

First Yemeni Salafi political party announced

By: Ali Saeed

SANA'A, March 14 — Yemen's Sunni Salafis announced on Wednesday the introduction of a new political party by the name of the Yemeni Rashad Union.

In a three-day conference that lasted from Monday until Wednesday, Salafis from various parts of the country met in Sana'a to discuss their political vision and how to engage in Yemen's politics in a manner in line with their ideology.

"Salafis in Yemen have made significant contributions, particularly in charitable works; it's time for Salafis here to have their own political visions consolidated in one entity, one that represents all Salafi factions," Sheikh Mohamed Al-Baidani, a prominent Salafi leader and co-founder of the party said in a speech made during the conference.

"Our political union is open to all Yemenis in line with Islamic Shariah law," Al-Baidani said.

He added that the political party would not pose a threat to anybody

and that "the party aims to bring about justice and shoura (consultation) in a united and stable Yemen."

Judge Hamoud Al-Hitar, a former Minister of Religious Affairs who attended the Salafi conference, said that Yemen has experienced economic, political and security problems because of rampant corruption in all state institutions and a lack of justice and state of rule.

"This situation provided grounds for a peaceful revolution, in which the Salafis participated effectively," Al-Hitar said.

Salafi activities in Yemen — from the 1980s until the present time — have remained limited to charitable works, including water projects, the founding of Quranic schools, and aid for orphans and internally displaced persons. The Yemeni Rashad Union will be the first Salafi party in Yemen.

"The justifications for performing charitable work in Yemen are the same as those for practicing political activities by way of political parties," he said.

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Although the Salafi Rashad Union party included many factions of the group in Yemen, Salafis in Dammaj of Sa'ada haven't recognized it.

Reparation for victims in return for amnesty for perpetrators Transitional Justice Law last resort for ending Yemen's conflict

By: Ahmed Dawood

SANA'A, March 14 — Political parties and civil society organizations in Yemen are now engaging in heated debates on the draft Transitional Justice Law presented by the Ministry of Legal Affairs earlier this month.

The law is supposed to be presented to the parliament for approval next month, therefore collective feedback from the stakeholders is currently being gathered.

Minister of Legal Affairs, Dr. Mohammed Al-Mikhlaqi, says his ministry will wait until March 26 to receive feedback from everyone. Then between March 26 and April 4 the feedback will be compiled, before



The wording of the draft law dictates that it will promote a non-judiciary reconciliation, or what is known as restorative justice, where the truth is revealed for the national history while victims are compensated.

the final draft is sent to parliament to be discussed.

"In addition to local input, we will also discuss and listen to our counterparts from the international community and then a legal team will finalize the draft," said the minister.

The main purpose of this law, according to Al-Mikhlaqi, is to end conflict between Yemenis by com-

pensating the victims of local crises from 1994 until 2012, while maintaining the immunity clause included in the Gulf Initiative signed by parties of the current government.

The wording of the draft law dictates that it will promote a non-judiciary reconciliation, or what is known as restorative justice, where the truth is revealed for the national history while victims are compensated.

The practical mechanism to ensure no future violations take place is through creating an independent national human rights authority, according to international standards and the Paris Principles of Human Rights.

This authority will be responsible for receiving new complaints and will investigate grievances and violations of human rights. It will work not only as a defender of human rights, but will also educate and spread awareness of human rights. It will also issue periodic reports on the situation of human rights in Yemen.

The human rights authority will include female representation of no less than 20 percent, and will be formed under the leadership of the Legal Affairs Minister no more than



Victims of the Dignity Friday attack on protesters at Change Square on March 18, 2011. The 2011 uprising claimed the lives of hundreds of protesters.

six months from the time the parliament approves the law, and it is signed off by the president.

Although its funding will come from the state, the authority will be independent of the government.

Despite the promises for reparation and truth finding, some victims and their families are not satisfied with this law.

"I don't care about any transitional justice law," said grieving mother of those who killed my son and all the other martyrs, and if the government insists on letting the murderers go free, we will take justice into our own hands."

