacts are now developing into a productive relationship, especially since Palestinian Coalition for Accountability and Integrity (AMAN) was established, as it has become one of the branches of the institution.
5. Arab Network Against Corruption: At the Ninth Conference to Counter Corruption held in South Africa in 1999, a nucleus for an Arab network was founded; ATF was on the constituent assembly of the network. Since that time, the network has enlarged and expanded. At the Tenth Conference to Counter Corruption in Prague in 2001, and at the Eleventh Conference in Seoul in 2003, several meetings were held to issue a "Book of References" on the fight against corruption. Several Arab countries participated, including Palestine.
6. Palestinian Council of Human Rights Organizations: Because of Arab Thought Forum's work with the Citizens' Rights Center, ATF served as an active member of PCHRO and continued to contribute to the development of the council's general views and guidelines in the constitution and by-laws. In 2004, the council's composition was reviewed and reformulated to allow for the participation of more human rights institutions; the ATF contributed significantly in this regard.
7. National Committee for the Monitoring of Elections: Following its role in the 1995 presidential and legislative elections, ATF, together with other national institutions, contributed to the establishment of a National Elections Body. Specifically, ATF participated in the preliminary meetings in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, contributed to the formulation of the by-laws of the body, and was nominated for and won the seat of secretariat in the body. In addition to the ATF, the following organizations participated: the General Union of Palestinian Women, Muwatten, Agricultural Relief Committees, Women's Legal and Social Counseling Center, the Palestinian Center for Peace and Democracy, the Arab Studies Society, Panorama, and Civic Forum. In its capacity as coordinator of the Jerusalem Committee, ATF organized several meetings in its offices in Ar-Ram and Jerusalem, which lead to the formation of the Jerusalem Council in the Committee.
8. Coordination Committee of The National Society: The ATF participated in the establishment of the Coordination Committee of The National Society, and remains an active member. The committee serves to coordinate among the present national bodies in Palestine. In addition, ATF is active in a number of other committees, including: the Handicapped Affairs Committee, the Jerusalem Prisoners' Affairs Committee, the Committee on the Fight Against Drugs in Jerusalem, and the Committee of National Work Policies in coordination with the Ministry of NGO Affairs.

Future Prospects

The country is still passing through a stage of transition, and it is unclear what will be the final features of the Palestinian State and its institutions. Moreover, the political situation and relationship with the Israeli government are unstable and constantly shifting; the nature of this relationship continues to heavily influence internal conditions in Palestine

and prospects for opening society. Under these circumstances, it is difficult to make projections about the future and to determine what programs and activities will be most effective and necessary for Palestinian development in the coming years. Because ATF feels that its current programs are effective in tackling some of the most critical issues in a broad range of subject areas under its mandate, it is not seeking to make substantial changes to its programmatic activities or to alter the general framework of its agenda.

The unfortunate reality is that a comprehensive inspection of the Palestinian situation indicates that conditions are not improving, but rather changing for the worse in many ways. With foresight, at an early stage of the intifada, ATF aligned the general framework of its programs to responded to the new reality; thus, the subject matter of ATF programs have begun to focus on issues related to the intifada and its effects at the political and human rights levels – including encroachments of basic rights to housing, decent living conditions, and survival.

The Palestinian people seem destined to live in the context of the unknown, and the unfortunate political prospects seem to shift between further deterioration, continued struggle, or the seemingly-unlikely possibility of improvement. It seems undoubtedly true that the Palestinian people will be forced to endure a period of suffering for the coming several years. Thus, at a time when the ATF is seeking to preserve its existence and expand its ability to give, we must establish our role in addressing the Palestinian question and serving the Palestinian people in light of the current realities and within the framework of our objectives, potential and available resources.

In the future, the Arab Thought Forum will focus on the following issues:

Closely following the political process and the horizons for building a Palestinian future

- Human rights issues, democratic development, and administrative reform
- Preparations for elections at various levels – presidential, legislative and local
- Opening better opportunities for visually impaired students and others with special needs
- Increasing the capacity of journalists to use written media to promote reform and openness
- Assisting local councils in developing the skills and acquiring the tools necessary to be most effective in their functions, and to use best practices standards for service delivery.

