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# YEMEN TIMES



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State Machinery Employed to Suck-in "Opponents" in Criminal Cases:

## Sanaa Rulers Revert to Tactics to Remove Key Persons from Public Life

Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf,  
Yemen Times.

The politicians ruling Sanaa are back playing an old game: the use of state machinery and resources to incriminate individuals who do not sing to its tune. The president's camp has perfected the game in the past, and their victims continue to fall, even as the regime claims many things including being democratic. Those individuals who the Sanaa ruler fails to win over - either by offering handsome gifts in cash, real estate, cars, posts or by intimidating them - are now subjected to a well-orchestrated game. The state props up adversaries to them in order to drag the independents and opposition politicians in various processes. The purpose is two-fold:

a) To suck in independents and

opposition politicians in a quagmire thus reducing their activities in political life of the country, or even ending such activities altogether. b) To spread rumors of differences between the independents and opposition politicians on the one hand, and kinsmen, relatives and neighbors, on the other hand. The idea is that if something ever "happens" to the independents and opposition politicians, then there is a ready explanation. Many a politician has been killed under vague circumstances, and such event was blamed on vengeance or other problems the deceased ostensibly had had with friends and relatives. Now the game is back in play - with fervor. Already there are several victims. So far, the game calls for humiliating the "opponent" rather than his

physical liquidation. That may be the next phase. "It is a scenario of settling old scores. Those individuals who had been boldly putting forth their views during the transitional period when there was a certain level of power balance, are today paying a heavy price," said an observer. The system is nearly bankrupt. The people no longer believe the hollow promises it offers. That adds to the regime's need for diversion. Even when the president's camp has full and unilateral control over power, it is unable to deliver any of the promises it has been making, and continues to make. Almost six months have passed since the political infighting has been militarily settled. Yet, very little has been achieved to reduce the suffering of the citizens. To the contrary, life is getting harder and harder.

## Al-Gumhurriyah Chief Editor Victimized by Taiz Governor

The editor-in-chief of *Al-Gumhuriyyah* newspaper, Mohammed Al-Mugahid, was suspended from work last week by the governor of Taiz, Colonel Mohammed Al-Iryani. The governor's excuse was that the *Al-Gumhuriyyah* press refused to publish *Taiz* newspaper, the mouthpiece of the People's General Congress in Taiz. "That is only an excuse," explained a local politician. "Relations between the press house and newspapers are governed by business considerations. The real reason why the governor is angry is because he has been stashing away piles of public money, and the *Al-Gumhurriyah* editor has been clamouring to bring the governor to accountability," added the observer. The governor of Taiz has been selling off government assets in Taiz left and right. Often he alone made the final decision as to who the buyer is and at what price. One of the deals that raised many eyebrows was the Central Marketplace in downtown which the governor sold off to an "investor". According to sources, Governor Al-Iryani has become one of the richest men in the country, thanks to his job in Taiz. "That is why he reacted with great sensitivity to the editor's calls that the governor account for the wealth he has accumulated in Taiz," said a lawyer in the city. Fortunately for the editor, two parties have come to his rescue. First, his colleagues in the newspaper more or less ignored the governor's orders and continued to work with their editor. The Managing Editor, Mr. Ali Al-Ra'ee, appealed to the governor and asked him to see light. When he saw the governor did not respond favorably, Ali and his colleagues ignored him. Second, President Ali Abdullah Saleh was upset and ordered a reversal of the governor's decision, especially since it had not been cleared with higher authorities. The story is not finished and new scenes are yet expected to unfold.

## Person of the Year 1994: Call for Nominations

The Yemen Times is happy to invite nominations for its 1994 Person of the Year. The two main factors in making the choice are:

1. Success in the private life/profession of the candidate.
2. Visible contribution for the national welfare.

Any person interested in nominating a candidate, including him/herself, may kindly do so before December 15th. Please fax your nomination to (01) 268-663, or mail it to:

**Person of the Year Committee,  
Yemen Times,  
P. O. Box 2579,  
Sanaa, Republic of Yemen**

Please enclose all information pertaining to success of your candidate at the personal level, and contribution at the national level. A Yemen Times team will sift through the nominations and will select the Person of the Year for 1994. The final choice will be announced on January 2nd, 1995, in Yemen Times issue number 1/95, Volume V.

## Yemen's Clean-up in Full Swing

On November 19th, Prime Minister Abdulaziz Abdulghani picked up the broom, and was the first to sweep off the dirt, in what has been dubbed as the National Comprehensive Campaign for Environmental Health. That was the beginning of a cleaning process of Yemeni cities that will extend until Thursday, December 15th. Many other senior officials were also at hand to kick off the campaign. The notable ones are the Minister of Municipalities, Housing and Public Works, and the Mayor of Sanaa. On the first three days of the campaign, over sixty tons of rubbish was cleared in the first district of Sanaa city. That is in the Old City. Mountains of garbage and rubbish had piled up in various parts of the capital city. Mr. Abdullah Ahmed Sunbul, General Manager of the Sanaa Cleaning (Sanitation) Project, explained that meager resources of the project are unable to meet to eh herculean task of cleaning the capital city. "That is why we need such special task force missions to once in a while overhaul the garbage. We have enlisted the participation of many volunteers, and people have offered their pick-ups and other vehicles to help move the dirt. Some businessmen have also provided financial support," he disclosed. Mr. Sunbul also indicated that the recent arrival of Japanese equipment for garbage collection will help a lot in making

these efforts a success. The Japanese government has provided US\$5 million worth of equipment which arrived in Sanaa last month. One of the major problems of Yemeni cities is the clogging created by on-the-road sellers and vendors of various goods. The municipal authorities are unable to address this issue because of the general poverty and level of unemployment prevailing in Yemen today. "The qat sellers further complicate the problem," a ministry source said. Another aspect of the problem is social, educational and cultural. Families feel they can clean up their homes and dump their garbage in the streets. In other words, families understand their responsibilities to end at their door-step. "We have to educate the people and show them that the streets are an extension of their homes," explained Mr. Sunbul. A third issue is the system of garbage gathering and collection. The system presently used is that households can dump their garbage in a thrash bin or can located on various points of the streets. This system is good for Western societies where the kind of garbage is different, and where families wrap their garbage nicely in garbage bags, and where the municipal authorities collect the garbage in very strict schedules and with extreme regularity. None of the above is true in the Yemeni context.

The campaign is expected to move shortly to other cities, especially Aden, where the independence celebrations are underway.

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## OUR VIEWPOINT

### The Middle East Peace Process and Yemen

The Republic of Yemen has taken important steps in becoming part of the Middle East peace process. The country has participated in the multilateral negotiations since their first round in Spain. Yemen has been an active player in the meeting in Morocco, to which it had sent an official delegation.

Yet, it is important that the country properly evolves a solid stand in support of the peace process. We need to abandon our overly cautious attitude and plunge into the peace momentum. There is nothing immoral or unacceptable about working for peace. The Republic of Yemen stands to gain a lot and in more than one way from its participation in peace. Some people will say this is an opportunistic attitude. It is not. It is actually opportunistic to sit on the fence ready to jump in either direction, depending on the direction of the tide.

Time is fast running out, and we cannot wait for a strong and clear answer. We have done a couple of major plunders in our foreign policy decisions recently. Let us not add yet another one.

Doing peace with Israel has been accepted by the protagonists directly involved with Israel. The legitimate representatives of the Palestinian people have accepted peace with Israel. Egypt has long done so, and Jordan has just concluded a peace deal. Both Syria and Lebanon are working on it.

So, who are to be holding back? It is foolish to play a role of "more royal than the king." We should not project the image that we are more concerned with the interests of the Arab countries bordering Israel than those countries themselves.

There is yet another trap we should not fall into. Yemen should not dodge the issue by saying that it will support any stand adopted by the Arab League. The Arab League is unable to take a unified stand on the issue. Even then, there is a majority of Arab states in support of peace. The Gulf State and the Arab Maghreb are in support of peace with Israel. That is already a majority. Add to that the countries directly involved in the peace process, there is an overwhelming majority.

It is time to bite the bullet. Yemen needs to show it is willing and able to play a constructive role in the regional issues. It is necessary for the very welfare of the country to project this image.

Yemen's Islamic Bloc, the Islah in particular, has often repeated it is not the same as the other religious extremists. It is a different breed, it claims. Here is a chance for them to show it. Can they support peace in the region, or are they committed to eternal animosity with the Jews and Israelis? Only they can provide the answer in the coming days.

But I hope they do not wait too long. A "no-answer" scenario is going to be understood as a negative answer. For the sake of Yemen and the region, I hope they will reach an appropriate answer.

*The Publisher*  


#### War in Shabwa

The Aal Tuhaif and Aal Ghunaim, two rival flanks of the same tribe in Shabwah, have been showering each other with all kinds of light and heavy weapons.

The Minister of Interior has spent a week in the region trying to bring an end to the war. He has asked for and obtained contingents from the army to help out.

The reason behind the war is given as differences over the possession of farms and grazing lands.

No casualties were officially reported.

#### Government Moves to Enforce Attendance of Bureaucrats at Work

The government issued last week an administrative order instructing all government officials to sign in upon arrival and sign out upon departure from office in a daily attendance roster kept in every government company and ministry. Only officials above with the rank of vice-minister and above are exempted from this requirement.

It is true that a great number of bureaucrats do not show up for work, or do not remain at work. This step was taken to bring an end to such behavior. However, observers are skeptical as to whether the new measure by itself will achieve the aspired goals.

#### Two New Ambassadors Arrive in Sanaa

Last week, two new ambassadors arrived in Sanaa. These are:

1. Ambassador Dr. Helga Countess STRACHWITZ representing the Federal Republic of Germany. Dr. Strachwitz, 54, brings with her a rich background of professional expertise and academic knowledge to the field. She had served in Ankara (Turkey), Cairo (Egypt), and Nairobi (Kenya), as well as in Bonn. Her last post was Head of the East Africa Department, and Deputy Director for African Affairs at the Foreign Ministry. She has a PhD major in Political Science and minor in Economics. As the only female head of mission in Sanaa, Helga, born in Dusseldorf, will definitely add a special touch to the diplomatic community in Sanaa.

2. Ambassador David George Newton represents the United States of America, and returns to serve in Sanaa for the third time. Mr. Newton, 58, had been here in Sanaa in 1966 (as Economic Officer), and in 1975 (as Deputy Chief of Mission). He is an old hand in the world of diplomacy having entered the Foreign Service in 1962. Since, he has served in Zurich (Switzerland), Beirut (Lebanon), Jeddah (Saudi Arabia), Damascus (Syria), and Baghdad (Iraq). His last post was Team Leader (Senior Inspector) with the Office of the Inspector-General at the Department of State.

David, a Bostonian by birth, is an Arabologist.

Yemen Times takes this opportunity to bid our two new friends most welcome.

#### Ambassadors Presents Letters of Credence

The Ambassadors of Cuba, Germany, the Netherlands and the USA are to present today, Monday, November 21st, their letters of credence as plenipotentiary ambassadors of their countries in Sanaa.

In addition, the ambassadors of Canada, Malta, Norway and Switzerland are presenting their letters of credence as their countries' non-resident ambassadors to Sanaa.

The ceremonies are taking place in Aden, the winter capital of the Republic.