The transitional justice machinery

A temporary four-year commission will be formed in May 2012 to consider human rights violations from between 1994 until the date of the

approval of the transitional justice law.

This commission will be called the Justice and National Reconciliation commission, and be due to commence operations in June 2012. It will comprise of nine members. Those members will be men and women who have never worked in the police, security, army or any other military institutions. At least three of those members will not be connected to any political party that signed the Gulf Initiative (the GPC and JMP).

The body will have the right to hire any local or international experts or staff as seen fit to execute its mandate.

The body's work is three fold: to investigate grievances, providing a venue for listening to human rights violations, and to educate the public about human rights. Under the transitional justice law, victims, witnesses and complainants will all be protected by state institutions. Compensation for victims will

include medical treatment both locally and abroad, rehabilitation of the injured, compensation or repossession where possible for wrongly claimed or stolen assets, and reinstating those who were wrongly dismissed from their jobs since 1994 with retrograde financial compensation.

The committee will be involved in compensating the families of deceased victims. This will include sponsoring the education of children of the victims.

The money for compensation will come from the government, which hopes to obtain financial support from donors, according to the minister.

"In order to preserve the national history of the events, there will be documentation as well as some memorials and landmarks to remember the victims in more than one place. Also we will dedicate a date for tolerance and reconciliation," said the minister.

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Administration threatens to halt services for disabled people

By: Mohammed Al-Samei

SANA'A, March 14 — Following demonstrations by disabled care receivers and employees to demand the dismissal of manager Abdullah Al-Hamdani, administration figures at the Disabled People's Fund have threatened to halt services within a month's time.

Sources at the Fund said the main reason behind the potential stoppage of the Fund's services is an excessive waste of resources by Fund management. Meanwhile, Fund staff and disabled people continued their protests in front of the cabinet building on Sunday.

According to the Fund, around 52,000 people nationwide benefit from the Fund's medication service, payment for medical operations and, in some cases, financial aid.



Employees demand the removal of their manager Omar Al-Arhabi, the Oil Ministry denied his resignation saying he will return soon to his job.

Najeeb Al-Gadasi, a social researcher for the Fund and also one of the protesters, told the Yemen Times that the Fund's services for disabled people will be halted after one month due to budget looting and excessive expenditures.

Such mismanagement has created an evident imbalance between revenues and expenditures at the Disabled People's Fund. Al-Gadasi also pointed out that they had already organized continuing protests in front of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor and in front of the cabinet.

He emphasized that a significant amount of financial corruption accounts for the demands by the staff and disabled people that the manager be dismissed.

Weeks ago, a large number of disabled people threw shoes against

the Fund's medical committee to protest of the committee's poor performance.

The protesters said they were concerned about the reduced number of services being provided for disabled people due to corruption and that services had been suspended for the same reason in July of 2011.

A number of disabled people were injured last month because of assaults by persons belonging to the Fund's manager, Al-Hamdani, during the demonstration in front of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor.

In terms of the amount of disabled people in the country, that Yemen — according to statistics released by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor in February of this year — has about two million disabled citizens

places it high among nations of the world in this regard.

Raja'a Al-Musabi, Head of the Arab Association for Human Rights, says that it is possible to trace why disabilities in Yemen are so widespread.

A lack of health education, proper health care during pregnancy, marriage between close relatives, a lack of road safety, and in-home accidents are the main reasons for widespread disabilities in Yemen.

Al-Musabi added that early marriage and delivery are also factors, as they can hinder delivery and lead to a disability of the fetus.

It can also be more difficult for the 150 thousand or so of Yemen's citizens who live in the mountains to receive adequate care, where there often exists an absence of adequate facilities and care.

Yemen needs financial aid to cover 2012 budget

By: Ahmed Daood

SANA'A, March 14 — Yemen's cabinet last week approved the 2012 budget, the largest budget in Yemen's history.

The budget revenues for 2012 are estimated at the central and local levels to be more than YR 2 trillion (\$9 billion), an increase of 25 per cent compared with last year's revenues of YR 1.5 trillion (\$7 billion).

