



Press Release

To:

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Subject: Launch of CD-Rom on the Rights of Children and Women in the Arab Region

(Beirut, 4th Feb 2005) The United Nations Development Programme / Information and Communication Technology for Development in Arab Region ICTDAR and the Lebanese Council to Resist Violence Against Women will organize a conference to launch a CD on women's rights under the project "Promoting the Rights of Children and Women in the Arab Region through Information" **on Tuesday 8th of February 2005 at 10.00 am at the UN House, Riad El-Solh Square – Conference Room B1.**

The project aims at providing women and children in difficult circumstances with the information necessary to obtain financial and legal support from the government, social service institutions or their separated spouses. The project will help empower women to address and resolve issues related to family law, including child support payments, marriage and divorce, labor, adoption and custody.

The project has two primary target groups: civil society and women.

The CD-Rom contains a digitized copy of all main acts, laws and decrees related to family law, alongside answers to frequently asked questions, and the text of major relevant international conventions.

Dr. Mona Hammam, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative, Mrs. Najat Rochdi, Regional Coordinator for ICTDAR / UNDP, and Zoya Rohana, Coordinator for Lebanese Council to Resist Violence Against Women, will deliver speeches on this occasion. The CD-Rom will be displayed and distributed during the conference.

Several Ministers, Arab and Foreign Ambassadors, UN agencies representatives, NGO's, Religious Authorities will attend this meeting.

For more information or to conduct interviews, please contact Ms. Mona El-Yassir, United Nations Development Programme, Telephone: 01-978702