#### Government Moves to Aden this Week

The government is to move to Aden this week in partial fulfillment of the presidential decision to make Aden a winter capital for the republic. The next cabinet meeting is scheduled to be held in Aden.

At another level, Aden is preparing to celebrate the 27th anniversary of the departure of the colonial forces and the independence of the southern part of the homeland.

#### Foreign Ministry Comments on Human Rights Watch / Middle East Report on Yemen

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a statement refuting many of the conclusions reached by the Human Rights Watch (Middle East) report on Yemen. The Ministry contested several of the facts reported by the world organization.

The statement was especially critical of the number of casualties disclosed in the report. It also complained that the report referred to the looting and plundering of the government forces and "failed to mention the secessionists started it."

At another level, the Ministry lamented that the report did not give adequate emphasis on the comprehensive amnesty issued by the state. The Ministry's statement disclosed that more than 12,000 Yemenis had returned from the countries to which they fled, and benefited from the amnesty decision.

#### Presidential Decrees in the Judicial Domain

Presidential decree number 9 of 1994 was issued on Friday, 19th November, naming sixteen judges to head the appeal courts in the various governorates.

Decrees Nos. 10 and 11 of 1994 also named Inspectors of the judicial system.

## Announcement

U.K.-trained pediatricians plan to provide consultation health services for children of expatriates (and others) in Sanaa, for a nominal monthly fee. The health care service will be on a 24-hour availability basis, including home visits as required. Only a limited number of families will be accepted in this plan.

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# "UNESCO Is Interested in Continued Cooperation with the Republic of Yemen."

The UNICEF's 17th Regional Conference has just concluded its deliberations in Sanaa. The two key persons who flew in from Paris for the get-together are Dr. Ahmed Saleh Al-Sayyad, Yemen's Ambassador to the UNESCO and head of its General Conference, and Mrs. Barbara Barry de Longchamp, representing UNESCO's Secretary-General Federico Mayor.

Ismail Al-Ghaby of Yemen Times talked to them about the conference and UNESCO. He filed the following interviews:

**Dr. Al-Sayyad's Interview:**

**Q: Why is this conference being held in Sanaa?**

**A:** I have to tell you that Sanaa was chosen as the venue for the conference by the UNESCO, following the approval of the various national commissions in the Arab World. It was also fitting that a conference on cultural and civilizational heritage should be held in this ancient city.

Finally, the Old City of Sanaa has been declared by the UNESCO a world heritage, and so we have an on-going project here. Let me conclude by stating that we are gratified with the preparations and facilities.

**Q: What is main goal of the conference?**

**A:** You may know that the UNESCO has regional groupings which together form its general conference. The Arab region is one of these groupings, and out hope has been that the Arab countries will get closer to each other in their perceptions and aspirations. This has been partly achieved here.

**Q: This conference plans for the Arab region's input into the UNESCO plan of action during 1996-2001. What is in your mind?**

**A:** As you rightly put it, we are here to study the Arab region's input into the general UNESCO framework for the said years.

As you realize, the world is undergoing major changes. The UNESCO activities must adapt to those changes. Although many of the projects of the past will continue, we need to look at the issues and possibilities opened by the changes. At the end of course, it is up to the member-states to determine the course of the organization.

**Q: You mentioned that the UNESCO is associated with projects in Yemen. Can you elaborate?**

**A:** We have projects in Yemen at different levels.

First, we have the world heritage cities - Sanaa, Shibam and Zabid. We have been the focal point for fund-raising for the preservation and maintenance of those cities. Then there are many projects related to the media and cultural growth. We have presented equipment and programs for the Yemenis television and radio stations.

**Q: Since you live in Paris, how do you assess French impressions of Yemen?**

**A:** The French people are highly cultured and they have shown a lot of interest in the history and culture of Yemen. That is why you can see many projects in archaeology, culture, language and literary fields. We in UNESCO have encouraged these tendencies. Another sign of French interest in Yemen is the flow of tourism. I am sure you realize that French tourists are among the largest groups visiting the Republic of Yemen.

**Q: What do you think we in Yemen can do to further to enhance this interest?**

**A:** There is a lot Yemen can do. The main thing however, is to present more information about Yemen. Unfortunately, I cannot say that any meaningful and fully thought-out work exists in this regard. Of course, there are some exhibitions now and then, but even these have been initiated by the French side.

**Q: Any last comments?**

**A:** I would like to express my admiration for the Yemen Times. It is really a different paper which has built-in values. You can read through the articles the ideals and values it upholds. I know there had been a few problems, but I am sure many decent people stand by the paper and what it stands for. We in the UNESCO follow this paper and its growth. I also follow the newspaper as an ardent reader. I enjoy reading it immensely.



**Mrs. Longchamp's Interview:**

**Q: What kind of coordination preceded the conference of the national commissions?**

**A:** The UNESCO was founded as an inter-governmental organization. It was soon discovered that contact was also necessary with intellectual communities. According to article 7 of the organizations' constitution, member states set up national commissions which form the bridge between the UNESCO and their governments. Today, there are 192 national commissions in the UNESCO.

The national commissions meet and present their respective governments' positions. They also base their plans on UNESCO's charter and orientation. In the recent past, the delegations from Arab countries have met many times to exchange notes and viewpoints. Therefore, even before the conference, a certain level of coordination had started beginning with the last general conference.

**Q: What is the major achievement of this conference?**

**A:** One major achievement of this meeting is, of course, in bringing together all the Arabs national commissions of the UNESCO. We discussed all the issues of concern for the Arab regions and their priorities. One of the major achievements was to agree on the next medium term plan which will go to the year 2001. Within the global priorities, this region has different priorities. So here we established which things are important for the region and in line with the global priorities. We realize more and more how

important the role of the national commissions is in evolving a broad guideline for the workings of the UNESCO.

**Q: How would you assess the preparations on the part of the government in the conference?**

**A:** I have been very impressed by the fact that the government has taken every measure to make the conference a success. The prime minister and many officials from the government have attended the inauguration session. A total of approximately 600 people attended one part or another of the conference. It all shows the level of interest on the part of the Yemeni government.

**Q: What is your evaluation of the activities of national commissions?**

**A:** We all know that national commissions are very effective and instrumental in the success of the organization. But because some commissions are stronger than others, the role they play is obviously more important. This creates an imbalance in the contribution and influence.

We accept that there are commissions that play a big role in program design and in guiding the organization. We work very hard to enable all national commissions to play their roles. I would like to congratulate the Yemeni government on the effectiveness of its national commission. This is evident from the way it has managed to organize such a conference.

We avoid the politicization of the issue, but the issue of influence of the national commissions borders on politics more than any other issue.

**Q: What is your impressions of the city of Sanaa?**

**A:** This is a lovely city with an ancient history. It deserves the support UNESCO is providing, and we will continue to seek funding and financing for its preservation and maintenance. I have conveyed to the authorities the commitment of the secretary-general.

**Q: What do you think of the Yemeni media?**

**A:** I am afraid I was only able to read the Yemen Times. I understand you have a lively media in this country, and I could see it in the Yemen Times, which is clearly an independent newspaper. I encourage the government to preserve this independence.

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## Rothmans Donates Ambulances

By: Yahya Yusuf Al-Hodeidi,  
Yemen Times.

Mr. Stephen James, Managing Director of Rothmans International of Pall Mall, hand-delivered the ownership documents of four ambulances to Dr. Abdul-Karim Al-Junaid, Deputy Minister of Health. The gift, worth a total of some US\$ 200,000 comes as a gesture of cooperation from Rothmans.

"We value our association with Yemen," said Mr. James on the occasion. Yes, Rothmans has been associated with Yemen for a long time, and its local partners are the United Industries Company in Taiz, one of the Hayel Saeed Group of Companies, the National Company for Cigarettes and Matches (NCCM) in Sanaa, and the National Cigarette & Match Industries Company in Aden.

It is not the first time that Rothmans comes to the assistance of Yemen. The company had chipped-in to the emergency assistance program in 1982, following the devastating Dhamar earthquake. Rothmans again came through to assist the returnees, Yemeni immigrant workers who were kicked out of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in retaliation to Yemen's stand on the Gulf Crisis/War.

The four ambulances, equipped



James hands over documents of ambulances to Dr. Al-Junaid as Moh'd Abdo Saeed & Al-Kumaim look on.

with all facilities, have arrived in Hodeidah yesterday, Sunday, 20th November. The Ministry of Health has already taken charge, and customs paperwork has already been initiated. It may take a long while, however, before they are released from customs. Dr. Al-Junaid, who spoke on behalf of the Minister of Health, said that the Government of Yemen appreciated the Rothmans contribution. "The four ambulances have been distributed one

each for Hadhramaut, Abyan, Aden, and Hodeidah governorates," he said. The distribution was dictated by medical needs in the regions. Mohammed Abdo Saeed Anam, representing the Hayel Saeed Anam Group of Companies, who were the intermediaries in securing the Rothmans donation, confirmed that Rothmans has always been forthcoming in assisting Yemen in its time of need. "Actually, it is a Rothmans

policy to interact positively with the emergency needs of the countries in which they work. You can see it in various countries, and Yemen is no exception." He added that the Hayel Saeed Group is also contacting other companies with which they work to chip in. Attending the ceremony on the occasion were Abdulaziz Al-Kumaim, Executive General Manager of NCCM, many Rothmans representatives, and Ministry of Health officials.

## Ministry of Health Prepares Special Public Awareness Campaign on the International AIDS Day

The Department of Anti-AIDS Campaign at the Ministry of Health is gearing up for a major offensive to be launched on December 1st - the International AIDS Day. The Department has prepared packages and circulars which have been made available to the media and the general public.

"We are enlisting the support and cooperation of religious leaders, social figures, educators, teachers, journalists, and other individuals," explained Dr. Ahmed Mohammed Makki, Deputy Health Minister for Medical Services and Health Care. They have listed a number of individuals who have agreed to speak in television and radio programs, give interviews to the press, speak in public gatherings and many similar activities.

The basic thrust of the campaign is two-fold:

a) To inform the public so that there is no paranoia regarding how the disease is communicated. "People are unnecessarily concerned about ordinary contact with AIDS victims, and we want to minimize the suffering of such patients," said a source. The goal is to protect the human rights of the victims.

b) To inform the public so that people should be careful and avoid getting the disease. The main issue here is warning against extra-marital sex, but especially against anonymous sex. Islamic religious teachings, which are so strongly against adultery, are employed to warn the public.

While the campaign points to the international nature of the problem, there is a special care taken not to allow the formation of anti-foreign perception based on the problem. That is why some foreigners have been enlisted to take an active part in the campaign. In addition, the Ministry of Health is closely coordinating its campaign with the Regional Office of the World Health Organization.

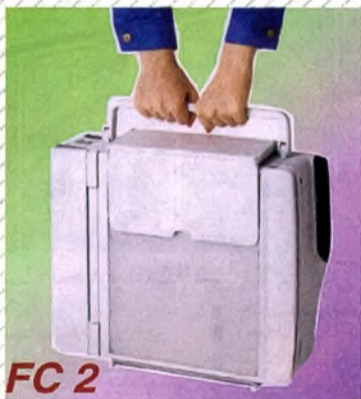
In next week's issue, he Yemen Times will provide a full coverage of the campaign, as well as the extent to which the country suffers from the problem.

