

Project "Security and Rule of Law" (SAROL)

**Cérémonie de fin de formation de la 2^{ème} promotion de formateurs pour le futur
Centre de Formation Pratique de la Police Judiciaire en Aaramoun et
Signature officielle du "Guide Pratique Des Enquêtes Pénales"**

CERSA (Centre d'Entraînement et Renforcement pour la Sécurité Aéroportuaire)
Vendredi 25 Novembre 2011

**Speech by Ambassador Angelina Eichhorst, Head of the Delegation of the
European Union**

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CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

General Prosecutor Saïd Mirza,
Major General Achraf Rifi,
General Chedid, Director of CERSA,
Representatives of EU Member States,
Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

Today we had a first hand demonstration of the work supported by the European Union in partnership with the ISF and the Ministry of Justice. I found the practical demonstration impressive and strongly welcome the signature of the Practical Guide for Criminal Investigation by both the General Prosecutor and the ISF General Director, as a positive example of inter-institutional work for a common purpose.

Both the training of trainers and defining standard practices for effective criminal investigations are important achievements of the SAROL project.

The SAROL project is a fine example of EU support to improve the respect of the rule of law in Lebanon. It is the respect for legal procedures in judicial investigations which counts most.

I would therefore like to congratulate all members of the ISF and Ministry of Justice, who, together with the Technical Assistance Team, made this possible.

The joint efforts do not end here. One of the main challenges the ISF now face is pushing forward the professionalisation and modernisation of its training structures and mechanisms, and completing the construction of the new ISF Academy in Aaramoun. An autonomous and efficient training capacity is a key element to a modern police service. Therefore, we hope to see ISF start using the first training resources coming out of the SAROL project to work on future training curricula. It is critical that these resources are used as part of a coherent ISF strategy.

The European Union, together with other partners, is ready to continue supporting the efforts started by the ISF, as we are conscious of the impact that this can have on the ISF's level of performance, professionalism and legitimacy vis-à-vis the Lebanese population. The European Union and Lebanon will hopefully soon co-sign a next 3-year programme to support the development of the Lebanese security system for a total of 12 million euros along the path initiated by the SAROL project.

I would like to thank you all for your efforts, as well as the Director of CERSA for hosting this event today, and I wish every success for our future joint-efforts.

Thank you