List of Tables

1.1.2007- 31.12.2007

Town Hall Meetings					
Title	Date	Place	Participant		Total
			M	F	
Palestinian situation in Iraq	2007-1-27	Jerusalem	8	2	10
The Deteriorating Relation between Fateh and Hamas	2007-1-31	Jerusalem	52	12	64
Invitation to participate in the picket bodies and actors Jerusalem	2007/2/7	Ramallah	46	29	75
Nazareth meeting of the national institutions	2007-2-22	Nazareth			0
40th anniversary of the occupation of Jerusalem	2007/6/6	Jerusalem			0
40th anniversary of the occupation of Jerusalem	2007-6-13	OM al-Fahem			0
Total			106	43	149

Public Debate:					
Title	Date	Place	Participant		Total
			M	F	
Ranking of Palestine on the Global Corruption Index	2007/1/9	Ramallah	16	8	24
Supporting the Jerusalem's institution	2007/5/19	Jerusalem	15	3	18
Legal clinic for the National Coalition	2007/5/24	ATF	5	9	14
40th anniversary of the occupation of Jerusalem	2007/6/5	Jerusalem	2	2	4
Total			38	22	60

Round Table Meetings					
Title	Date	Place	Participant		Total

			M	F	
Constitutional amendments as a means to defuse the internal political crises	2007/3/8	Ramallah	14	12	26
Arab peace initiative in the balance	2007/5/8	Ramallah	19	5	24
Palestinian conflict within the cultural and ethical standards	2007-6-28	Ramallah	19	10	29
The autumn conference: "A serious initiative of just a face left"	2007/10/1	Ramallah	12	27	39
Total			64	54	118

Workshops

Title	Date	Place	Participant		Total
			M	F	
Workshop for the Atlas and Holy sites groups	2007/3/17-16	Jerusalem	4	2	6
workshop to discuss addressing public complaints	2007/5/29	Ramallah	12	10	22
Institutionalizing the work of the illicit gain	2007/7/10	Ramallah	11	2	13
Workshop for Guide to Action	20/11/2007	Ramallah	7	8	15
Workshop for Guide to Action	26/11/2007	Ramallah	9	8	17
Total			43	30	73

Working groups

Title	Date	Place	Participant		Total
			M	F	
The Deteriorating Relation between Fateh and Hamas	2007/2/1	Jerusalem	8	7	15
The Deteriorating Relation between Fateh and Hamas	2007/2/6	Jerusalem	8	6	14
Right to housing	2007/8/6	Jerusalem	5	10	15
Total			21	23	44

Fraud law

Title	Date	Place	Participant		Total
			M	F	

Workshop	2007/7/10	Ramallah	11	2	13
Workgroup	2007/7/30	Ramallah	5	0	5
small committee	2007/8/15	Ramallah	5	0	5
small committee	2007/8/30	Ramallah	8	2	10
Total			29	4	33

Historical Reconciliation Project					Total
Title	Date	Place	Participant		
			M	F	
Holy sites	2007/1/24	Jerusalem	4	1	5
Atlas of the War 1948	2007/1/30	Jerusalem	10	4	14
Atlas and Holy sites	2007/3/17-16	Jerusalem	4	2	6
Refugees	2007/3/14	Ramallah	4	0	4
Working groups: Atlas, Holy sites, Refugees	2007/7/4-1	Salzburg	15	3	18
Palestinian Group	2007/6/21	Ramallah	5	0	5
Atlas	2007/7/24	Jerusalem	4	0	4
Refugees	2007/7/25	ATF	4	0	4
Refugees	2007/11/11	ATF	5	2	7
Holy sites	2007/12/12	Jerusalem	4	1	5
Refugees	2007/12/13	ATF	5	2	7
Atlas	2007/12/13	Jerusalem	7	1	8
Total			71	16	87

Al-Quds Capital of Arab culture 2009					Total
Title	Date	Place	Participant		
			M	F	
Al-Quds Capital of Arab culture 2009 – first meeting	2007/2/24	Jerusalem	49	19	68
Small committee meeting	2007/3/7	Jerusalem	6	3	9
Small committee meeting	2007/3/12	Ramallah	6	3	9
Small committee meeting	2007/4/7	Jerusalem	7	3	10
Al-Quds Capital of Arab culture 2009 – second meeting	2007/4/11	Ramallah	60	18	78
Small committee meeting	2007/5/10	Jerusalem	7	4	11
Meeting with ministry of culture	31/5/2007	Ramallah	2	1	3
Meeting For the committee of Jerusalem Arab Cultural Capital 2009	2007/8/11	Ramallah	20	12	32
Meeting For the committee of Jerusalem Arab Cultural Capital 2009	2007/8/21	Ramallah	6	3	9