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## LET'S START WITH PUBLIC SERVICE REFORM

By: HASSAN M. AL-HAIFI,  
Sanaa.

It goes without saying that public service goes beyond the public servant's desire to make a living out of a government position, while not altogether excluding such a desire. While the reasons vary from one public servant to another, one would expect that the desire to serve the people and the country is the strongest consideration in making the decision to opt for a government job, be it a military or a civilian position. Once other considerations start to override this yearning, one can only predict that the government without serious minded human resource material is bound to fail. Moreover, government personnel will be inclined to rearrange priorities to suit self centered interests of the state and the people (which should, of course, be inspirable at all times). As such, the end result is bound to be that the interests of the state become relevant only to the people inside the government offices and institutions that oversee these interests, with government thus becoming almost meaningless to a vast majority of its citizens.

In fact government could thus be a considerable more as a necessary evil that must be a series of incomprehensible procedures, some of which border on the absurd, and by a monstrous bureaucracy, void of human sentiment and good professional sense, as these citizens attempt to fulfill the requirements of their petitions to their government.

Many times, the cry is heard calling for concrete changes in the way the government of the Republic of Yemen functions. This writer does not lose sympathy for such cries for reform, but the truth of the matter is that such honest appeals shy away from making constructive criticism that deal

with the government machinery itself. They generally touch upon the issues, like the deteriorating economic situation, crime, corruption, etc, but the critics seem to forget that the government that lacks an effective organizational structure and well defined and simplified procedures is bound to be a significant cause for several of the maladies that plague the country.

People in the Yemen were generally regarded as having a clear cut understanding of the roles and functions of the government. With this in mind, the Yemeni citizens were more than happy to be good, law abiding citizens and to give the government all the support and respect, if such a government was to a degree, in keeping with this understanding. However, what has evolved over the years, for reasons that will not be dealt with here, is that this understanding has become confused, insulted and at best ignored or set aside. As a consequence, the government of the republic of Yemen became more like a giant turtle, whose major duty and function centered on strengthening the shell that guarded it from any loud outcries that had any potential for becoming outrage. There was no attempt whatsoever to return government to the roles and functions expected of it, and to assure that the public servants reflect the sense of responsibility and patriotic conscience of public servants who truly love their country and its people.

The obvious conclusion that can be drawn from all that was said before is that our most serious problem in the Republic of Yemen just happens to be that we presently have a malfunctioning government.

Moreover, the general impression is that many of our civil and military servants leave a lot to be desired at all levels of gov-

ernment in terms of sincerity honesty and trustworthiness.

If the "new" government seriously wants to implement the "new" government program (or any programs for that matter) it must be convinced that the present government machine or apparatus will shatter any such desires to pieces. First and foremost should be the institution of drastic reforms with the goal of establishing procedures that will eventually stream line the operations of all the ministries, agencies, public corporations, etc, that are covered by the government umbrella. These new procedures should contain the mechanisms for monitoring their effectiveness and for identifying any infractions of such procedures by any public servants, who may still regard their positions in the government as a centre of influence, embezzlement, and rapid wealth through fraud and other corrupt practices. An important point to be made about the proposed procedural guidelines is that under no circumstances should these procedures be tied to or tailored to fit the existing organizational structures of most of the government institutions. As a helpful tool in this monumental effort, it might be worth it to make use of flow charts to assist in finding the most effective the quickest and simplest procedures for the handling and or circulation of petitions, correspondences, functional and operational activities of the appropriate government institutions.

Further more, a Code of public service practice and behavior must be drawn up. This code should be closely monitored and strictly enforced by a public service Administrative agency for both the Military and Civil Service branches attached to the parliament.

Coinciding with issue of government procedural guidelines will of course be the reform of

the monstrous bureaucracy that has blocked any progress in the management of public affairs, as well as opened the way for wide-spread corruption to the point of making such corruption almost seem legal.

Undoubtedly these proposals will entail a big shake up but there is just no way to escape from it, if the government has any serious intentions of facing up to the problems that hinder the nation's growth and development and accordingly destroy any hopes for improving the standard of living of the citizens of Yemen throughout the Republic. However, once this shake up coincides with immediate steps for decentralization and the appropriate delegations of authority which should encompass the setting up of functional autonomous provincial and municipal rule, through local governments elected and established along the lines indicated above, this shake up will be easier to absorb especially if the appointment to government positions is going to be based on qualifications, experience and proven honesty and integrity. Chances are that most present government employees will feel no harm by these reforms. Most likely they will be welcomed by the majority of the present government staff, since the ensuing the situation is undesirable for them and the country anywhere. The majority of the government employees know that the "cream" produced by the current government set up is gobbled up by a selected few of the "BIG BOYS" who just never seem to have enough.

For the new government, then it will have to be just a matter of courage and initiative from the inside, more so that all the programs, speeches and promises which the new cabinet could ever dish out.

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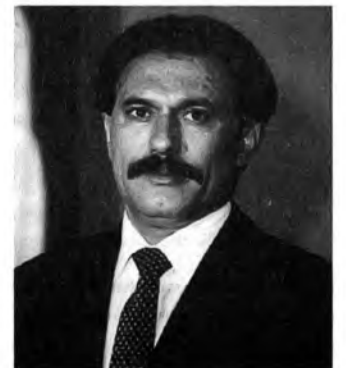
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## BIOTECHNOLOGY AND WORLD HEALTH

Advances in biotechnology including new and better vaccines could dramatically reduce the annual toll of up to 12 million deaths from infectious diseases in developing countries, according to an international team of scientists meeting at WHO in Geneva today.

"The benefits of biotechnology - such as new vaccines and drugs that may play an essential role in the fight against diseases - are likely to far outweigh any potential risks. However, public reassurance, based on objective scientific evaluations and examination of the ethical issues involved, is essential", points out Dr. Henderson, WHO Assistant Director-General.

Eminent scientists, experts in medical, regulatory, and ethical fields, consumer organizations and industry representatives from around the world are examining these issues and their relevance to diseases such as cholera, tuberculosis, malaria and AIDS among others. They are to produce general recommendations on safety and ethical considerations for the assistance of regulatory bodies, notably in developing countries, and to inform the general public.

"The new DNA technologies open doors to more powerful weapons against disease", comments Sir Gustav Nossal, Director of the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, The Royal Melbourne Hospital, Austria, and chairman of the BIOTECHNOLOGY AND WORLD HEALTH meeting. "Hepatitis B vaccine, insulin and erythropoietin are just some of the new life-saving products that have become available through the application of biotechnology. These products are extremely safe, pure and efficacious and can be produced in large amounts."

There are the direct advantages to the manufacture and use of DNA technologies derived medicinal products. New drugs can now be produced which would not otherwise be available, notably erythropoietin which saves lives in patients dependant on artificial kidneys. It could only have been developed thanks to biotechnology. For the production of insulin, industry required 30 million pigs a year. The preparation manufactured today through the application of biotechnical methods does not require the use of pigs pancreas and can be produced in large amounts.

Another important advantage of recombinant products compared to products derived by conventional means is the potential for improving safety. For example, human growth hormone is now manufactured by expression of the human gene in a cultivated cell line, rather than extracted from cadavers which may carry infectious agents.

Currently, research in biotechnology remains primarily confined to industrialized nations and efforts should be made for technology transfer to developing countries and involve them in all stages of the development of new products. There are other hurdles to overcome, among them: high initial costs of research and development (on average, it takes about ten years of research and US\$ 200 million of investment to bring a new product to the market) and possible adverse public perception of novel technologies.

\*DNA - deoxyribonucleic acid - the main constituent of the chromosomes of all organisms. DNA plays a central role in protein synthesis, and is responsible for the transmission of hereditary characteristics from parents to offspring.

Developing countries carry a disproportionately heavy burden of communicable diseases. even though vigorous implementation of current health programs may reduce mortality and morbidity rates, existing tools are unable to deal with some of the persisting and emerging problems. New drugs and vaccines are required to tackle the persistent challenge of malaria. This year to date, the cholera pandemic, according to official figures available to WHO, has claimed 8,410 lives in 74 developing countries. Tuberculosis has been declared a Global Emergency by the organization.

In sub-Saharan Africa, over 70% of the disease burden has been attributed to communicable diseases. The emergence of wide scale drug resistance is eroding some of the gains that have been made in controlling these diseases. In some instance, old tools, having become worn out by use and abuse need to be replaced by more effective technologies. Biotechnology can make a significant difference in the vital areas of diagnosis, vaccine development, prophylaxis and treatment.

"There are enormous benefits for mankind to be derived from new applications of biology which allow a much more targeted

approach to disease prevention,"explains Sir Walter Bodmer, Director of the Imperial cancer research Fund, United Kingdom, and Co-Chairman of the meeting. "Science made a quantum leap in 1973 with DNA technology becoming a reality. Diagnostic tools are now faster and more reliable. Vaccines - by far the most cost-effective interventions - are becoming remarkably effective, inexpensive and easy to administer.

Indeed, it is in the field of vaccine development that the global impact of recombinant technology is likely to be greatest. The first such vaccine, recombinant derived hepatitis B vaccine, has already been successfully developed using genetically altered yeast and has gained widespread international use. The confident prediction is that vaccines against bacterial and parasitic diseases are likely to be developed in the near future by recombinant rather than conventional means.

It is estimated that immunization saves the lives of three million children annually but some one million still die from measles and millions more die from other diseases which are potentially vaccine preventable. Biotechnology offers the hope of overcoming the limitations of existing vaccines. Thus, heat stable vaccines produced by using DNA techniques may eventually replace the generation of vaccines currently in use.

The use of vaccines in infants has considerably reduced mortality due to tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis. A shortcoming of the present triple vaccine is the requirement of multiple doses given at intervals of several weeks. Experience in some developing countries indicates that a fair percentage of recipients fail to turn up for repeat injections resulting incomplete immunization. Multiple immunization also adds to the cost. Approximately 90% of the cost of immunization a child is the cost of delivering the vaccines in one product. Designing such a vaccine, which will provide protection from several major childhood diseases is one of the most exciting and challenging areas of current research.

Two new cholera vaccines, both based on genetic engineering have recently been licensed in some countries. The new vaccines offer the prospect of much effective protection than was provided by the old cholera vaccine.

## YEMEN'S RAPID URBAN GROWTH: A CHALLENGE FOR PLANNERS

The rapid growth in population presents a real challenge to town planners in Yemen, and preparing now for the future is essential, says a senior government official.

According to sources, the population of Yemen is expected to double every 17 years, and in 25 years could reach nearly 42 million.

The investments required to keep up with the pace of urbanization are enormous and well beyond the capabilities of the state. In addition, the complication created in the process - such as urban unemployment, slum dwellings, crimes, etc. - means that urban issue will have to be given priority.

A study also shows that despite a significant increase in educational facilities and the resulting school enrolment among children, Yemeni human resources lag behind in productive capabilities compared with other nations. The result is that the country has a scant labor force participation rate even compared with the other developing countries.

Studies carried out by researchers point to an exceptional urban growth rate during

the past two decades and the tremendous pressures this has put on the various socio-economic sectors.

The fast growth in the urban areas and the influx to the cities from the villages created chaos in what has been dubbed as the "ruralization" of the cities.

