Ramallah/Thursday 3/6/2010
Human Rights and Democracy Media Center “SHAMS” in collaboration with DCAF center conducted a workshop about “promoting rule of law in Ramallah and Albirch governorate”. The workshop tackled the emphasis on the importance of enhancing and improving the relationship between civil society and Palestinian security sector considering law as the reference that the two parts are abide by. It also included obstacles which hinder security entities’ work which are represented in the Israeli occupation, tribal interference and Palestinian political parties, in addition to mechanisms to advance the community to be a democratic community which works to enhance democratic values in the structures of the Palestinian institution towards law, human rights, woman and human sustainable development. Attendees at the end recommended work to create consultation’s manners between civil society and security entities and the role of each one in addition to decrease the gap between the two sides to provide more appropriate security service.

Jenin/Saturday 12/6/2010
Human Rights and Democracy Media Center “SHAMS” conducted a workshop titled as “the role of media in control of local elections” in Jenin governorate. The workshop included identifying citizens with elections, mechanisms of control and procedures which should be followed within electoral process and campaigns, the role of media controlling of the winning blocs, observing what is published by Central Elections Committee and media coverage by civil society organizations. Participants requested to have an objective and transparent process of control of electoral process, and they recommended for media institutions to be committed to its modern democratic message and not to follow wrong news and rumors besides accuracy and objectivity in publishing news, controlling it and not to align to any electoral bloc on the account of other.

Nablus/Monday 14/6/2010
Human Rights and Democracy Media Center “SHAMS” conducted a workshop about “educating human rights” in Alfara’a in Nablus governorate. The workshop handled the identification of rights which are owned by all the people regardless of their nationality, ethnicity and belonging, general expressions in the field of human rights in terms covenant, agreement, convention, ratification and customary laws and others, the historical development of human rights in Greece, Roman, England, United States, France and Russia in addition to International Declaration of Human Rights and its importance. Attendees recommended the importance of conducting more awareness workshops in the same frame for enlightening the new generation regarding its rights.

Bethlehem/Tuesday 15/6/2010
Human Rights and Democracy Media Center “SHAMS” conducted a workshop regarding “youth participation in decision-making” in Bethlehem governorate. The workshop tackled the importance of involving youth in the process of decision-making as a respect for youth right as it is mentioned within UN Charter for Child Rights besides reasons related to democracy and representativeness and to assist in building better world which gives space for them. Participants discussed ways to make youth participation positive by developing youth self potentials as well as their personal independence and enrooting leadership roles and their feeling of satisfaction and belonging. Participants recommended the substance of involving youth in occupying leadership positions to give them a space to solve their problems, make decisions and plan in order to create a new atmosphere for Palestinian youth free of carelessness, weakness and fear. As well, they requested to gradually engage youth in advanced positions close to decision-makers within parliament and municipalities by organizational institutions in light of law and under the supervision of the country.
**Ramallah/Tuesday 15/6/2010**

Human Rights and Democracy Media Center “SHAMS” in collaboration with DCAF center organized a roundtable within the project of “promoting rule of law” in the areas of the Palestinian territories. The roundtable tackled the situation of security in the governorates, its importance in developing partnerships’ mechanisms between security sector and civil society, the obstacles of security in the Palestinian arena which is represented in the internal, political and economic situation. Participants discussed success elements of security sector which are demanded within the Palestinian security sector in terms of construction, transportation, communications, arrangements and training. It also included an expanded discussion about developments which took place in the Palestinian security entity in terms of activating punishments, applying penal procedures against violators in addition to build complaints’ departments within security entities.

**Nablus/Tuesday 15/6/2010**

Human Rights and Democracy Media Center “SHAMS” conducted a workshop about “political participation of the Palestinian woman” in Nablus governorate. The workshop handled a conversation regarding political participation of the woman, the stage of her struggle in the Palestinian issue particularly the First Intifada in 1987 which gave a space for woman to be within political struggling life and difficulties which hinder women like the occupation’s procedures and the prevailing masculine community. Participants recommended the importance to have more continuous efforts for her to attain her rights within health, cultural, economic, social and political domains, and they requested woman’s Palestinian organizations to organize its movements as well as efficiency to secure the political participation for woman via laws and legislations which protect this participation.

**Hebron/Thursday 17/6/2010**

Human Rights and Democracy Media Center “SHAMS” conducted a workshop regarding “Palestinian elections and proportional representation system”, the workshop included the identification of elections and its importance in expressing freedom of opinion, besides mechanisms for conducting elections and the proportional system which the Palestinian elections is based on and the positivity of this system since it reduced tribes and partisan influences and reduces the lost votes if it is compared with the system of majority in addition to discuss elections’ procedures, sorting votes and a detailed explanation. Participants paid tribute to awareness workshops which target Palestinian young people in the frame of these subjects, and they requested to conduct additional workshops and to expand its scope to become training courses for the new generation to be aware in the mechanisms of conducting fair elections in a democratic atmosphere.

**Qalqilya/Thursday 17/6/2010**

Human Rights and Democracy Media Center “SHAMS” conducted a workshop about “woman and local governance” in Qalqilya governorate. The workshop tackled the role of woman in local authorities, success stories for pioneering women in working as mayors and how they accomplished several projects, an expanded discussion regarding the woman’s problem in not electing the candidate woman herself due to wrong beliefs within community or jealousy. Attendees recommended the significance to raise woman’s representation within local authorities and municipality via laws and legislations which guarantee that participation and raise woman’s quota in both local authorities’ law and parliamentary elections law.

