



SPEECH
For UNDP/PAPP Special Representative
Mr. Jens Toyberg-Frandzen

Speaking event:	AMAN Conference
Date and time:	Thursday, 13.12.2007; 10:00 – 13:00
Venue:	Grand Park Hotel - Ramallah
Participants/audience:	Prime Minister Salam Fayyad Dr. Hanan Ashrawi / Chairperson of AMAN's Board of Directors Dr. Kamal Shirafi / Member of AMAN's Board of Directors Head of the Norwegian Representation Office, Mr Sten Arne Rosnes Head of the Netherlands' Representation Office, Mr, Frans Makken
Length of speech:	3-4 minutes
Context of speech:	Opening remarks, no question and answer session
Draft prepared by:	Communications Unit

- **Your Excellency Prime Minister Salam Fayyad,**
- **Chairperson of AMAN's Board of Directors, Dr Hanan Ashrawi**
- **Head of the Norwegian Representation Office, Mr Sten Arne Rosnes**
- **Head of the Netherlands' Representation Office, Mr Frans Makken**
- **Colleagues and friends :**

UNDP / PAPP is honored to be here today on AMAN's fourth annual conference, which represents a step towards pursuing the elaboration of a national plan to combat corruption.

It is well known that corruption is a global problem affecting developed and developing countries alike and it is usually the weak and marginalized members of society who suffer the most from this pandemic.

Corruption corrodes societies, not just financially but - more importantly - morally, and undermines the very basis of democracy and the rule of law. Corruption produces human rights violations, market distortions and undermines the public administration, public trust and, consequently, quality of life at large.

Moreover, corruption invites violence and undermines human development and human security.



Corruption, ladies and gentlemen, is a the enemy of development.

For these very reasons the UN endeavors worldwide to combat this deplorable phenomenon by defining ethical conduct as stipulated in the UN Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) by mobilizing national and international stakeholders for effective and collective action to combat corruption.

The Convention Against Corruption introduces a comprehensive set of standards, measures and rules that all states and their constituent parts should apply to strengthen legal and regulatory systems to fight corruption, promote transparency and accountability.

The Convention calls for preventive measures and the criminalization of the most prevalent forms of corruption in both public and private spheres of life.

The Convention cannot however be carried by the UN single-handedly nor should it, since responsibility for its implementation lies on the State and its people at large.

Therefore, it is paramount that corruption is addressed by the Palestinians themselves. This includes the executive, legislative and judicial branches of power as well civil society, communities, individuals and the private sector.

It is therefore inspiring to see that AMAN, under the patronage of the Prime Minister, has, seized the opportunity to promote core values such as integrity, transparency and accountability.

AMAN, supported by the Palestinian Authority's determination to adopt policies combating corruption, has managed to put anti-corruption and transparency at the heart of the national agenda.

Adherence to the UN Convention becomes even more relevant in the context of the implementation of the Palestinian Reform and Development Plan (PRDP), which has already been welcomed by the international community as a strong reform and development platform for the Palestinians.

The adoption of legislative and administrative measures aimed at fostering transparency and accountability is an indispensable step. It leads towards genuine democracy, civic participation and fosters public confidence and trust in public and private institutions.

UNDP/PAPP confirms its continued support to anti corruption endeavors.

Allow me to end by commending you on your efforts and wish you success in your conference.

Thank you