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MEDIA ADVISORY

ASIL PRESENTATION ON CHALLENGES TO AFGHAN WOMEN JUDGES

WASHINGTON, DC – The American Society of International Law (ASIL) will host a presentation sponsored by its Women in International Law Interest Group entitled **Afghan Women Judges Respond: Challenges of Administering Justice and Teaching Human Rights**. This luncheon event will take place **May 15, noon-1:30 p.m.**, at ASIL headquarters, 2223 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC. It will feature guest speaker **Joan D. Winship**, Executive Director of the International Association of Women Judges (IAWJ). Members of the press and public are invited to attend this free program by registering at www.asil.org/event0515.

The IAWJ and its partner association, the Afghan Women Judges Association, have been working together to provide support, capacity-building, and training for the women judges of Afghanistan. They also encourage the appointment of women to all levels of the judiciary and help train high school girls and their teachers in international law and in their rights under the new Afghan constitution. Winship, who traveled to

Afghanistan in February, will discuss the many challenges facing women judges there as they try to administer justice and equal rights during this time of transition.

Winship has many years' experience working on international issues, including international organizations, human rights, gender, and global higher education. Among others, she previously held positions as Vice President for International Programs at the Stanley Foundation and as Advisor for Strategic Alliances for Vital Voices Global Partnership. She has more than 20 years' experience as a college administrator and professor of political science. Winship is also a Trustee of the American University of Rome and on the advisory board of the Global Alliance for Women's Health.

ASIL events generally deal with one of the Society's seven program areas: Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, International Institutions, International Law and Development, International Security, Science and Technology, Trade and Investment, and Transnational Litigation and Arbitration.

ASIL is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, educational membership organization. It was founded in 1906, chartered by the U.S. Congress in 1950, and has held Category II Consultative Status to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations since 1993. ASIL's mission is to foster the study of international law and to promote the establishment and maintenance of international relations on the basis of law and justice. The Society's 4,000 members (from nearly 100 countries) comprise attorneys, academics, corporate counsel, judges, representatives of governments and nongovernmental organizations, international civil servants, students, and others interested in international law. For more information, visit www.asil.org.

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