"Yemeni cities could face formidable challenges in the future if they do not strengthen the capabilities of local institutions, both public and private," an observer points out. And this is necessary because with the growth in the number of households, their needs will correspondingly increase.

He called for a development strategy which transforms the role of local bodies from "service providers" to "growth managers" for the future needs of housing, facilities, infrastructure and employment. The private sector's role should be changed from mere "fund recipients" to "investment generators", he said.

The private sector can benefit out of this proposal, branching into recycling of metal from old cars and tin cans.

Municipal officials are said to be studying the real estate market in major cities. "The intention is to

branch out into several areas, and one of them is rentals," says a government official with the high rents in some city districts in mind.

The plan is to set up "development corridors" that will criss-cross from north to south and east to west outside the city limits, where there are small settlements.

Yemen was and continues to be among the least urbanized countries in the world. Even today, the urban population represents some 25% of the total population. Remember, the world average is 45.2% and in some countries, the rate goes as high as over 90%.

The upcoming census (scheduled for December 16-17, 1994) is going to offer more concrete data on the urbanization rate of Yemen. Whatever the exact numbers, nobody is denying the fact that there exists a strong rural-to-urban population flow.

The new government's program has pointed to the need of making rural people stay put where they are. But that would require massive investments in the countryside, and at this stage, it does not look like that would happen.

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# Making the Job of Counterfeiter Harder

Keeping the world's hard currency safe from threats such as modern color copier involves creative technologies that will change the inside as well as the surface of paper money.

When money changers in Sanaa, people often wonder why they carefully take each bill and hold it to the light. "Just looking for counterfeits," they usually explain to the impatient customers.

These money changers know well the subtle features that distinguish phony bank notes from the real thing. They have been burnt a few times by bad money, and Yemeni travellers carrying cash dollars have been subjected to various embarrassment because of the papers they carry. That is why people in Yemen are careful with the kind of hard currency cash they will accept.

The problem is not limited to Yemen. The world leading reserve currencies, especially the US dollar have been the victim of professional forgers. The U.S. currency has become the de facto world standard. The Federal Reserve estimates that up to 60% of all American greenbacks are owned by individuals outside the United States. "U.S. money is used in a variety of ways in other countries," says Lowenthal. "Sometimes it is used for goods and services, and sometimes it is the primary currency where the local currency is unstable.

Some people hold on to a \$100 or \$50 bill knowing that the underlying value is secure, but it is difficult to say if that represents a significant amount. "That is why, the committee on Next-Generation Currency Design, which evaluates possible design changes to U.S. currency that will be almost impossible to counterfeit, has been busy at work since 1992. Such modifications are not done lightly; the new design will be the first major change to the appearance of American money since 1929.

## A New Breed of Criminal

One of the main reasons for the changes, according to the committee's report, is that advancing technology has bred a new type of criminal: the opportunistic counterfeiter, who uses commonly available color photocopiers or laser printers. No longer does a counterfeiter have to be a hardened crook with inkstained fingers. Investigators say a growing threat comes from "the guy who wants to run off a few fifties on the office copier to pay for a weekend." Secret Service testimony to the committee disclosed that the number of such forgeries has doubled every year since 1989.

With these high-tech threats, the Secret Service can be forgiven for waxing nostalgic over the 100-year-old story of "Jim the penman," whose beautiful, hand drawn copies easily passed for the real thing. He was caught only because of his weakness for drink; when he slapped a fresh bill on a damp bar, the ink ran.

Although the forger's tools have progressed from the inkwell to the laser printer's toner cartridge, the Secret Service still does a remarkable job, intercepting 90-95% of all counterfeit currency before it reaches the public. Less than 0.01% of the \$257 billion of U.S. currency in circulation around the globe is thought to be fake. Still, there are alarming trends: Outside U.S. borders last year, over \$120 million in counterfeit bills was seized at counterfeiting plants - more than four times the amount captured in 1992.

The Secret Service is concerned about casually made forgeries, but the focus of its efforts remains the dedicated professionals, who print millions of dollars' worth of copies at once. As of now, there is no means to reproduce (counterfeit currency on laser printers or copiers) in quantity, but that may change. Most counterfeiting is by offset printing; you need inks, papers, and lots of setup. You can't do that on an office copier because you can't do enough quantity to make it worthwhile.

But the problem might get worse in the near future. Whereas laser printers with 300 dots per inch (dpi) resolution were state-of-the-art just a few years ago, 600 dpi and even 1,200 dpi color printers are taking their place in the modern office. Professional money trackers say they have seen 600 dpi fakes that they would have taken in a minute if someone didn't tell me they were counterfeit.

To defeat the office counterfeiter, the U.S. Treasury Department introduced micro printing in the 1990 currency. The printing appears as just another decorative curve around the portrait to the naked eye; examined closely, the curved line becomes the repeated words "The United States of America," but on a 1,200 dpi printer, even those tiny characters which are only 0.006 inch, or about one-seventh of a millimeter wide - look almost like the real thing, even under magnification.

Also new in 1990 was a change to the paper: a metallized polyester thread printed with "USA" and the denomination of the bill. (The thread was added to the \$5 bill in 1994). Held to the light, the words can be easily read on this thin strip of plastic.



Taken together, the micro printing and polyester thread help deter opportunistic criminals. But professional counterfeiters still find ways around the security thread and near-microscopic print. Criminals have bleached the color from lower denomination currency and reprinted the \$100 bill on the blank paper. This keeps the thread intact, although close examination would reveal it does not match the face value of the note.

## The Same Money, Only Different

Micro printing and polyester threads may be the latest efforts to make the bills hard to copy, but they are hardly the first. Even the distinctive green color was an 1861 anti-counterfeiting measure, which gave the bank notes their "greenback" nickname. (Green was used because it did not photograph well on the black-and-white film of the day).

There have always been security features; the blue and red thread in the paper, the intaglio printing that gives the paper a texture you can feel and that gives the paper a texture you can feel and that crisp appearance of the lines.

Intaglio printing is one of the distinctive differences between U.S. bank notes and currency from most other countries. Ink is applied to the printing plate, where it flows into the tiny, handcut grooves in the engraving. The plate is wiped clean, then pressed against the paper with extremely high pressure. As a result, the paper is printed and embossed simultaneously.

Keeping older features like intaglio printing was one of the challenges confronting the Committee on Next-Generation Currency Design. People are accustomed to U.S. money having a certain size and touch, and any new design had to be compatible with existing bank automatic tellers, vending machines, and other gadgets of modern times.

The committee made 14 recommendations, divided into near, intermediate, and long-term design changes. None of the modifications will be implemented before 1996, according to Treasury Department spokeswoman Rebecca Lowenthal. "No design has been finalized," she says, "and we haven't begun testing (for durability). We are still looking at different features, and we would like to use as many as possible. All decisions will be made sometime next year." Lowenthal emphasizes that the planned changes will not be devalued or demonetized in any way. Changes currently under consideration for 1996 include:

- color-shifting ink
- moiré-generating patterns
- a larger and off-center portrait
- machine-detachable fibers
- iridescent micro printed planchettes
- different polyester thread possible by denomination
- distinctive watermarks

Except for the larger and off center portrait, many of these features will be unnoticed by most people handling the money.

Watermarks, different placements of the security thread, and metallic fibers are all changes to the paper substrate. Changing the paper rather than the printing will be an important direction for the future. Putting more into substrate makes it safer. Instead of putting the security on (the paper with printing), you put it inside.

A feature likely to be added to the portrait is a moiré pattern, such as closely packed concentric circles. These patterns are not easily reproduced by digital scanners and copiers and appear as visible distortions on the copies, often compared to ripples on the surface of water. Circles like these could be worked into the intaglio engraving in a variety of ways, perhaps centered around ways, perhaps centered around one of the eyes in the portrait. The committee believes moiré patterns could even defeat copies made at over 1,800 dpi resolution, but Sincerbox cautions that this would have to be an ongoing change. "s dpi resolution increases on copiers, the density of the moiré pattern will have to be increased.

Another visible change would be using inks that shift color when the bills viewed from different angles: Straight on it might look green, but turned slightly, the ink might appear golden. Also noticeable would be the possible addition of one or more embedded planchettes, which are bits of reflective paper or plastic.

Both planchettes and color shifting ink exploit the weaknesses of copiers and scanners, says Tom Ferguson, assistant director of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. "A color-shifting ink would only have one color captured, and a planchette might reflect black on the light from a copier, where it was shiny on the original bill," he says.

## The Twenty-first-century Look

Although science fiction movies portray a cashless society in which everyone carries only plastic cards, the committee believes this is too far in the future.

For the next century, U.S. bank notes will probably emphasize substrate over surface-security features. Part of the reason is because of the trade-off involved in keeping existing security, such as intaglio printing. This printing method eliminates the possibility of using registration (precise back-to-front alignment) as an anticounterfeiting technique. With registration, an image or pattern becomes complete only when the bill is held to the light, allowing both sides to be seen at the same time.

The French 50 franc note is a good example," Ferguson says. "It has a cartoon character wearing a shirt and pants, and each side has only one part of the color. When you hold it up to the light, the whole outfit is colored."

To produce such precise registration, both sides have to be printed simultaneously. This is an easy task for offset printing, but impossible with intaglio because of the high pressure against the paper needed to create the embossing. Intaglio printing cannot print the front and back at the same time because the pressure squeezes the paper and slightly distorts it.

Two intriguing possibilities for the next century are photo chromic and metameric inks. Photo chromic inks work like eyeglasses that darken in the sun; to be effective under the quick, intense light of a photocopier or scanner, however, the ink would have to change color almost instantaneously and revert to normal just as quickly, according to the committee report, some experimental inks do just that.

Metamerics are used on some currencies, but the Bureau of Engraving and Printing does not believe the technique can be used on U.S. bills. "Metamerics create different color shades that only appear under the high-intensity light of a copier," says Ferguson. "On their 250 guilder note, the Dutch have a rabbit inside a square. You really can't see the rabbit on the original but it appears more distinctive when it is a subtle effect; people don't always notice that the rabbit

is there. Also the effect doesn't happen on all copiers."

Colorful holograms similar to those found on credit cards are another possibility but at this stage of development are too inflexible to work. Mr. Sincerbox, who is a program manager for a hologram-research project for IBM, thinks a small hologram could be part of a future design. "We've seen some on credit cards that instead of a full picture, you just see small pieces of the image. Those would be more durable (on paper currency). You wouldn't want to add a hologram just for color; you would also want it to have an image or parts of an image."

Holograms, planchettes, and other substrate features all have to pass the Treasury Department's dreaded crumple test, which folds and wads a bill to simulate real-world wear and tear. But Sincerbox is not sure that all bills should be held to this traditional high standard. "It may not be a problem," he says. "I handle my \$1 bills; maybe the dreaded crumple test isn't as important for those big bills."

The committee is also considering future changes to the printing, such as further exploiting intaglio printing by using latent images. These are high-relief pictures formed by the raised lines of ink; if viewed from a sharp angle, an outline of an eagle might be seen, for example. But like the substrate additions that would fail the crumple test, these ridges would wear down over time and make the latent image useless.

## Public Awareness is Needed

No matter how many safeguards are added to U.S. currency, much depends on public awareness of the security features.

