

## PRESS RELEASE

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## New book in Arabic to help combat corruption

### Arab experts and activists meeting in Casablanca launch adaptation of Transparency International Source Book on Confronting Corruption to address realities of Middle East and North African countries

**Casablanca/Berlin, 29 February 2004** --- More than 20 experts and activists gathered in Casablanca on 27-29 February to pool their anti-corruption knowledge and know-how with the aim of producing a new Transparency International Source Book on fighting corruption in North Africa and the Middle East. The group included MPs and university teachers from various North African and Middle Eastern countries, as well as journalists and researchers. The meeting was an opportunity for all concerned to debate vital questions related to the phenomenon of corruption and to lay the basis for a global approach to combating this scourge.

The results of these debates have been compiled and will be used to adapt the *Transparency International Source Book – Confronting Corruption: The Elements of a National Integrity System* to the social, economical and legal reality of North Africa and the Middle East.

Co-organised by Transparency Morocco and Transparency International, the Casablanca workshop is the first of a series of three such meetings. It is expected that authors and specialists will meet again to further and deepen their debates. Thus, step by step, a new TI Source Book will be put together and published (in Arabic) in 2005.

The ultimate aim, as well as producing a Book which will be used by activists and policy-makers, is to create a new dynamic network of Arab activists and experts specialised in the fight against corruption.

The *Transparency International Source Book – Confronting Corruption: The Elements of a National Integrity System* has been published in more than 20 languages. A French-language Source Book, *Combattre la corruption - enjeux et perspectives*, prepared by the Francophone African chapters of TI and adapted to the region, was published in July 2002. Further information is available at [www.transparency.org/sourcebook](http://www.transparency.org/sourcebook)