The expenditures for 2012 are estimated at YR 2.5 trillion (\$11 billion), meaning the government will need YR 560 billion (more than \$2 billion) to cover the deficit.

The national unity government is expected to cover the deficit through seeking further financial assistance.

It is expected that donor states will grant billions of dollars to the country to help Yemen out its degraded economic state.

"The large deficit from expenditures can be covered through the government's reliance on funds from donors," Professor of Economics at Sana'a University, Mohammad Jubran, said.

"The former government failed in dealing with donor funds," Mutahr Al-Saeedi, a former minister of cabinet affairs, told the Yemen Times.

"The government institutions were fragile and unable to accommodate the financial grants pledged to Yemen," he said.

He warned the consensus government against covering the defi-

cit through printing currency, as former governments have done, affirming that the situation will become disastrous if the current government applies such a process.

"That will reduce the value of the Yemeni currency," he said.

Ali Al-Wafi, an economist, said that if the government does not obtain the required assistance, it will face a substantial deficit in the budget. It would then be unable to pay for many things, in particular investments, that depend to a large extent upon foreign assistance.

The 2012 public service budget included employment of 25 percent of the job applicants since 2010 to the Ministry of Civil Service and Insurance (about 50,000 applicants).

This entails a financial cost of YR 25 billion (\$116 million), as well as 11,000 positions already planned in each annual budget.

This year's budget also included the cost of annual allowances from 2005 to 2010 for public servants, which is YR 65 billion (\$303 million), and the annual allowances for 2011 of YR 21 billion (\$98 million). Also included were the appropriation of adjustments according to seniority and qualification costing YR 19 billion (\$88 million).

The budget further included 500,000 cases of social security costing YR 22 billion (\$103 million), appropriated by the government last year.

The budget proposal will be set for debate and discussion in the parliament next week for endorsement.

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The newly-established party seeks to install Islamic Shariah law in the country's political system, according to Abd Al-Wahab Al-Humaiqani, party co-founder and leading Yemeni Salafi figure.

"The Salafis strive to rule the people using Islamic Shariah law using peaceful means," said Al-Humaiqani.

Limited female political participation

The Islah party has filled the role of Yemen's sole Islamic party since 1990. It is also now the largest opposition party in Yemen.

However, Al-Humaiqani said that the Salafi party is different from the Islah party when it comes to women's political participation.

"The Islahis have no problem with major political participation by women, but for us it is still impermissible for women to take over major positions," he said.

Basam Al-Shuja'a, a Salafi leader who traveled from Ibb to attend the conference, said there will be a space for women to participate according to their capacities as women and in line with Islamic Shariah law.

Salafis in Sa'ada boycott party

Following its announcement, Salafis in Sa'ada governorate's Damaj — the place of origin for Salafi ideology in Yemen — have spoken out against the party.

"They do not like to engage in politics. Without a doubt, they will make speeches denouncing this step of forming the political party," said Salafi leader Al-Shuja'a.

For his part, Salafi leader in Dammaj of Sa'ada Mohammed al-Wadei said, "This party only represents partisan Salafis, and we as Salafis oppose the formation of any political parties."

Sa'ada's Salafi faction still strictly adheres to what they understand as the original Islamic lifestyle of the prophet Mohammed in what is now Saudi Arabia. They live in tents and don't let anyone take pictures of them.

Transitional Justice Law last resort for ending Yemen's conflict

Although there are no legal consequences for the perpetrators of past human rights violations, the "name and shame" aspect of the law will be a strong deterrent to anyone who may wish to indulge in such violations in the future.

Although the body is a non-judicial entity, it has the right to summon all sides of the conflict and demand disclosure of evidence, documents or any materials or facts that would assist in revealing the truth. It also has the authority to inspect residences or places where crimes have taken place and to seize tools or documents used in those crimes.

Because of its high level endorsement by the president himself, the reconciliation commission has been given full cooperation from all state and non-state actors, including the military and security apparatus.

"It [the commission] has the right to summon for questioning anyone, no matter how high his or her rank is," emphasized the minister.

