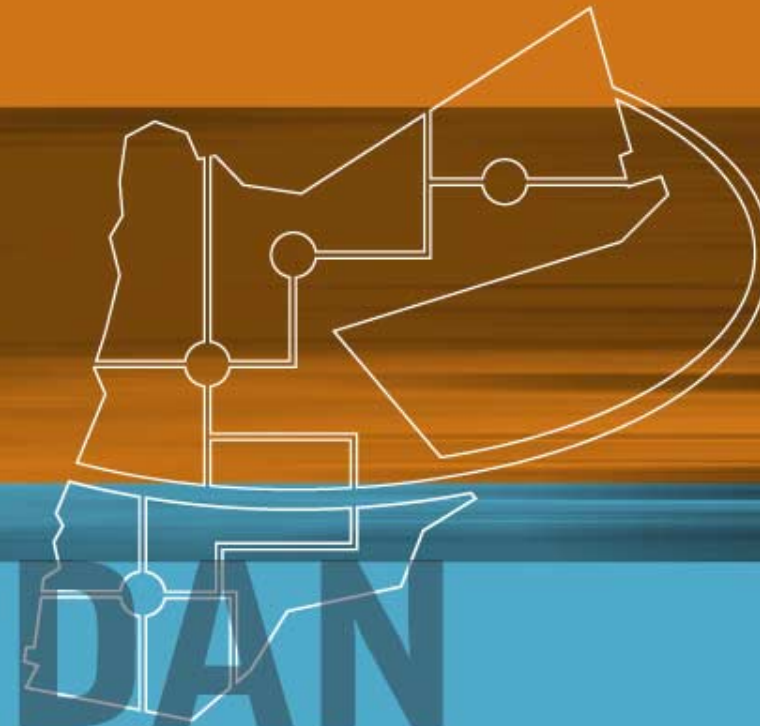


Regulatory Framework Strengthening

Mr. Vatche Dakessian
Chief Executive Officer
Dakessian Consulting



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Agenda

- Specific Recommendations
- General Recommendations
- Suggested Priorities
- Conclusions

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Specific Recommendations



Information & Privacy Laws

- Need for a broad classification of information including a mechanism for changing classifications:
 - Public Information
 - Private Information
 - National Interest Information
- Address the “Basic Rights”



Information & Privacy Laws

- The Obligations
 - Obligation to provide information
 - Obligation to protect individual privacy
 - More transparency in government processes
 - Liability for providing wrong information
- Legal responsibility & accountability
- Need to raise public awareness and training



Customs

- Remove customs duties on spare parts , options, separately shipped items and re-sellable S/W
- Revise HCTS customs classification on ICT products
- Eliminate subjective approach to valuation
- Raise awareness and further training of officials
- Introduce clear regulations to enforce the laws



Censorship

- Personal attitudes in implementation still a problem
- Introduce clear regulations to enforce the law



Income Tax

- Remove the distinction between S/W development and ICT activities as a whole
- Lobby for acceptable status verification system
- Need to re-classify ICT industry as a separate tax entity enjoying lower tax brackets as opposed to current industrial classification of S/W development



e-Commerce Legislation

- Introduce full set of supportive regulations
- Establish PKI infrastructure, Certification Authority
- Achieve a national consensus on the use of smart card IDs
- Need for clearing / regulating body



Outsourcing

- Outsourcing of non core government activities should be promoted with a clear distinction between services and utilities
- Legal issues and obstacles related to revenue sharing need to be addressed



Cyber Crimes

- Coverage of crimes needs to be updated and expanded
- Law needs to be more dynamic
- Need international treaties in order to deal with the cross border nature of such crimes
- Issue of jurisdiction



Internet Cafes

- Lobby with MOI, PSD to revise current regulations and avoid excessive policing of cafes
- Need for iNet cafes dedicated for use by minors
- Approach issues related to Internet content in terms of:
 - Freedom of expression and individual privacy
 - Intl. accepted clear definitions for illegal content



Official Complaints Body

- Need active official complaints office to:
 - Look into disputes, misinterpretations and complaints
 - Provide guidance to government employees where necessary
 - Raise awareness of government employees regarding new laws

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General Recommendations



General Recommendations

- Need for more coordination between stakeholders
- Identify issues from a sector specific approach, resolve issues comprehensively
- Institutionalize the process
- Focus of policies
- Raise awareness