Meeting For the committee of Jerusalem Arab Cultural Capital 2009	2007/8/23	Ramallah	7	3	10
Meeting For the committee of Jerusalem Arab Cultural Capital 2009	2007/8/29	Ramallah	7	2	9
Meeting For the committee of Jerusalem Arab Cultural Capital 2009	2007/9/17	Ramallah	17	10	27
Meeting For the committee of Jerusalem Arab Cultural Capital 2009	2007/9/18	Ramallah	7	3	10
Meeting For the committee of Jerusalem Arab Cultural Capital 2009	2007/9/20	Ramallah	8	4	12
Meeting For the committee of Jerusalem Arab Cultural Capital 2009	2007/9/26	Ramallah	8	4	12
Sector meeting: Music group	2007/10/2	Jerusalem	8	3	11
Sector meeting: Dance and Dabke group	2007/10/4	Jerusalem	8	3	11
Sector meeting: Plastic Arts group	2007/10/4	Jerusalem	8	3	11
Sector meeting: Sport and Scouts	2007/10/9	Jerusalem	8	3	11
Sector meeting: writers and culture	2007/10/9	Jerusalem	8	3	11
Meeting For the Executive Committee of the ATF	2007/10/17	Ramallah	9	4	13
Meeting For the Executive Committee of the ATF	2007/11/24	Ramallah	9	3	12
Meeting For the Executive Committee of the ATF	2007/12/17	Ramallah	7	4	11
Meeting For the committee of Jerusalem Arab Cultural Capital 2009	2007/12/15	Ramallah	2	1	3
Meeting For the committee of Jerusalem Arab Cultural Capital 2009	2007/12/27	Ramallah	2	0	2
Total			269	113	382

Legal study on Article 212 / 5 of the Code

Title	Date	Place	Participant		Total
			M	F	
Workshop	2007/8/21	Jerusalem	4	1	5
Workshop	2007/8/21	Jerusalem	5	0	5
Workshop	2007/10/3	Jerusalem	4	0	4
Workshop	2007/11/10	Jerusalem	3	0	3
Workshop	2007/11/20	Jerusalem	4	0	4
Workshop	2007/11/28	Jerusalem	4	0	4
Total			24	1	25

Elements and standards complaints system					
Title	Date	Place	Participant		Total
			M	F	
A coordination meeting with the Ministry of Justice of the definition of the project	2007/8/7	Ramallah	0	4	4
A coordination meeting with the Land Authority for the definition of the project	2007/8/8	Ramallah	0	2	2
A coordination meeting and the signing of a memorandum of understanding with the Land Authority	2007/8/16	Ramallah	0	3	3
A coordination meeting with the Ministry of Justice	2007/8/22	Ramallah	0	2	2
Meeting with Ministry of Justice	2007/8/29	Ramallah	1	1	2
Meeting with Minister of the Presidency	2007/9/23	Ramallah	1	2	3
The workshop discussed the diagnostic report on the Department of Justice	2007/9/26	Ramallah	3	16	19
Meeting with Land Authority	2007/9/26	Ramallah	0	2	2
Workshop discussion of the report on the diagnostic system complaints in the Land Authority and the capabilities and needs of fact	2007/10/21	Ramallah	6	8	14
Meeting with the Council of Ministers on the complaints system	2007/11/1	Ramallah	2	1	3
Meeting with the Palestinian Independent Commission for Human Rights on manual work procedures	2007/11/5	Ramallah	0	2	2
Meeting with Abdel Rahim taha	2007/11/6	Ramallah	0	2	2
Meeting with Bilal barghouthi	2007/11/8	Ramallah	0	2	2
Workshop to discuss the draft of the manual action complaints system	2007/11/20	Ramallah	4	9	13
Second Workshop to discuss the draft of the manual action complaints system	2007/11/26	Ramallah	4	9	13
A coordination meeting on the procedures manual system complaints	2007/11/29	Ramallah	2	1	3
Training course on the procedures manual work (first session)	2007/12/27	Ramallah	6	15	21
Training course on the procedures manual work (second session)	2007/12/30	Ramallah	5	11	16
Training course on the procedures manual work (third session)	2007/12/31	Ramallah	7	6	13
Training course on the procedures manual work - Gaza	2007/12/30	Ramallah	0	0	0
Total			56	45	101
meeting for preparation of a code of conduct local bodies					

Title	Date	Place	Partici pant		
			M	F	Total
Training course on the code of conduct (first session) - 5 local bodies join	2007/3/ 10-9	Jericho	22	1	23
Training course on the code of conduct (second session) - 9 local bodies join	2007/3/ 24-23	Ramallah	23	1	24
Training course on the code of conduct (third session) - 16 local bodies join	31/3-1-4/2007	Ramallah	28	1	29
Training course on the code of conduct (fourth session) - 7 local bodies join	21-22/4/2007	Ramallah	17	3	20
Total			178	15	193

Grand Total			899	366	1265
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