The four year operating duration was suggested as a tentative time frame for the commission to do its work. If more time is required, it will be dealt with at that time, according to the minister.

However, the disclosure of the commission's work and investigations are up to the victims, who may or may not wish their stories to become public.

"We welcome any suggestions that would help give the commission more credibility in the eyes of the media and the public," said the minister on the issue of transparency.

International experiences

The truth commission to be created in Yemen will benefit from interna-

tional examples from many countries such as Indonesia, South Africa, Tunisia, Morocco and Chile.

In South Africa, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission was formed after the abolition of apartheid in order to transfer the country from a white/black civil war to peace and democracy. The Promotion of National Unity and Reconciliation Act, No. 34, was formed in 1995. The commission was tasked with creating mechanisms for reconciling with the past, including providing amnesty for those who came forward and admitted their crimes while revealing the details of what happened, including the fate of some victims who were still missing.

In Morocco, the Equity and Reconciliation Commission was created in Jan. 2004 by King Mohammed VI. Its aim was to reconcile victims of human rights abuses, such as torture and atrocities committed by Makhzen (the governing elite) during the "Years of Lead", with the state. It also aimed to rehabilitate victims, and pay compensation for state outrages against them.

In Chile, the National Commission for Truth and Reconciliation presented a report in Feb. 1991, which revealed crimes that took place during the military rule under Augusto Pinochet that lasted between Sep. 1973 and March 1990.

The final report was known as the Rettig Report, and recorded more than 3,500 cases which were approved by President Patricio Aylwin at the time, who presented a formal apology on behalf of the state to the victims and their families.

All the victims who were included in the report received a signed copy of it. Later the president created a compensation and reconciliation foundation which was responsible for compensating the victims, and providing their families with continuous financial reparations running at approximately USD 16 million annually.

The establishment was also responsible for following up on cases which the national committee could not cover during its nine months of operation since May 1990.



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

UNDP Office is seeking qualified Yemeni National
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Republic of Yemen

Ministry of Agriculture and irrigation

Irrigation and Land Reclamation Sector

National Irrigation Program

Water Sector Support Program

(Project ID: P107037; Credit No.IDA H449-RY)

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

for (Second Time)

IFB Title: Procurement of Conveyance Pipes and Fittings for 2000 ha in Sana'a Basin (Batch 2)

IFB Number: 15/G/ICB/IRR/WSSP/11

- This Invitation for Bids follows the General Procurement Notice for this Project posted on-line on August 19, 2009 Notice Number WB3500-758/09 and that appeared in UN Development Business No758 of September 16, 2009 and updated on September 21, 2010.
- The Republic of Yemen has received a Grant from the International Development Association and the governments of the Netherlands and Germany toward the cost of implementation of the National Irrigation Program (NIP) under the Water Sector Support Program (WSSP), and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this grant to payments under the Contract for Procurement of Conveyance Pipes and Fittings for 2000 ha in Sana'a Basin (Batch 2) Bid No. 15/G/ICB/IRR/WSSP/11.
- The Ministry of Agriculture and irrigation, represented by the NIP now invites for the second time sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for Conveyance Pipes and Fittings for 2000 ha in Sana'a Basin (Batch 2).
- Bidding will be conducted through the International Competitive Bidding (ICB) procedures specified in the World Bank's Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits of May 2004 (Revised October 1, 2006), and is open to all bidders from Eligible Source Countries as defined in the Guidelines.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the NIP office and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from 8.30 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. during working days. Also applicants may have access to an electronic copy of the same document in Central High Tender Committee web site. "www.htc.gov.ye".
- Qualifications requirements include: technical, financial and legal aspects. A margin of preference of certain goods manufactured domestically shall not be applied. Additional details are provided in the Bidding Documents.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written Application to the address below and upon payment of a non refundable fee of US\$ 100 or its equivalent in exchangeable international currency. The method of payment will be in cash, cashier's check.
- Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before 11.00 a.m. on April 29th, 2012. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person at the address below at 11.00 a.m. on April 29th, 2012. All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security shall be lump sum amount of US\$ 27,000 (US\$ Twenty Seven Thousand), or its equivalent in free convertible currency valid for 120 days from date of bid opening.
- The address referred to above is:**

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Yemeni Petroleum Company workers start full-fledged strike



The strike has paralyzed all company facilities – including gas stations – throughout the country.

