

Press Release – December 22nd 2016 – Ramallah – Signature of the operational plan between the Representative of the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation in Jerusalem Cristina Natoli and the Palestinian General Attorney Ahmad Barrak in the field of juvenile justice

On December 22nd 2016, at Palestinian Attorney General Office in Ramallah - Ms. Cristina Natoli - Representative of the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation in Jerusalem and Ahmad Barrak - Palestinian Attorney General - signed the operational plan in the field of juvenile justice – in the framework of the initiative KARAMA approved last July 2016 and funded by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation.

The operational plan defines technical support and assistance to the office of the Palestinian General Attorney in order to guarantee an effective and efficient support for the harmonisation and for the entering into force of the law, issued last February 4th 2016, on juvenile justice system.

The undersigned agreement will assure the implementation of 13 training sessions in all the 13 Governorates to improve the capacity of officials and those involved in the juvenile justice system; 24 training study days to update prosecutor general offices with the new legislation in the field of juvenile justice; a guideline aimed at supporting the families involved in the different phases of juvenile prosecution; a study aimed at promoting a better understanding of legal and operational juvenile justice system.

Ahmad Barrak – Attorney General - underlined the strong and long-lasting commitment of Italy in the juvenile justice from which experience and knowhow would be transfer to Palestinian prosecutors.

The representative of AICS Jerusalem – Cristina Natoli - has recalled in her statement that the operational plan is the first document of this kind in Palestine and is the first tangible step aimed at assuring and implementing international *best practices* in the field of juvenile justice. She concluded highlighting the importance of ensuring gender balance in the project activities.