Secret Service people say they (or the local police) should be contacted if any individual thinks he/she thinks he/she has counterfeit. Often, they can help determine whether the bill is real or bogus over the telephone. Outside the United States, individuals should contact the police or the liaison offices operated by the Secret Service in many countries. But above all, if a merchant is detaining a suspect, the police must be called immediately.

Despite the high-tech efforts to make forgeries, most counterfeit notes can be easily caught using low-tech methods. Sincerbox does not know of any companies currently designing machines that would help retail clerks authenticate bills, but he thinks such a device could easily be made. "You can catch most fakes with a low-power magnifying glass, if you know what to look for," he says. "Someone might make a cash register with a lighted screen that a cashier could discreetly hold the bill next to; that would be a big help."

Future counterfeiters will also have a more difficult time making forgeries on office equipment. Some color-copier manufacturers already have a pattern-recognition computer chip built into their color copiers that recognizes the major world currencies and refuses to copy them. Other companies are likely to follow suit, and the committee further recommended that a traceable micro dot be automatically printed on every color photocopy or laser-printed page.

But the greatest deterrence remains the stiff penalties for counterfeiting. The Secret Service warns that a criminal faces 15 years in prison and a \$5,000 fine for each phony bill seized. Spokeswoman Moore says that it successfully prosecutes about 99% of these cases.

With all these changes over the coming years, will the world currencies, especially the US dollar ever be completely safe? "Nothing is counterfeit proof, but you want to make it as difficult to copy as possible," says Ferguson. "Even black-and-white copies have been passed when people weren't paying attention. It is not just the dots per inch in the resolution; it is the combination of features that makes the currency unique. None of the counterfeiters have gotten to the point that it looks and feels right."

Adopted and abridged by:  
Yemen Times

## تهانينا الحارة

يتقدم الأهل والأصدقاء والجيران بأعطر التحايا وأزكى التبريكات

(( للشيخ علي بن احمد الدماجي ))

بمناسبة زفاف أولاده علي وعبدالله ومحمد

بالرفاء والبنين وعقبال البكاري وأدام الله السرور

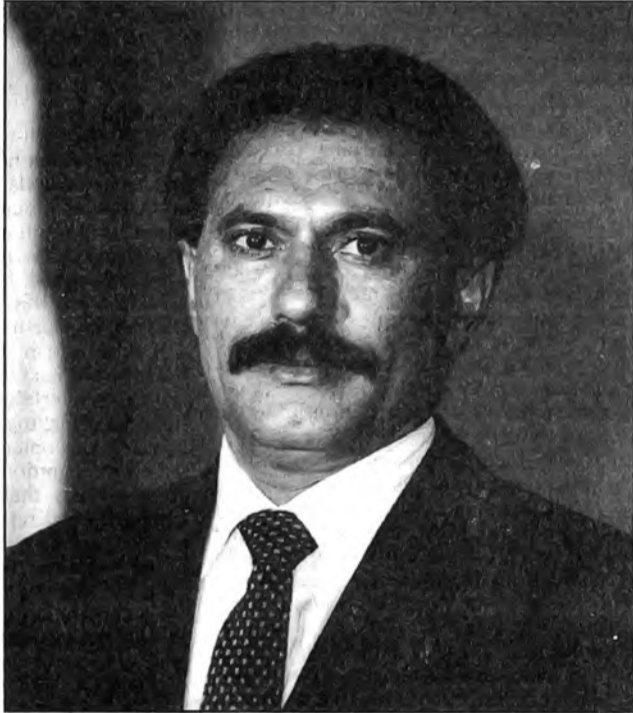
من إخوانكم:

الشيخ محمد بن ناجي الغادر ، الشيخ محمد الزايدي ، الشيخ احمد حنتش ، وجميع آل السقاف

# مجموعة شركات هائل سعيد أنعم

تتقدم

بأعطر التهاني وأزكى التبريكات  
إلى شعبنا اليمني الأبي  
والى رائد الوحدة والديمقراطية والتنمية الرئيس علي عبدالله صالح  
بمناسبة (٣٠) نوفمبر:  
ذكرى جلاء الإستعمار من جنوب الوطن  
وكذلك الذكرى الخامسة لتوقيع على إتفاقية الوحدة اليمنية



## Hayel Saeed Anam Group of Companies

presents

its heartfelt felicitations and warm congratulations  
to the great Yemeni people, our leader President Ali Abdullah Saleh  
- the pioneer of Yemeni unity, democracy and development -  
and the government of Yemen  
on the occasion of the 30th of November:  
anniversary of the departure of the colonial forces from the southern part of the homeland,  
and the fifth anniversary of the signing of the Yemeni unity agreement.



## URGENT NEED FOR FOOD AND NUTRITIONAL SURVEY

In the Northern Governorates, the Nutritionnal Survey of 1979 - which was carried out in 7 of the 11 governorates found that 4% of all children under 5 years were severely malnourished and 42% were moderately malnourished. Stunted growth was found to be more common than wasting, in pre-school children. Both these conditions were more common in rural than urban areas. Anemia showed the same pattern 50% of rural children suffering from it as compared to only 17% in Sana'a city.

Incidentally, the distribution of suffering mothers also showed an almost identical pattern: 72% in Tihama, 31% in the Southern Highlands, 27% in the North Highlands, and as low as 5% in Sana'a. (W.J. Stephen 1988)

In the Southern Governorates, the Primary Health Care Survey (1979), it was stated that at least 50% of pre-school children have body weights of less than 75% of the normal which would amount to approximately 170,000 children with second and third degree malnutrition. In 1996 and 1978 a number of small surveys were carried out at Ministry of Health centers in Aden in which 37% were found to be under weight (Bagenholm, C. 1976/1978). In 1979 in two rural villages, 55% of the children below the age of 3 years were found suffering from malnutrition and 12% were found to be severely malnourished (Kristiansson, B. Bagenholm, C. Nasher, A.A., 1979).

A much larger and more comprehensive survey was undertaken in 1982-1983, which gives an excellent insight into the background and problems of

malnutrition (Nasher, A. A. Ksistiansson, B. al.1984). Three main areas were studied - Urban Aden, slum areas of Aden and four very different rural areas coastal, inland, highlands and Wadi Hadhramaut. The main findings were .

1. No less than 40% of pre-school children were affected by some form of malnutrition - 3% have both stunting and wasting.
2. Malnutrition increases to its maximum level between the ages of 9 months to 2 years- the period between weaning and the introduction of solid food.
3. Anemia was common among women and children.
4. The highest percentage of malnutrition occurred in the slum areas rather than rural regions.

The data reflects the appalling situation in the whole country threatening the lives of infants, children, pregnant women and other risk-groups. However, malnutrition becomes one of the major health problems in the republic of Yemen and there is conclusive evidence that malnutrition is associated with the high infant, child and maternal mortality rates in Yemen which considered one of the highest in the world. Infant mortality is 131 per one 1,000; child mortality below 5 years of age is 190 per 1000; maternal mortality is 10% per birth.

The issue became more difficult and complicated these days due to the unbelievable rise in food prices, increased unemployment, poverty, etc., all of which intensify the malnutrition problem. In fact, the situation is extremely miserable and could get worse given the warnings of food shortages.

If the prices continue to increase compared to the sluggish rise in average income, then there will be more casualties. Some people cannot simply buy enough food. As a result, there are new signs in our society.

- a. It is now common to see children and women going through the trash cans in urban streets.
- b. It is now common to see people selling personal belongings such as jewelry, household goods and appliances, animals, land, etc.
- c. It is now common to see decent people begging and asking for help.
- d. It is now common to see many familial arguments and squabbling over financial matters and the household budget.

All these are indicators of hard times, and their implications on the nutritional intake is self-evident. That is why the Republic of Yemen needs to put together urgently a food policy that is based on a survey of the food supply, nutritional intake, and the diet. The food consumption pattern needs to be guided to help evolve a more balanced diet, and to discourage any wasteful consumption patterns, especially among the well-to-do members of society and during celebrations and various social occasions.

Many indicators point to the existence of a food-related problem in Yemen. The first thing the country needs is basic and substantive data. This can only be obtained through a food and nutritional survey.

Mohamed A. Kolaise,  
EPI Director

## INFLATION: What It Is, & Who Is Affected by It

On a visit to any store in Sanaa, you will find that prices have been changing continuously everyday. They, of course, rise.

A sustained rise in the general price level translates into a definite fall in the standard of living, because money is a store of value. Money is just a representation of the commodities and services it refers to. So, it is these goods and services which are of importance to us, not just the quantity of money. It should be noted that the value of money - often referred to as its purchasing power - has an inverse relationship with the general price level. For instance, a certain sum of money, say YR 100 will buy a kilo of sugar. If in a year's time, the price of a kilo of sugar is YR 150, then it is clear you need a larger quantity of money to secure the same quantity of product or service. This is what is called inflation in economics terminology.

In other words, the continuous increase in price levels makes the money worth less.

There are many problems associated with this phenomenon. Let me list some:

1. First, unless your income rises by a percentage higher than the inflation rate, then you are actually worse off. In ordinary lingo, you are poorer. So the first people to complain about high inflation rates are those with fixed incomes, or those whose incomes do not rise in the same level as the inflation rate.

2. Second, such situations cause confusion in terms of relations between debtors and creditors, buyers and sellers, consumers and producers and many other groups in society. High inflation rates mean that contracts and price offers are for short durations, and lenders are worried about the loss in the value of their money.

3. Third, hyper inflation makes people avoid using the local currency. As a result, some foreign currency is used to tie-up contractual relations between various groups.

A good example might be Germany between the two great wars. The hyper inflation caused a serious breakdown of the German monetary system. Money ceased to perform its functions. Prices were changing every hour. In August 1923, price fluctuations reached their peak and people reverted to the barter system. One kilo of oranges was worth three eggs; or if you wanted to go to theater, the price of the ticket was three boxes of cigarettes. The nature of inflation in Yemen is, of course, different from that hyper-inflation of Germany between the wars.

We can divide the Yemeni community into three classes. The working class, the fixed-income class and the business class. The effect of increasing prices varies from one class to another. It is clear that some groups can even benefit from inflationary conditions.

The working class tries forever to keep ahead of inflation. The constant wage negotiations and indexation are a permanent feature of 20th century industry and business.

Rising prices hit hardest the fixed-income class. They can purchase with their fixed income fewer goods and services than before. Inflation thus increases consumption tendencies and reduces savings.

The business class gains because the sale prices are rising even as the cost of production lags behind. Wages, salaries, rents and interests are fixed by agreements which are not immediately revised. Therefore, producers gain when prices rise.

When prices rise, the general body of consumers suffers unless they belong to the category of businessmen or blackmarketeers. Therefore, inflation favors one class at the expense of another. My dear rich reader if you are holding or hoarding money - in Riyals - that money is losing its value. It is no longer a satisfactory store of value; therefore you should invest it in real estate or buy jewelry or gold or appreciating foreign currency. Broadly speaking too steep a rise or fall in prices is bad for the economy since it affects negatively all sectors of the economy.

It is a very complex phenomenon, and it has no one single remedy. Anti-inflationary measures can be part of monetary or fiscal measures or both.

