



Universiteit Leiden
Faculty of Law

♣ Invitation ♣

Van Vollenhoven Lecture 2010

on

Legal Reform in Afghanistan, Prospects and Problems

by

Prof. Veronica Taylor

(Hague visiting chair on the Rule of law)

The Van Vollenhoven lectures are organized in honor of Cornelis van Vollenhoven, the Leiden law professor who acquired fame between 1901 and 1933 for his elaborate and detailed description and analysis of the laws of the Netherlands-Indies as well as for his impressive contributions to public international law. Previous lectures were given among others by Minister for Development Cooperation, Bert Koenders, International Court of Justice judge Pieter Kooijmans and Professors Franz and Keebeth von Benda Beckmann.

Date: Thursday 20 May 2010, 16.00 – 17.00 hrs. Tea/Coffee at 15.30 hrs.
Venue: Steenschuur 25, Leiden Law School (KOG), Lorentz lecture-hall (A-144)
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After eight years of donor-assisted state-building, Afghanistan shows characteristics that seem to foreclose the emergence of a viable formal state. Yet millions of dollars of development aid have flowed into Afghanistan to build new institutions – including a new justice sector. What are the realistic prospects for 21st century legal technical assistance in a pre-20th century conflict setting? Certainly it furnishes striking lessons for the Netherlands and other Western governments.

Professor Taylor was the Project Director for the U.S. Department of State *Afghan Legal Educators Project* (2004-11) based at the Asian Law Center, University of Washington and in Afghanistan. The project was designed to help professionalize the Afghan justice sector personnel, reconstruct the criminal justice system, and foster development of the rule of law.

We hope to welcome you on the 20th of May.

Prof. Jan Michiel Otto
Van Vollenhoven Institute for Law,
Governance and Development

Prof. Nico Schrijver
Grotius Centre for International Legal Studies