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Italy and EPLO Support Jordan in Building its New Government Leaders

The Government of Jordan, with the support of the Italian Cooperation and the European Public Law Organization, has launched today two cornerstone initiatives: the “Government Leadership Program” and the “Woman Leadership Program”.

The Government Leadership Program and the Woman Leadership Program are two central components of the Public Sector Modernization Roadmap aimed at building a new generation of Leaders in the Government of Jordan capable of driving the implementation of the reforms envisaged in the Roadmap, in line with the vision of His Majesty King Abdullah II.

The two Leadership Programs are designed, developed and delivered by the Institute of Public Administration of Jordan (IPA), with the support of the Project “Support to Public Administration Reform of Jordan”, funded by the Italian Government through the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS), and implemented by the European Public Law Organization (EPLO) in partnership with the Italian National School of Administration (SNA).

Both Leadership Programs will be conducted during three consecutive phases, including competitive selection processes, from October 2025 to March 2026, for a total of more than 300 hours of training. The programs will comprise intensive training modules that will be delivered by Jordanian and International experts on critical elements of leadership such as Innovative Leadership Skills, Planning and Evaluation of Public Policies, Project Design, Results-Based Management, Change Management, Communication, Leadership in Digital Transformation, Legislative Drafting and Compliance, Leadership and Sustainable Development, and Institutional Culture.

The third and last phase of the Program will involve a Study Tour in Italy, co-organized with the Italian National School of Administration, to allow the new Leaders to familiarize themselves with international best practices and exchange experiences and expertise with the Italian Government counterparts.

The participants in the Leadership Programs were rigorously selected among hundreds of applicants from various ministries and departments of the Jordanian Public Administration. As a result, twenty Senior Officials -12 men and 8 women-, at the level of Director and Senior Manager, will participate to the Government Leadership Program. On the other hand, fifty officials at the level of Head of Division will be engaged in the Woman Leadership Program.

The two Leadership Programs were officially launched today during a Ceremony held at the Institute of Public Administration (IPA) in Amman under the patronage of the Minister for Public Sector Development H.E. Badriah Al-Balbisi. The event was attended by the Director-General of the IPA H.E. Eng. Siham Alkhawaldeh, the Minister of Justice H.E. Dr. Bassam Samir Shihada Al-Talhouni, the Minister of Agriculture H.E. Dr. Saeb Khreisat, the Minister of Political and Parliamentary Affairs H.E. Dr. Abdul Moneim Al-Awdat, President of the Public Service and Administration Authority (SPAC) Eng. Fayez Muhammad Al-Nahar, Secretaries-General and Directors General from several ministries and institutions of

the Government of Jordan, the EPLO Project Team Leader Dr. Lian Catinis, as well as representatives of international organizations and donor agencies.

In her opening address, H. E. Minister Al-Balbisi stated *“Providing distinguished, high-performing government leaders capable of achieving Jordan's future vision represents the primary driver and catalyst for Public Sector modernization initiatives and one of the most important pillars of their success. The future vision for the Public Sector revolves around building a cooperative, flexible, responsive, innovative and future-ready Government apparatus, with the citizens at the center of the attention. The Ministry for Public Sector Development is committed to promoting a culture of communication and leadership teamwork, empowering leaders to anticipate the future and address new developments with flexibility and professionalism, to ensure the sustainability of administrative modernization”*.

H.E. Eng. Alkhawaldeh highlighted that *“Improving the performance of Human Resources is one of the most important pillars of Public Administration Reform, which in turn is reflected in political and economic reforms. The two Leadership Programs were carefully designed based on the needs and job competencies required, in order to provide the participants with the necessary capabilities to perform their leadership roles, in line with Digital Transformation and modern corporate culture, leading to leaders capable of effectively and inspiringly affecting and creating change”*.

Dr. Lian Catinis, Project Team Leader noted *“The Advanced Government Leadership Program and the development of Women Leaders in the Public Sector represent a crucial step toward developing the leadership skills of public sector employees, enabling them to meet growing challenges efficiently and effectively. On behalf of the EPLO, I express my thanks and appreciation to all the partners who contributed to the success of this program, most notably the Jordanian Government, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation, and the Institute of Public Administration”*.

The project “Support to Public Administration Reform in Jordan” provides targeted technical assistance to the Institute of Public Administration, the national institution responsible for training Civil Servants in Jordan. The initiative, which started in May 2025 and has a duration of 30 months, strategically contributes to the advancement of the Public Sector Modernization Roadmap by directly supporting the implementation of its Human Resources and Government Services Pillars. Specifically, the project focuses on assisting the IPA in further enhancing its training capacities and in the development of innovative training programs tailored for Civil Servants and Government Leaders. A large component of the project is dedicated to strengthening the IPA’s activities in Digital Transformation and Innovation, including support for the newly established Innovation Lab of IPA. The initiative builds on the results of the project “Support to the Institute of Public Administration of Jordan”, implemented by the EPLO in 2022-2024 and funded by the Italian Government.