General Recommendations

- New laws/regulations should consider:
 - Technologies should sustain privacy not erode it
 - Poor info. security indirectly promotes criminal activity
- Establish the post of chief information privacy officer at the MoICT
- Capitalize on current global ICT slump to speed up internal progress
- Exploit international best practices

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Suggested Priorities



Suggested Priorities

- Priority One:
 - Information and privacy laws
 - Cyber crimes regulations
 - Regulations for electronic transactions law
 - Chief information privacy officer
 - Internet cafe regulations



Suggested Priorities

- Priority Two:
 - Outsourcing regulations
 - Customs law regulations
- Priority Three:
 - Income tax law



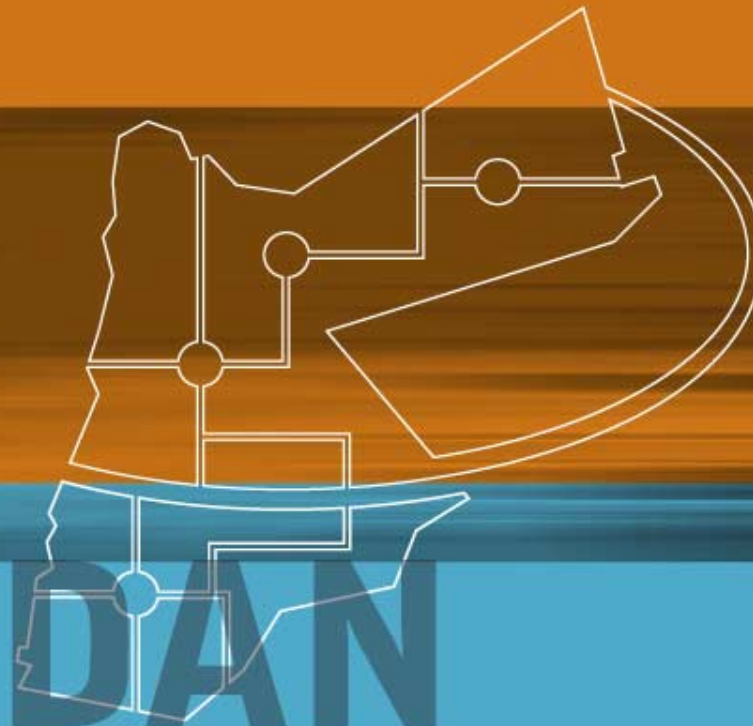
Conclusions



Conclusions

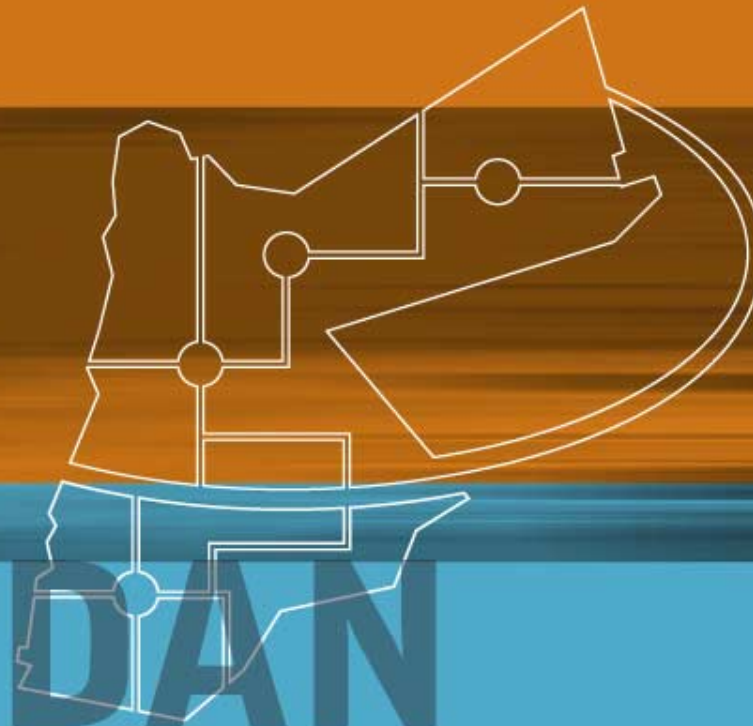
- The REACH Initiative put Jordan on the right ICT footing at the time when global ICT industries were booming
- Jordan's ICT sector played a difficult balancing act between keeping up and cleaning house
- Considerable progress to date in regulatory framework strengthening, more to be done by way of balancing intra-sector rights & obligations

Thank You



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Thank You



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