Although inflation has traditionally been seen as an economic phenomenon, its roots lie as well in the social and political structures of society. Inflation does affect the behavior of the population.

To reduce the suffering from an out of control increase in prices, the wages and salaries of low income classes should be paid indexed to the prices of basic consumption goods, such as flour, milk, meat, sugar, rice, etc.

The basic way to control inflation, however, is really to ask the government to live within its own means. Nobody needs officials who rob society and yet pretend they are providing a service.

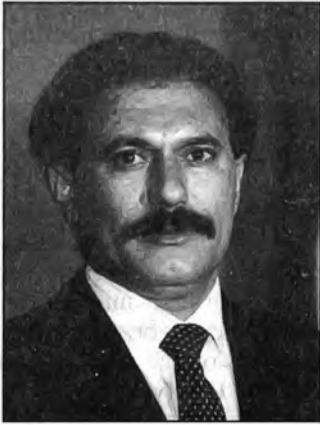
By: Sara S. Junaid,  
Sanaa.

## تتقدم شركة التبغ والكبريت الوطنية

بخالص التهاني والتبريكات للشعب اليمني وللقيادة السياسية والحكومة الرشيدة

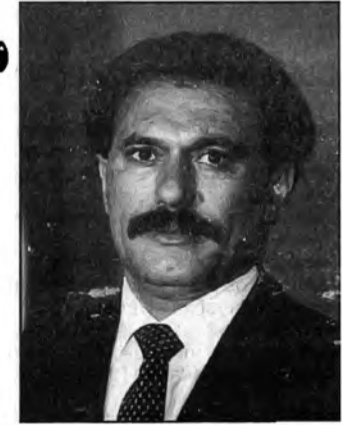
ممثلة في ابن اليمن البارّ الفريق / علي عبد الله صالح

وذلك بمناسبة الثلاثين من نوفمبر للإستقلال والتوقيع على الوحدة



Heartfelt congratulations from

**The National Company for Cigarettes & Matches**



on the anniversary of the independence of the southern part of the homeland and on the anniversary of the unification agreement

## Career Mothers & Child Care

As we go through the final years of the late twentieth century, it has become normal for more and more women to hold jobs. Career women now spend about 7 to 8 hours at work every day. This phenomenon has given rise to an important question about who cares our children and how to best handle this issue. "There are many answers to this question, but most not give satisfactory solutions to the child care problem. In short, I think there are many problems which I plan to discuss, as follows:

First, though, let me go through the alternatives working mothers have regarding how to care for their children.

1. Grand-parents used to take care of children when the mothers are outside the home. However, this option is steadily being limited as the nucleus family pattern has replaced the extended family system. We also know that grand-parents are always too soft and thus end up spoiling their grand-children. Moreover, they do not have the energy to run after the little fellows.

2. Many working mothers pay for child care at home. Baby sitters or maids are often employed for this purpose, but it is clear from experience that such service has not been up to the required standard for good families.

3. Nursery schools offer a third alternative. There are many types of nurseries and arrangements can vary in terms of duration and kind of service. These schools cost money and hence an



employed woman may find herself spending most of her salary to pay for these schools.

4. Company daycare centers is a fourth choice, wherever available. Given pressure from women's groups, many companies and factories have established daycare centers for the duration of work. These are simple arrangements which provide very limited education to the children.

It goes with saying that we should take care of our children by ourselves, if we can. We need

to be near them and give them love and warmth, which is lacking in most of the alternatives above. But it has become common practice for women to work, and thus divide their time and attention. It is rather sad that career women should leave their children to be cared for by others.

In my opinion, working women specially those with young children, need to re-assess their role in society and their priorities in life.

By: Rezk Abdullah A. Esmael,  
 YCIC, Taiz.

### VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### I. CANADIAN OCCIDENTAL PETROLEUM LTD.

Canadian Occidental Petroleum Ltd. is looking for two Accounting Analysts reporting to the Senior Accountant to work at the Field Office or the Terminal Office in the Hadhramaut. The successful candidates must be Yemeni Nationals with good communication and interpersonal skills and be able to read and write Arabic and English. The Field Office position is a rotational position and the Terminal Office position requires the candidate to be resident in the Mukalla area.

##### Some typical duties are:

- Check invoices for accuracy and verify against commitment documents;
- Code invoices and enter in computerized accounting system;
- Ensure appropriate documentation is attached to invoices for approval and cost recovery

##### Minimum qualifications are as follows:

- High School Diploma and degree in Business/Accounting/Finance.
- 15 years in an accounting environment.
- Good working knowledge of computing applications and spreadsheets.
- Basic knowledge of corporate accounting practices and procedures.
- Appreciation of contracts particularly in an international environment.

#### II. CANADIAN OCCIDENTAL PETROLEUM LTD.

Canadian Occidental Petroleum Ltd is looking for a Materials Accounting Analyst reporting to the Senior Accountant to work at the Terminal near Mukalla. The successful candidate must be a Yemeni National with good communication and interpersonal skills and be able to read and write Arabic and English. Must be prepared to move to and live in the Mukalla area.

##### Some of the responsibilities are as follows:

- Verification of invoices against tariffs/contracts;
- Verification/allocation of cost coding from computerized purchasing system and user departments;
- Clarify queries raised on invoices from contractors and government offices;
- Updating of contract rates/tariffs for section;

##### Minimum qualifications are as follows:

- High School Diploma and degree in Business/Admin/Accounting.
- No less than 1-2 years' experience in an accounting environment or 5-10 years if no degree.
- Good working knowledge of computers and working knowledge of spreadsheets.
- Understanding of corporate accounts.

If you feel you have the qualifications and background required for these positions, please submit your application to the following address:

RECRUITMENT SUPERVISOR,  
 CANADIAN OCCIDENTAL PETROLEUM LTD,  
 P. O. BOX 6065,  
 ADEN, YEMEN.

### VACANCY

#### UNITED NATIONS INFORMATION CENTER (UNIC) SANA'A REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

##### Functional Title:

Information/librarian/Reference Assistant

##### Summary of Principal functions:

1. The primary function of the incumbent is to make the reference unit a ready source of UN information by arranging documents and guiding its users. Use of Radio and TV responsibilities. Establishing of close working relations with other libraries of the country also form part of duties.

Under the overall supervision of the UNIC Information Officer the incumbent performs the following activities.

2. Takes responsibilities for the operation and maintenance of the Centers reference library and its collection and takes an active part in other information and educational activities.

3. Records classifies and controls all library materials (headquarters press releases documents and publications), and replies to routine telephone and written enquiries from the public at large, including teachers, journalists, publishers, NGO's and government officials.

4. Assists researchers and scholars in providing specific information about the United Nations, programs and the specialized agencies.

5. Collates and files all periodicals regularly received from the UN, its programs and the specialized agencies.

6. Prepares and regularly updates a complete a set of card catalogues for all publications and other written material available in the library.

7. Assists UNIC Information Officer in maintaining close working relationship with academicians, teachers students and NGO leaders, and provides whatever assistance and guidance may be necessary for the promotion of public interest in the principles and activities of the United Nations.

8. Keeps regular contact with librarians or his/her counterparts working at the United Nations system and diplomatic missions in Sana'a with a view to identifying the problems common to all in respect to the running of the libraries and make suggestion to the Information Officer for solution of those problems.

9. Takes responsibility for the running of the Center film library regularly updates the film catalogue and whenever necessary, arrange distribution, on a loan basis of UN films.

10. Assist the Information Officer in selecting appropriate films for the public showing and television screening in support of special observances, makes arrangements for the forwarding of such films to Yemeni Television and, tracks them down until those films on loan are returned in good condition to the Center.

11. Helps maintain and update Center's mailing list with special attention to the Governmental, non governmental and educational section.

12. Periodically conducts survey of readers of UNIC publications and makes suggestions for necessary changes in outputs as well as the mailing list of the Center.

13. Selects the scans news items from local newspapers to help the Center report regularly to DPI/ASG and other units to the organization.

The incumbent is required to assist the Information Officer in taking appropriate decision as to the distribution of the UN materials to different target groups, let them know of any news arrivals in the library, recommends measures for better management of the library through intense contacts with other national libraries and arranging inter-library workshops, exchange of views for better display of UN users, recommends on the ways of better display of visual materials for better understanding of the UN system.

The incumbent's efficiency accounts for a great deal of the image of the Organization in the country.

##### Qualifications:

- Bachelor degree or equivalent from any recognized university.
- Must have adequate knowledge of the UN system and Must be fluent in Arabic and English.
- Must be a computer user.

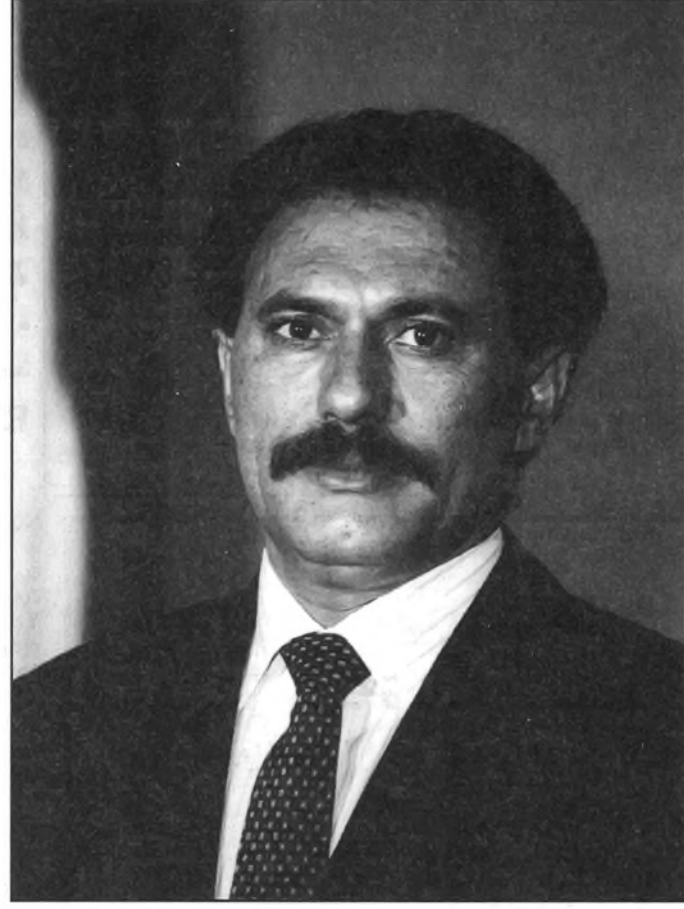
All candidatures should be sent to:

Mr Najib Friji, UNIC c/o UNDP, P.O. Box 551, fax No. (01) 263067  
 Deadline for candidates' submission is 20th December 1994.

تتقدم شركة

إنحداد المقاولين العالمية (سي سي سي)

بتهانيتها العطرة وتمنياتها القلبية لكافة الشعب اليمني  
ولقيادته السياسية ولحكومة الرشيدة ممثلة  
في الأخ الفريق / علي عبد الله صالح  
متمنين لليمن الرقي والنجاح والتطور



Consolidated Contractors (International) Company

**CCC**

extends its best wishes and congratulations  
to the Yemeni people, political leadership represented by  
President Ali Abdullah Saleh, and the Government  
on the occasion of the 30th of November:  
the 27th independence anniversary & 4th anniversary of the unification agreement

## Letters to the Editor, Letters to the Editor, Letters to the Editor, Letters to the Editor

### YEMEN'S DEMOCRATIC REVOLUTION

By Ismail Al-Ghabri

Today, we are destined to become witnesses to a historic turning point in Yemen's modern history. Apart from the re-unification of the country, the second most important event is the democratization process, which, coupled with development - represents a long path toward a prosperous, strong and modern Yemen.

