

PRESS RELEASE

Media Contacts:

Tamara Kamhawi

Tel:

Email:

Charles Adwan

Tel:

Email:



**TRANSPARENCY
INTERNATIONAL**

the coalition against corruption

<http://www.transparency.org>

Otto-Suhr-Allee 97-99

10585 Berlin, Germany

Tel:

Fax:

Transparency International prepares guide to tackle corruption for Arab world

TI announces second workshop on adaptation into Arabic of TI Source Book on combating corruption

Lebanon/Berlin, 8 September 2004 --- Anti-corruption experts and activists from North African and Middle Eastern countries will gather in Beirut, Lebanon, for a two-day workshop organised by Transparency International (TI) and Transparency Lebanon from 8-9 September 2003. Transparency International is the leading non-governmental organisation devoted exclusively to fighting corruption worldwide. The meeting will offer a unique 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 workshop, entitled '*Adaptation of the Transparency International Source Book*', follows on the success of an earlier regional workshop held by TI in Casablanca, Morocco, on 27-29 February 2004. The workshop in Beirut will look at practical ways to implement the models outlined in the *Transparency International Source Book – Confronting Corruption: The elements of a National Integrity System*, published by Transparency International in 2001. Participants will engage in a series of discussions concerning the adaptation of the *TI Source Book* and to pool their anti-corruption knowledge and know-how.

Members of Parliament, university professors, research institutions, human rights activists and members of the media are expected to attend. The meetings will also include representatives from TI national chapters in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region and will provide them with an opportunity to debate vital questions related to the phenomenon of corruption in the MENA countries and to lay the basis for a regional approach to combating corruption.

The *Transparency International Source Book – Confronting Corruption: The elements of a National Integrity System* has been published in 20 languages and it continues to be a pivotal resource for anti-corruption activists across the globe. TI has used adaptation workshops to ignite civil society and the media to come together and expand adapt the models described in the *Source Book* to fit the social, legal and economic situation in each society.

The recommendations emerging at the workshop will serve as inputs into the adaptation of the *TI Source Book* relevant to the realities of the MENA region and useful to activists and policymakers. TI hopes to work towards developing a strong, long-term and mutually beneficial relationship with a new dynamic network of Arab activists and experts specialised in the fight against corruption.