



## **Mark Jones appointed by the United Nations' Development Programme (UNDP) to act as Expert on Mission to the Maldives' Supreme Court.**

Mark Jones has been selected by the United Nations to act as Expert on Mission to the Maldives during April 2010. His mandate will be to advise and train a core group of senior members of the Maldives Supreme Court who will then have the task of training their contemporaries within the legal profession. The five-day project will involve in-depth training on international human rights law for criminal, civil, administrative, and shari'ah law judges. The training has been set in motion following a period of political transition and a move towards greater democracy and openness which has led to the setting up of a Human Rights Commission and the adoption of a new Constitution in 2008, which incorporates fundamental human rights guarantees. In addition to advising the judiciary, Mark will also be visiting prisons and police custody facilities to assess their compliance with the UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners.

This latest consultancy follows on from Mark's previous roles in acting as a human rights consultant to the Council of Europe, European Commission, EU and OSCE, training Supreme Court, Constitutional Court and lower Court judges in Albania, Moldova, Montenegro, the Russian Federation, and Turkey. Mark has also advised governments, defence lawyers, prosecutors, police, prison officials, the Office of the Ombudsman and NGOs in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kosovo, Lithuania, and Macedonia.