It has become to our leadership that change - both at the political and economic levels - is an important prerequisite for the country's take-off towards a better future.

However, there are two facts I want to stress in this short message:

a) Yemen is not a democratic country, but is a country aspiring for democracy. In other words, we hopefully are democratizing.

b) Democracy cannot be imposed by a mere political decision from the rulers. It has to grow from among the people. As the forebears of the Americans put, "by the people and for the people".

Today, we are living through a pivotal historic process, in which we take part and through which we develop and establish human rights, dignity and security. It is thus our pride in the mind which God has given us, and the freedom that distinguishes us from other creatures, are affirmed. Freedom is by choice and therefore, it represents responsibility and commitment.

In a democracy the values of work and production to realize progress and prosperity are firmly established.

The success of democratization in our society depends on changing the prevailing cultural and social structures. More directly, it depends on our success in weakening the position of traditional forces. Democratization will open new opportunities associated with change. We need to use these opportunities in a fruitful way.

Democracy's taking root in Yemen also depends on the selection of qualified cadres who have the confidence and trust of the people on the one hand, and the ability and courage to embark on change, on the other hand.

But as a corollary to our democratization process, we also need to improve the living standard, by providing basic services at affordable prices, and to minimize social and economic disparity among our people.

There can be no democracy without social justice. Moreover, there can be no future for democracy unless everyone realizes its importance, and has a stake in its continuation.

The question remains; "How much prepared are our younger generation for democracy?" We must reinforce freedom of thought and scientific research, without fear of bias or backlash, especially if based on traditional values. Part of the democratization process is creating a climate of constructive criticism, liberate the mind from the censorship of the past, and in general, increase our awareness.

Only in this way can we reach the far horizons of civilization, and we can aspire to catch up with the advanced world. We are a Muslim and Arab people and we have very deep and firm roots in both camps, and we are proud of both. But that does not mean belittling the contribution of other peoples, and we should not worry about any hang-ups if we borrowed from other civilizations. We, as Arabs, have been afflicted with a long and ruinous stagnation, as one thinker put it. But backwardness is not a perpetual curse, it is the outcome of conditions which can be changed. A prosperous future is our goal, and democracy and economic development are the means to it.

#### FREEDOM OF THE PRESS

I would like to urge all Yemeni journalists to remain steadfast in their fight for freedom of the press. I urge them to refuse to be cowed into compromising their ethics and professional code. I laud Mr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf for refusing to surrender to the oppression of the state. His role in contributing to the cause of democracy in Yemen is clear. His act of courage and sacrifice is worth emulating and will inspire many Yemenis to resist injustice and oppression. Lastly, I recommend Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf as Person of the Year 1994.

By: Mohammed Seif, Sana'a

#### Editor's Note:

Thank you for the nomination, but Dr. Saqqaf, as organizer, is not eligible for the honor.

تقدّم

### شركة النفط اليمنية - عدن

بأرق وأصدق التهاني القلبية للشعب اليمني وللقيادة السياسية والحكومة الرشيدة بمناسبة ذكرى (٣٠) نوفمبر الإستقلال والتوقيع على الوحدة اليمنية .  
وكل عام والجميع بخير



فرع عدن



### YEMEN OIL COMPANY - ADEN

presents

its heartfelt felicitations and warm congratulations to the great Yemeni people, our leader President Ali Abdullah Saleh - the pioneer of Yemeni unity, democracy and development - and the government of Yemen on the occasion of the 30th of November: anniversary of the departure of the colonial forces from the southern part of the homeland, and the fifth anniversary of the signing of the Yemeni unity agreement.



INTERNATIONAL PEN FRIENDS



### Pen Friends Corner

By: Rahila Ba-Alawy

#### The Response to IPF - Yemen was Overwhelming

A tremendous and prompt response to the IPF was warmly received. This is a crystal reflection of high level of social understanding in Yemen.

In this issue, I would like to thank the Yemen Times in particular, which has made this corner a success. I do not forget the friendly people who responded to the call and showed eager cooperation.

To date the IPF has the following members from all over the Republic of Yemen:

1. Mujib Shihab - Sabena Airlines, Sanaa
2. Liang Tong - Tun/Roads/Bridges, Sanaa
3. AbdulHakim Saqqaf - Yemen Times, Sanaa
4. Mohammed Al-Ansi - Yemen Hunt Oil Co., Sanaa.
5. Walid Fahad - Shell, Sanaa
6. Aida Mohsin - Al Raydan, Sanaa
7. Fatma Ali Said - Student in Spectra, Sanaa
8. Kuthum Ali Said - Student at YILL, Sanaa
9. Nasser A. Baalawy - Yemen Hunt Oil Co., Sanaa
10. Ahmed A. Ahmed - Student, Sanaa
11. Ali M. Egly - Faculty of Arts, Sanaa
12. Ahmed M. Saleh - Sana'a
13. Abubaker M.A. Ghanim - UNESCO, Sanaa
14. Mansour Salah - Clyde Expro, Sanaa
15. Ridhwan Habib - Sana'a

16. Thomas Daniel - Sana'a
17. Othman S. Othman - Sana'a
18. Moh'd Osman "Libaax" - Sana'a
19. Anwar Sabry - Sana'a
20. Hussein L. Moh'd - Sana'a
21. Hassan Najdi - Sana'a
22. Sadeq A. Mohammed - Sana'a University, Sanaa
23. Faisal E. Ibrahim - English Teacher, Marib
24. Ahmed Taher - Training Institute, Ibb
25. Sammy AbdulHadi - Taiz
26. AbdulHakim Al-Ghaddar - Taiz
27. Ahmed Abdo - Taiz
28. Jamil Kuresh - Hodeidah
29. Moh'd Bamatraf - CanOxy, Aden
30. Nesrin Nasser - CanOxy, Aden
31. Moh'd Nasser - Aden
32. Aisha A. Bashueb - Aden Movenpick Hotel
33. Ali S.K. Al-Tamimi - Seiyoun.

The above members responded in the first and second weeks of the announcement. We have since received more responses.

When you write, please make sure that your full address is given in clear print. Any response the address of which is not clear or legible, will not be replied to.

For more information write to: Ms. Rahila, P. O. Box 481, Sanaa, Yemen.

### BE A LAW UNTO ONESELF

Nowadays the World community at large has many misconceptions and wrong beliefs about our country. The world may believe Yemen is a country where democracy is practiced, a nation governed by law and order and where everyone residing in it is protected equally by law. But the sad reality is that lawlessness is the order of the day, where the rich and mighty victimize the poor and weak. Just observe casually in the streets of Sana'a and you will find this to be the case.

Ethiopian and Somali refugees are day by day harassed, thrown into prison and their residences looted in day light. The harassment is engineered by a lot of people, including even women and their uniformed collaborators.

Surprisingly, some of the persons who are doing this are themselves refugees. For example, there is a strange lady who claims to be representative of the UNHCR for Ethiopian refugees.

Nobody knows whether this is true or not.

Whatever the case, it is imperative that the state enforce the laws of the land, or else people will be forced to take the law in their own hands.

In short, I would like to ask when such lawlessness will come to an end? There is considerable abuse of the human rights of the less fortunate members of society. When will be the time those people who unjustly suffer will enjoy equal rights as others? I urge the concerned authorities to act swiftly and decisively to bring an end to the oppression of some of our own. There are legal, social, religious and humanitarian dimensions to this problem. In all counts, it deserves to receive a high priority with the government. The question is, "Will that happen?"

By: Hussein Ali Al-Zubeiry, Sana'a

### THE HODEIDAH SHIPPING & TRANSPORT CO. (S. Y. C.)

IMPORTS EX CHINA/FAR EAST

WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT P.L.L. ARE NOW OFFERING REGULAR DIRECT SAILINGS FROM CHINA & THE FAR EAST TO HODEIDAH AS PER THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE:

VESSEL/VOY	SHA	BSN	HGK	SIN	CBO	DJI	HOD
K. BERANI/BRN09P	08/10	DMT	14/10	19/10	23/10	30/10	01/11
K. WIJAYA/WJA47S	16/10	20/10	24/10	28/10	02/11	08/11	10/11
K. BERLIAN/BRL23S	29/10	02/11	06/11	10/11	DMIT	20/11	22/11
K. BERKAT/BKT17P	06/11	09/11	13/11	18/11	23/11	29/11	01/12
K. WIRAWAN/WRN49S	16/11	20/11	24/11	28/11	03/12	10/12	
K. BERANI/BRN11S	26/11	29/11	03/12	08/12	12/12	19/12	21/12
K. WIJAYA/WJA49P	06/12	10/12	14/12	18/12	23/12	29/12	
K. BERLIAN/BRL25S	16/12	19/12	23/12	28/12	02/01	08/01	10/01
K. BERKAT/BKT19S	26/12	30/12	02/01	07/01	12/01	18/01	20/01
K. WIRAWAN/WRN51P	07/01	10/01	14/01	18/01	23/01	30/01	

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

SANA'A: 209346 / 208925: MR. DAVID TOWNSEND / MR. ABDUL WAHAB FADEL  
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# CHILD'S RIGHT DAY, NOVEMBER 20

## Making Reality of the Rights of the Child

Written by:  
**Thomas Hammarberg of Radda Barnen**  
Abridged by **Fatma Rawah of Yemen Times.**

The Convention on the Rights of the Child was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on November 20th, 1989 and entered into force on September 2nd, 1990. The rights set out in the Convention define universal principles and norms for the status of children. The Convention is the only international human rights. Upon ratification, states commit themselves to respecting these rights. The Convention on the Rights of the Child is presently the most widely ratified international instrument, the vast majority of states, including Yemen, having agreed to its principles.

The international Convention on the Rights of the Child prescribes an attitude to children which is largely absent in today's real world. Basic needs of children are denied in many parts of the world, including their right to life. Children are exploited or made victims of armed conflicts. They are not listened to by those in power. The Convention seeks to address these injustices.

Whether the Convention will change reality depends on how it is implemented by governments. Major reforms in almost all countries are needed. Non-governmental groups have an important role in proposing and monitoring such steps.

The international Convention on the Rights of the Child prescribed an attitude to children which is largely absent in today's real world. Basic needs of children are denied in many parts of the world.

The children of the world are innocent, vulnerable and dependent. They are also curious, active and full of hope. Their time should be one of joy and peace, of playing, learning and growing. Their future should be shaped in harmony and co-operation. Their lives should mature, as they broaden their perspectives and gain new experiences.

But for many children, the reality of childhood is altogether different. Each day, countless children around the world are exposed to dangers that hamper their growth and development. They suffer immensely as casualties of war and violence; as victims of racial discrimination, aggression, foreign occupation and annexation; as refugees and displaced children, forced to abandon their homes



and their roots; as disabled; or as victims of neglect, cruelty and even economic exploitation. Each day, millions of children suffer from the scourges of poverty and economic crisis -from hunger and homelessness, from epidemics and illiteracy, from the degradation of the environment. They suffer from the grave effects of the problems of external indebtedness and also from the lack of sustained and sustainable growth in many developing countries, specially in the least developed ones."

