



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Committee of the Initiative for the Support of Palestinian People chaired by HRH Prince Turkey Bin Talal Approves Programme for Poverty Alleviation in the oPt**

*Amman, January 30, 2007* — HRH Prince Turkey Bin Talal al Saud chaired today's meeting of the Higher Steering Committee of the Initiative for the Support of Palestinian People held at UNRWA headquarters, Amman.

Attendees at the meeting, a follow up on HRH Prince Talal Bin AbdulAziz al Saud's initiative to support the Palestinian people, were the Islamic Development Bank, and representatives from the organizations participating in the implementation of the initiative (UNRWA, UNDP and Welfare Association). Attendees discussed the progress of development projects implemented by these organizations, including empowerment activities for Palestinian women, learning skills improvement, poverty alleviation and training for vulnerable groups.

The joint project proposal, focusing on efforts to alleviate poverty in the Palestinian territories, was also discussed. HRH Prince Talal Bin AbdulAziz's initiative to support the Palestinian people was launched by in 2002 in response to the dire circumstances experienced by Palestinians following the second Intifada. The initiative forged an alliance between developmental institutions operating in the oPt and Arab donor establishments, to meet humanitarian needs of the Palestinian people.

It should be noted that the Palestinians are currently suffering from tragic conditions as a result of the continued Israeli aggression and siege. Poverty rates have now reached high levels, affecting more than 65% of the total population.

***For further information, please contact:***

*In Jerusalem: Dania Darwish, Communications Officer, Tel. +972-2-626-8229 – e-mail: [dania.darwish@undp.org](mailto:dania.darwish@undp.org). In New York: Sausan Ghosheh Communication's officer, Tel. +1 (212) 906-5382 – e-mail: [william.orme@undp.org](mailto:william.orme@undp.org). For more information on UNDP/PAPP see <http://www.undp.ps>.*