بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

BAR COUNCIL
OF THE MALDIVES

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PRESS RELEASE

BCM Successfully Holds Maldives' Inaugural BAR EXAM

The Bar Council of the Maldives (BCM) successfully holds Maldives' inaugural Bar Exam (BE2022) today, with 176 examinees. Administered in two key locations, the capital island Male' City, and the southernmost atoll, Addu City, the BE2022 had a 98.3% turnout for both the morning and afternoon sessions.

The Bar Exam will be administered once every calendar year, and assesses skills at a basic level by addressing a candidate's analytical abilities and understanding of the law. As such, the Bar Exam sets the minimum benchmark for admission to practice in the Maldives.

Led by key development support from USAID, ABA, Kaplan (UK), and NCBE (USA), the BE2022 is a multiple-choice exam, testing the knowledge to practice in Tort Law, Criminal Law and Procedure, Constitutional and Administrative Law, Contract Law and Practice, Land Law and Practice, and Maldivian Legal System. The syllabus for the BE2022 was developed by the Bar Exam Committee of Experts, and the dual-language exam, conducted in both Dhivehi and English, consisted of a total of 120 multiple-choice questions.

Together with the support of volunteer lawyers, the BCM also prepared Reading Lists for the six examinable areas, to assist with the preparation for the Bar Exam. The BCM also provided sample practice questions, illustrating the kind of questions that appear on the BE2022, and also conducted a total of 18 lectures during 2022, to provide support to examinees sitting the Bar Exam.

The Bar Exam is one of two essential requirements for becoming licensed to practice as a lawyer, as established under the Legal Profession Act 2019, with the other being the completion of a licensing training programme.

The BCM congratulates all candidates who sat the BE2022, becoming the first-ever law graduates to sit the Bar Exam in the Maldives.

19 November 2022