This quote is from a declaration adopted by the World Summit for Children in September 1990. More than 70 Heads of Government or State, as well as some 90 other senior officials, were present. In their declaration they went on to state that these problems are the challenges that they must meet.

They were also convinced that the nations they represented together had the means and knowledge to protect the lives and diminish enormously the suffering of children, to promote the full development of their human potential and to make them aware of their needs, rights, and opportunities.

The declaration went on to state: "The Convention

on the Rights of the Child provides a new opportunity to make respect for children's rights and welfare truly universal."

From Declaration to Convention

The convention referred to by the World Summit came into force in November 1989, after having been adopted by the General Assembly.

Earlier the League of Nations (1924) and the United Nations (1954) had adopted declarations about the rights of the child. Neither of these documents, however, was binding on the governments of the world: they were significant statements of principle, but no more. Therefore, an idea emerged about drafting a treaty between governments on the rights of the child. In the late seventies, the United Nations did agree in principle on the proposal.

The decision to embark on the project to draft a special convention for children was not obvious to all. One objection was that children already were covered by a number of existing human rights norms, e.g. the two UN human rights covenants. Special norms protecting children in particular had also been agreed on and included in several of the rights treaties. Some people, in fact, argued that it would be to the disadvantage of children if their rights were singled out in a special convention; special treatment can sometimes result in discrimination.

However, it became evident that the existing human rights norms were inadequate to meet the special needs of children. Reality itself was the strongest argument in favor of a convention. There were reports on grave injustices suffered by children-infants mortality, deficient health care for children and limited opportunities for basic education. There were also shocking accounts of how children were exploited as prostitutes or in harmful jobs.

Another reason why it was felt that the Declaration was not sufficient was that the thinking about the rights of the child had developed substantially since it was adopted. There was now a greater awareness of the psychological needs of children. Furthermore, more people had woken up to the fact that the interests of children were not necessarily identical with those of their guardians; it was clear that many children were badly treated within the framework of the family itself.

The project to draft a convention started within the

UN Commission of Human Rights; a special working group was set up for that purpose under that body. One feature was particularly important during the ten-year drafting process: non governmental organizations were allowed to take part and did put forward proposals based on their own practical experience. In that way, though indirectly, children also had a say in the work.

The final text was adopted unanimously and the World Summit later encouraged states to ratify. At the end of 1990, no less than 57 had already done so. The process has started, but would it make a difference?

Politicians, eager to be seen as child friendly, have often paid lip service to the well-being of children. But at the end of the day, children have usually been let down. In the power game, other interests have been stronger. Children have always been, and still are, the victims of hypocrisy.

This has been facilitated by the notion that problems relating to children were non controversial, should be seen as non-political and therefore standing above politics. Thus, the needs of children have been put outside the political agenda. This has often been to the detriment of children; other interests have been given priority at their cost.

For the children's rights movement this has been a concern ever since it first emerged. It was during the years after the first World War that the idea that children, too, had rights took root shortly after some concrete progress was made in the struggle for the equality of women. Typically, it was the women who had struggled for their own equal status who carried the banner for the rights of the child.

It is children who pay the heaviest price for the shortsighted economic policies, political blunders, and other mistakes. That is why children need rights for their protection and these could only be established through political/legal change. There is a clear difference between such an approach and charity. Though often based on a genuine compassion for the little one, charity tends to stop at kindness and to treat children as objects. The very idea of rights of the child in society has an obligation to satisfy the fundamental needs of children.

Next week, we will run a story on how far Yemen has come in protecting the rights of children.

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تقدم

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on the anniversary of independence day  
and on the anniversary of the  
signing of the unification agreement

## YHOC Training and Yemenization Programs in Full Swing

On November 7th, the last trainee of the Pipeline Department of Yemen Hunt Oil Company returned to the country following over a month training itinerary in Houston, Dallas (Texas), and Minot (North Dakota) - USA. This group of trainees were the second of two groups that the company had sent to the US for two different courses. The trainees are as follows:

1. Dr. Mukhtar S. Ali Awn,
2. Dawood Ahmed Abdullah,
3. Abdulmalek Al-Kohlani,
4. Shafer Mohammed Shafer.

The training program was on the Management and Operation of the Series VII "Supervisory and Control System" for the Pipeline Department data acquisition telemetry. The training program was completed by Valmet Automation at Houston, Texas.

This course provided the trainees with an overview of the series VII System. It covered Operator Entry, Display Operations, Supervisory Controls, and Alarm-Event Procedures. The main

purpose of this course was to enable the trainees to become thoroughly knowledgeable about the Valmet Monitoring and Control System for the YHOC Pipeline.

Dr. Mukhtar and Engineer Dawood had to spend two weeks in training with "Thunderco" and "Fisher Controls." As well, they attended the Valmet "Users Group Meetings" where they discussed the different options of upgrading and maintenance of the SCADA System.

Dr. Mukhtar had to spend an extra week in his training program at Portal Pipeline in Minot, North Dakota, and to spend some time in the Dallas Office and meet Senior Management Staff.

Yemen Hunt Oil Company has an extensive and intensive program for the training and Yemenization for its national employees.

In 1994, YHOC employees have been sent worldwide to Cairo, Egypt; Spring Field, Ohio, USA, as well as Houston, Texas for training on YHOC Mechanical and Electrical Control Systems.

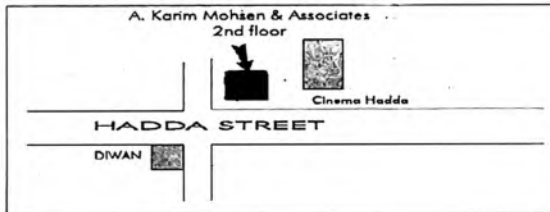
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All offers to rent should be presented before 9:00 a.m. on Sunday December 18th, 1994, to the following address:

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## إعلان المؤسسة العامة للبناء والتشييد

الرئيسي / عدن

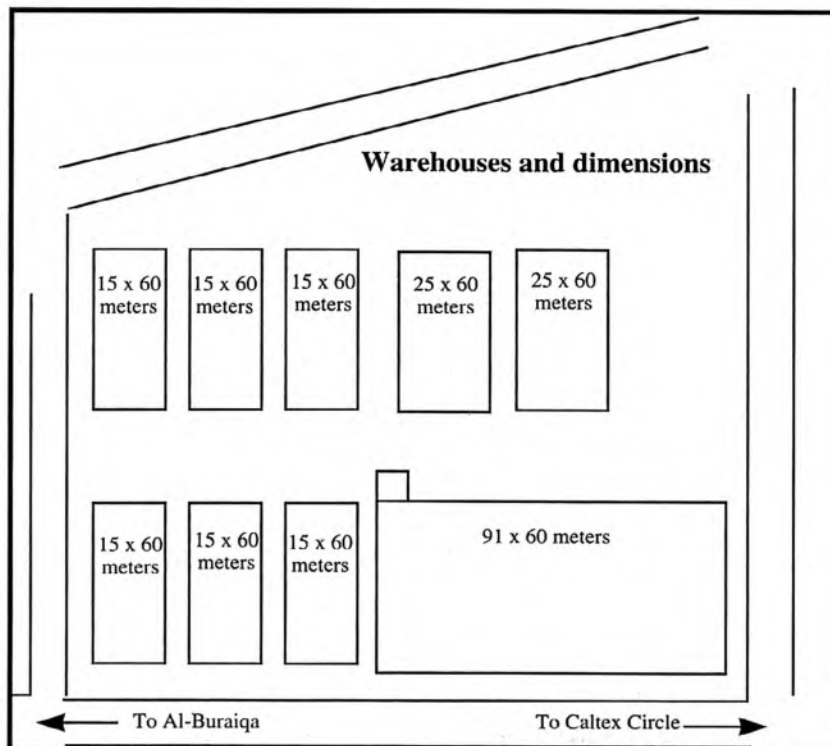
تعلن المؤسسة العامة للبناء والتشييد عن رغبتها في تأجير مستودعات سابقة التجهيز (هناجر) مع مساحة أرض تقدر بـ (١٩٠٠٠) م مربع محاذة للطريق العام عدن الصغرى / المنصورة وفقاً للرسمه أدناه. وعلى من لديهم الرغبة في الإستئجار التقدم بالعطاءات في ظروف مغلقة مرفق بها التالي:

- ١- صورة من البطاقة الضريبية.
- ٢- ضمان بنكي وقدره ٢٪ من قيمة العطاء صالح لمدة (٩٠) يوماً أو صك كقبول الدفع من أحد البنوك المعتمدة.

تقدم العطاءات في ظروف مغلقة قبل الساعة التاسعة من صباح يوم الأحد تاريخ ١٨ ديسمبر ١٩٩٤م إلى العنوان التالي:

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## UNESCO Conference Concludes

The 17th Regional Conference of Arab National Commissions for UNESCO concluded its 6-day meetings in Sanaa and issued a final draft document. The delegates who deliberated the plan of action of the organization for the 1996-2001, reached many decisions pertaining to their cooperation and interaction.

Mr. Ahmed Mohammed Hashim, head of the Yemeni UNESCO Commission, expressed tremendous satisfaction at the process and conclusion of the conference. "It was a big moment for the Arab commissions, and it was very useful for Yemen," he indicated.

Many other national commissions representing various countries also expressed their happiness with the proceedings. In particular, the delegates of Egypt and Mauritania came out with the most favorable impressions.

Dr. Ahmed Al-Sayyad, Yemen's Ambassador to UNESCO, in an extended statement to the Yemen Times (Please refer to page 3), shed light on the coming interaction between UNESCO and Yemen. "There are a number of fields that the two sides can cooperate in," he pointed out.

The Yemeni authorities have provided all the facilities necessary for the conference which was held at the Sanaa Sheraton Hotel. "We are grateful for the support and cooperation," said Mrs. Barbara Barry de Longchamp, representative of the UNESCO Secretary-General Mr. Federico Mayor.

Please read the exact text of Final Resolutions on page 15



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## The Irony of Fate

It is really ironic. The time has come when the opposition newspapers are able to come out, while the president's party newspapers were unable to come out last week.

Last week, *Al-Balagh* newspaper has resumed its circulation, and in two days, *Attagammu* newspaper will come out. Both newspapers belong to the opposition.

Meanwhile, the *22nd May* and *Al-Mithaq* newspapers, both mouthpieces of the People's General Congress. The reason the two PGC papers did not come out last week is that the Al-Thawrah Press House refuses to print any more editions as the two papers owe hundreds of thousands of Riyals in arrears and delayed

payments pertaining to printing costs, according to Al-Thawrah sources.

Many local and foreign observers are amused at the turn of events. "It is interesting that the rulers's papers are the ones which have stopped coming out, whereas the opposition papers have resumed circulation," one ambassador said.

Freedom of the press in Yemen continues to go through many ups and downs as the rulers are unable to tolerate a dissenting or different view point. As a result, the rulers have been putting all kinds of hurdles and obstacles in the way of independent and opposition party newspapers.



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