By: Mohammed Al-Samei

SANA'A, March 14 — In response to a call by the Yemeni Petroleum Company's General Workers' Union, employees of the company began a full-fledged, nationwide strike on Tuesday.

The strike has paralyzed all company facilities – including gas stations – throughout the country.

The strike started initially on Saturday with employees donning bands of red cloth, which developed into a partial strike in the following days. From Tuesday until the present time it has been a full-fledged strike, according to Dr. Saeed Abd Al-Mo'men, a member of the company's workers' union.

He added that the strike is being implemented in Sana'a and at branches in various other governorates.

The strike is intended to pressure company administration to retrieve

petroleum facilities that had been illegally handed over to businessmen, according to Abd Al-Mo'men.

"We also demand an increase in our salaries and the removal of the company director, Omar Al-Arhabi, as well as corrupt managers in other governorates," said Abd Al-Mo'men.

Mansour Al-Naqash, press officer for the company, told the Yemen Times last week that Al-Arhabi resigned from his post and had traveled to Jordan for medical treatment.

Al-Naqash also said the cabinet had formed a committee to study the situation of company workers.

However, the oil ministry on Friday denied the news of Al-Arhabi's resignation despite confirmations of the same from company officials.

"What was reported - that Al-Arhabi resigned - is untrue; he only traveled to Jordan for treatment. When his vacation is over, he will return to his job," read a statement released by the oil ministry.

Al-Qaeda battles continue; two militant leaders killed in Al-Baidha

By: Muaad al-Maqtari

ADEN, March, 14 — Locals in Khoor Maksr in Aden have affirmed that they heard nearby violent clashes take place between Al-Qaeda militants and Yemeni army forces that lasted until Wednesday morning.

"Heavy shooting between both sides broke out at night, caused panic amid the local population, and deprived them of sleep," local resident and activist Radhia Shamsheer told the Yemen Times.

It remained unclear whether or not Al-Qaeda militants had targeted the Badr military airport.

"If Al-Qaeda actually attacked the airport, the locals would have easily known it," Shamsheer said. "Nevertheless, the clashes themselves reflect Al-Qaeda's ability to reach very sensitive places in Aden."

While Al-Qaeda said in a statement that it had attacked Badr military airport with mortar shells, Shamsheer said the fighting hadn't included the use of mortars.

Last Tuesday, airstrikes targeted militant locations in the southern governorate of Abyan, but local sources told the Yemen Times that the strikes only succeeded in hitting civilian targets.

Aseel Hasel, a displaced person who escaped from Abyan to Aden, said the Air Force launched four strikes against the Al-Makhzan area - located near Ja'ar city - last Tuesday.

Local sources in Ja'ar said that aircraft had targeted civilian locations, including a farm and the Sumaia school, and pointed out that residents' houses and property had been damaged by the strikes.

Ansar Al-Shariah (<supporters of Islamic law) claimed responsibility for last Tuesday's attack against the military base in Al-Baidha governorate and said that three of their



Locals in Aden said that they heard gunfire exchange nearby the military airport.

own fighters had been killed.

Sada Al-Malahim, an Al-Qaeda-run website, said the attack had led to the killing of 27 soldiers. It added that two other soldiers had escaped, and that one had been seized alive. The website continued to state that three Al-Qaeda fighters had been killed, with several others left wounded.

Military sources meanwhile stat-

ed that in fact only seven soldiers had been killed.

While Al-Qaeda hasn't confirmed that one of its leaders was killed in Al-Baidha, the Ministry of Defense website has stated that the Republican Guard killed four terrorists - including two senior leaders, Nasser Al-Dhafri and Saif Salem Al-Taisi.

Al-Dhafri was an Al-Qaeda leader in Al-Baidha who had been released

by authorities in January in a deal with the government that stipulated the withdrawal of militants from Rada'a.

