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The Compliance with Intellectual Property Laws and their Enforcement in Jordan- A post-WTO Review & Analysis

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Annex 2

Report by Department of the National Library on Copyright Activities and Status During the Year 2008

- 1- According to the Fifth Annual BSA Report, Jordan has managed to reduce the percentage of software piracy to 60% in 2007. The piracy rate was 61% in 2006 and 63% in 2005.
- 2- The National Library has formulated a Committee in order to issue a draft amendments to Copyright Law in order to comply with its commitments in JUSFTA. The Committee has several meetings with representatives from USTR Office and agreed on the articles that needed to be amended to comply with the Agreement.
- 3- For protection of computer programs and their use, the draft of the amended law included an article stating on the government use of the original copies of programs.
- 4- Also, upon a request from Department of the National Library, His Excellency the Prime Minister has issued Circulation No. 7/2007 following to Circulation 8/2004 concerning the use and acquisition of only original and authorized copies of computer software by all Government Agencies.
- 5- The draft of the amended Copyright Law is now under discussion in the Legislation and Opinion Bureau/ The Prime Ministry. We are now in the process of renewing the Circulation.
- 6- A Special Committee was reformulated from: The National Library, Department of Customs, Audio-Visual Commission, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Industry & Trade, Anti-Fraud Department, Public Security Department and Amman Greater Municipality to follow-up and activate law enforcement and to secure full compliance with the law. They started their meetings on 12/2/2008.
- 7- The Department collaborates with WIPO in conducting specialized training programs and seminars for the interested parties (Judiciary, Police, Customs, ...) to increase awareness and providing them with the recent improvements in the field of IP.
- 8- In cooperation with USPTO, a number of Judges and public prosecutors, Customs Officials, Police Officers, and Copyright Officers were deputed to attend and participate in specialized training programs in Washington.

- 9- The copyright office is supported by two more officers during the last year and the number was raised to nine officers as well as raising the number of inspection teams into four teams in order to enforce the law efficiently and cover all the governorates of the Kingdom.
- 10- At the end of December 2008 Copyright Office in the department was responsible for initiating (2347) legal cases since initiating copyright office in 2000, nearly 90% of them were through its Ex-Officio enforcement authority under article 36 of the Copyright Law. **Total number of cases from the beginning of the year 2008 is 354 cases.**
- 11- Due to what is mentioned in para.10 above, we expect that the inspection raids will cover all areas in the kingdom, and we are looking to raise the number of cases that will be referred to the court to reach the number of 50 cases monthly.
- 12- An IP Unit was established in the Public Security Department at the beginning of 2008, and there is a cooperation between it and the National Library in performing inspection raids and several cases were referred to the Public Prosecutors through these raids.
- 13- We are hoping that USAID/ SABEQ program, will sponsor new IP awareness campaign to be a continuation of the previous one launched in 2006, which was sponsored by AMIR Program in cooperation with King Abdullah II Center for IP and JIPA.