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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **UNIFEM Published a Parliamentary Manual on Institutional and Legal Principles by the Financial Support of Italian Government**

*UNIFEM supports the incoming elections' candidates on better understanding Institutional and Legal principles in connection with Afghan Constitution 2003.*

**Kabul, June 7 2005** – UNIFEM's Gender and Justice unit has published a manual titled "Parliamentary Manual: Institutional and Legal Principles" as a legal and institutional resource publication intended for parliamentary candidates, parliamentarians, and legal/political organizations.

The manual is structured to serve as a resource document in addition to being a training resource to be utilized by trainers in the field.

The document is mainly based on the Constitution of Afghanistan. It is to be used in reference with the Constitution. The main training (learning) use of the document is to accustom target beneficiaries – specifically those with no legal background – to study and refer to the Constitution.

The document is not intended to cover all legal and institutional aspects of parliamentary responsibility. However, in its two chapters, the manual covers issues such as The Constitutional State Structure, The Afghan Legal System, Constitutional Rights, Election Law Principles and Procedures, Constitutional Rules and Regulations, Parliamentary Structure, Law Making Considerations, and Public and Constituency Relations.

With the financial support of UNIFEM, resource persons will debate basic constitutional and parliamentary concepts for parliamentary candidates and the general audience on Afghan state radio and television from June, 2005 onwards, with direct reference to issues covered in the published manual.

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