The Ministry of Defense website quoted the governor of Al-Baidha, Mohammad Al-Ameri, as saying that four Al-Qaeda militants who were among the group that attacked the military base had been arrested.

Lead ballast near Red Sea coast may be radioactive

By: Muaad Al-Maqtari

SANA'A, March 14 — Yemeni fishermen in Hodeida have located nearly 21 large pieces of lead ballast (heavy material carried by a ship to make it more steady), which were cast off ships and now lie 800 meters off the Hodeida coastline. The solid waste is believed by locals to contain toxic nuclear materials.

While the fishermen said the ballast contained pipes stuffed with radioactive nuclear materials, a government commission tasked with checking the ballast has yet to comment on the matter.

Such radiation represents a direct and serious threat to the biological cells that are the most essential components of human and animal bodies, according to environment expert Waleed Al-Qadasi.

"If stores of pesticides can pose the threat of cancer to residents of neighboring houses, nuclear radiation can cause yet more harm to humans and animals," he said. "It causes genetic disorders that extend to second and third generations."

Al-Qadasi further added that radioactive materials are buried near Yemeni coastlines, and added that the rate with which tumors have spread in coastal areas raises many questions about such waste burial.

Mahmoud Shadyoh, chairman of the Public Authority for Environmental Protection and member of the above-mentioned commission, told the Yemen Times that the commission hasn't yet finalized its report, which is due to be submitted to the cabinet next Wednesday.

Yasser Ghobair, head of Hodeida's Environmental Protection Authority, revealed to the Yemen Times that the National Committee for Nuclear Energy has taken part in the report's preparation.

For his part, Ghobair definitively stated that the lead ballast don't contain radioactive materials. The statement was given despite the fact that ballast had not yet been checked.

"Waves in the sea were heavy and it was difficult to dive deeper to explore," said Ghobair.



He affirmed that the ballast is 800 meters away from the coast of Al-Doraihim and lies 4 meters below the water's surface. Ghobair added that 30 years ago, fisherman had found similar pieces of ballast, which they had cut into parts and sold in markets as junk.

"The ballast that was cut has been in existence for a long time, but there is other ballast that was found months ago, and is thought to contain radiation," said fisherman Mohammad Bajili.

Bajili told the Yemen Times that there are mafias of the Coastguards forces which work for the favor of major shipping companies belonging to superpowers such as the United States, Britain and Japan, pointing out that the mafias allow these companies to bury wastes of ships in the Yemeni territorial waters.

Bajili said that there are about 21 pieces of brass ballast, other than those that were cut and sold in markets by fishermen, and said they are believed to be radioactive.

A retired colonel who requested anonymity said the dispute surfaced between Coastguards aligned with defected Major General Ali Muhsin Al-Ahmar and National Security forces commanded by former president Ali Abdullah Saleh's nephew, Amar Mohammed Abdullah Saleh.

National Security in Hodeida has accused the Coastguard of involvement in burying these wastes in Yemen's waters in the Red Sea, pointing out that the solid waste was found lying close to Coastguard facilities, which indicates some level of cooperation on the part of inbound vessels.

In late February, the matter was submitted to the government, which held an urgent meeting to discuss the issue.

The government formed a committee which included environment and health ministers, as well as three other experts from the National Committee for Atomic Energy.

Some officials from Yemen's Environmental Protection Authority

suspect that the National Committee for Atomic Energy possesses sophisticated equipment that could check for radiation.

Environment Protection Authority chief Mahmoud Shadyoh said the committee receives its equipment from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and explained that they have the same equipment which is given to other countries around the world.

Officials at the environmental authority said the lead ballast had been thrown from ships because of their heaviness. All ships operating internationally put ballast on-board to counteract strong winds when at sea.

Because many oil-producing and exporting countries are located on the banks of the Arab Sea and Red Sea many types of ballast are cast off miles away from the ports.

According to environmental studies conducted by the Public Authority for Environmental Protection, most such bulks are cast in the Red Sea.