**Salfit/ Saturday 19/6/2010**

Human Rights and Democracy Media Center “SHAMS” conducted a workshop titled as” the developmental role of local governance authorities” in Salfit governorate. The workshop tackled the role of these authorities in terms of setting plans and systems in order to provide and direct services to citizens in all networks, enhancing local, vocational and functional group as well as citizens’ rights, combining services and reinforcing collective performance of its providers through the best utilization of available sources. Participants requested the importance to promote joint work, collaborating with neighboring towns to implement mutual projects and to make twinning with European towns to benefit from experiences and achievements accomplished by those towns because this twinning has a great positive impact on participating municipalities.

**Tulkarm/Monday 21/6/2010**

Human Rights and Democracy Media Center “SHAMS” conducted a workshop about “CEDAW convention and its role in precluding violence and discrimination against woman” in Tulkarm governorate. The workshop tackled the identification of CEDAW convention issued in 1979 which includes 30 items that emphasize the concept of justice and equality and what it requires to make change in the traditional role for man and woman in the community, laws which the convention depend on for establishing authorities concerned with requesting Palestinian woman’s rights, the formal parliament which was conducted in 1998 via civil and woman’s organizations and parties to discuss laws and legislations which concern woman which tackle the substance to make modifications to secure equality between the two sexes in all the fields. Attendees requested civil society organizations to unify efforts to contribute to building democratic community based on justice, equality, rule of law and respecting human rights.
Hebron/ Tuesday 22/6/2010
Human Rights and Democracy Media Center “SHAMS” conducted a workshop regarding “citizenship” in Beit Ummar town in Hebron governorate. The workshop handled the concept of citizenship and basic rights of this concept in democratic countries which include civic rights represented in right to life, not being subjected to torture or humiliating punishment, political, economic, social and cultural rights. The workshop also included the benefits for both the citizen and the homeland when specifying the concept of citizenship which is embodied in belonging as well as its dimensions in terms of identity, collectivity, loyalty, commitment, love and democracy, besides the discussion about the values of citizenship in terms of equality, freedom and participation. Attendees recommended the essence to conduct additional workshops in the same field because of its importance for enrooting these concepts within the new generation of the Palestinian people due to the Israeli occupation’s measurements like displacing and ignorance to hide the Palestinian identity.

Ramallah/Sunday 27/6/2010
Human Rights and Democracy Media Center “SHAMS” conducted a workshop about “torture” in Deir Ghassana village in Ramallah governorate. The workshop tackled the major legal sentences related to torture which are included within the national legal law, mechanisms for preventing torture, official remedial mechanisms and procedures which should be followed after the occurrence of torture from civic and administrative crimes which can be imposed on the perpetrator or because of torture action, official procedures necessary for rehabilitating people under torture, ways which enable judging torture perpetrators regardless of their nationality, place or position. Participants recommended the significance to conduct more awareness workshops on the subject of torture besides unifying efforts to provide what approves their concern in torture crimes.

Nablus/Monday 28/6/2010
Human Rights and Democracy Media Center “SHAMS” in collaboration with DCAF center conducted a workshop about “promoting rule of law in Nablus governorate” in Nablus governorate. The workshop undertook the substance of dialogue and communication between security institution, civil society organizations and the Palestinian citizen as well as the substance of looking for mechanisms to promote rule of law, preserve it and enforce it transparently in Nablus which suffered from oppressing procedures and security disorder in the last years. It also included a discussion about the promotion of law and its positive consequences represented in better security appropriate conditions for the economic development, the returning of national capital and releasing the city from chaos and disorder. Participants recommended the importance to enhance the role of civil society via enhancing rule of law towards democratic state, and they requested to conduct additional consultancy meetings between civil society and representatives from security entities to discuss mechanisms to develop security situation for citizens and to build a community towards rule of law, human rights and sustainable human development.

Jenin/Tuesday 29/6/2010
Human Rights and Democracy Media Center “SHAMS” conducted a workshop regarding “youth and their role in political participation” in Jenin governorate. The workshop included a review for Palestinian youth participation within different political parties, elections since its one of the major issues of political participation, a diagnostic for youth boycotting of societal issues linked with political participation because of frustrations from lack of job vacancies, neglecting young leaderships of organizations, undemocratic education at home or school which preclude efficient involvement for youth to be decision-makers. Attendees requested the importance to have change within societal concepts related to youth involvement within political work via lobbying and advocacy which will support youth role to release them from the status of frustration to work, communication and involvement.

Jericho/ Wednesday 30/6/2010
Human Rights and Democracy Media Center “SHAMS” conducted a workshop titled as’’ how to guarantee fair elections” in Jericho governorate. The workshop tackled mechanisms for organizing elections from the beginning of having a demographic statistics to arranging the electoral process until raising the level of awareness inside voters besides the control of elections and it also included the importance to have a body with specialized staff attributed to integrity and honesty to observe and control elections away from partisan influences. Attendees requested the essence to conduct election within a democratic atmosphere away from partisan entities or doubtful coalitions.
### SHAMS press releases in newspapers

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### SHAMS media participations

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### SHAMS participations with other organizations

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