

Media Advisory

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20.11.2009

Council of Europe supports Turkey in developing a new court management system

Date: 20 November 2009, 5 pm

Location: Mardin (Turkey), Mardin Court House

Description: Closing ceremony of an EU-funded project implemented by the Council of Europe to support the Ministry of Justice of Turkey in developing a new court management system.

Funded by the EU and implemented jointly by the Council of Europe and the Turkish Ministry of Justice since January 2008, the project "Support to Court Management System in Turkey" (worth €3 M) aimed to enhance the quality, effectiveness and transparency of the Turkish judicial system and speed up the judicial case flow.

As a first step, the new system was implemented in 5 pilot courts (Mardin, Rize, Manavgat, Aydın and Konya). New positions of court managers and judicial assistants were established within the pilot courts with a view to relieving judges and prosecutors of administrative tasks.

Guidance and information desks were set up at the pilot court houses to provide better information and advice to the public, and brochures and guidebooks were prepared and distributed with this aim in mind. A more transparent media policy was developed by training media spokespersons.

The results of the project will be announced today at the closing event hosted by Ahmet Kahraman, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Justice. The Council of Europe's Directorate General of Human Rights and Legal Affairs and the European Commission Delegation to Turkey will also be represented.

The Council of Europe has begun preparations for a follow up project that aims to spread the new court management system to 20 more courts.

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