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PRESS RELEASE

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2B Advice supports Morocco in process to obtain EU Commission recognition of data protection level

The Bonn data protection consulting firm 2B Advice trained the Moroccan data protection authority CNDP (La Commission Nationale de contrôle de la protection des données à caractère personnel) in German and European data protection law in a three-day workshop. The goal of the workshop was to provide the CNDP with an in-depth understanding of European data protection law. Morocco is currently making efforts to earn recognition of the adequacy of their data protection level from the EU Commission with the hope that such recognition will considerably increase European direct investments in the kingdom. The workshop, organized by the German Federal Enterprise for International Cooperation (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, GIZ), took place in Rabat from January 20th to the 22nd. The GIZ supports the CNDP with the support of the Fund for Structural and Regulatory Counsel (Struktur- und ordnungspolitischer Beratungsfonds), which is financed by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. The 20 participants included the president of the CNDP, M. Said Ihraï.

Along with the Constitution of Morocco, the Moroccan data protection law has functioned for four years as a safeguard for the right to privacy within Morocco. A system of professional data protection supervision has already been put into place with a seven-member data protection commission, the president of the commission, and the employees of the Moroccan supervisory authority. As data protection expert Sabine Mersch found in her analysis of these legislative materials, the legal level of protection in Morocco already meets Europe's high standards in their most important aspects.

As a result, the workshop focused mainly on ideas to strengthen the supervisory authority's consulting function for companies and ways to ensure legal compliance during the transfer of data between European and Moroccan companies. The organization of an effective supervisory activity, the usage of internal data

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protection officers like in Germany, and the European requirements for the independence of data protection supervision were also among the topics explained by Karsten Neumann, Associate Partner of 2B Advice GmbH and former leader of a German supervisory authority. Participants showed a detailed interest in all aspects of German data protection practices.

As the president of the CNDP stated at the end of the workshop, the CNDP will examine going forward how German experiences can be used to shape a more professional supervisory activity. The kick-off workshop has already uncovered a number of action items that can be addressed in the continuing collaborative effort. An official recognition of Morocco's data protection level by the European Commission at the end of this process would not only present opportunities for inter-company collaboration, but also strengthen Morocco's civil rights framework and thus the development of a democratic society. 2B Advice GmbH will also continue to support the Moroccan supervisory authority on behalf of the GIZ.



2B Advice Workshop at Moroccan data protection authority CNDP, standing: Karsten Neumann, Associate Partner and former Data Protection Commissioner of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Photo: CNDP

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About 2B Advice:

2B Advice – the privacy benchmark – is an international corporate consulting firm with offices in Berlin, Bonn and Munich (2B Advice GmbH), Brezno (2B Advice s.r.o., Slovakia), New York and San Diego (2B Advice LLC). 2B Advice offers solutions for all issues having to do with data privacy: consultancy, implementation, software, testing and certification. 2B Advice bridges the gap between technology and law, combining legal expertise, outstanding technical and organizational skills. 2B Advice’s goal is to become the leading international consulting firm specializing in data privacy.

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