President's office denies sacking Major Brigadier Tariq Mohammad Saleh



By: Marwa Najmaldin

SANA'A, March 14 — President Hadi's press secretary, Yahya Al-Arasi, has denied the truth of assorted news reports that Hadi had dismissed former president Ali Abdullah Saleh's nephew, Tariq Mohammed Abdullah Saleh, from his post of commander of the Presidential Guard.

Several Yemeni news websites and newspapers reported on Tuesday and Wednesday that Hadi had dismissed Saleh and had replaced him with colonel Abd Rabbu Meiad.

"This story is source-less and incredible, and the President and the Minister of Defense have both denied it," Al-Arasi told the Yemen Times on Wednesday.

The UAE-based Al-Khaleej newspaper said that in late February, Hadi had rejected a proposal by foreign diplomats for the restructuring of Yemen's army.

The GCC initiative, signed on November 23, 2011, stipulated the re-

structuring of Yemen's army based on national and professional standards.

However, both military leaders who remained loyal to Ali Abdullah Saleh and defected army commanders continue to run the military.

Ahmed Ali Abdullah Saleh - the former president's eldest son - continues to command the Republican Guard, Yemen's elite army division. The division possesses advanced military equipment and its troops comprise one-third of the national army.

Saleh's nephew, Yahya Mohammed Abdullah Saleh, also manages the Central Security Forces, while Saleh's half-brother, Mohamed Saleh Al-Ahmar, continues to head Yemen's Air Force.

Leading Army Defector Major General Ali Mohsen Al-Ahmar has maintained his position of commander of the northwest military region. Mohsen's son, Mohammed, has meanwhile continued to serve as commander of the eastern military region.

Vacancy Announcement



The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) invites competent Yemeni Nationals to apply for a consultancy with its "Local Governance Support Project (LGSP)".

LGSP (Local Governance Support Project) is designed to assist the Government of Yemen in transforming the existing local authority system into a local governance system as articulated in the Local Governance Strategy approved by the Cabinet in 2008.

The project is located at the Ministry of Local Administration and implemented jointly by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) and the Government of Yemen.

Post title: National Consultant/Consultancy Firm for Developing Improved and Gender Sensitive System to Measure and Evaluate Performance of Local Government Units

Duration: Four Months (84 working days)

Duty Station: Sana'a, governorates/districts of Yemen

Objectives of the Assignment:

The main goal of the assignment is to improve the capacity of MOLA to measure and evaluate the performance of LGUs in the areas of (1) Administrative performance (institutional development/ good governance), (2) Development and service delivery and (3) Gender.

The specific objectives of the assignment are:

- Reviewing the assessment report on the existing Performance Measurement and Evaluation (PME) system of MOLA and if needed, collecting information/ identifying gaps in addition to add to the report;
- Developing an Improved and Gender Sensitive System to Measure and Evaluate the Performance of LGUs;
- Developing the training materials on the system and training the team from MOLA, pilot testing the system and finalising it.

Responsibilities:

Under the direct supervision of the LGSP PME Specialist and the overall supervision and guidance of the LGSP Project Manager and the LGSP Chief Technical Advisor, the Consultant/Consultancy Firm, in close coordination with the MOLA (particularly the Local Government Performance & Evaluation department of MOLA, Sector for Women Development of MOLA), is required to undertake the following tasks:

- Developing a detailed work methodology and work plan including methods/ tools/ time frame and get it cleared from MOLA/LGSP
- Reviewing the report produced by the national consultant for Phase I of the assignment, identifying gaps in the report and collecting relevant information to close the identified gaps
- Developing an Improved and Gender Sensitive System to Measure and Evaluate the Performance of LGUs
- Developing training materials on the system and training the team from MOLA, pilot testing the system and finalising it
- Producing and submitting the final system and training materials and task report on the entire effort.

Qualifications :

- Degree or equivalent in Development Studies, Public Administration or related field. Courses in Performance Measurement and Evaluation, gender studies, gender analysis and/or gender mainstreaming desirable.
- 5 years of relevant experience in performance measurement and evaluation, with focus on government systems.
- Experience and knowledge about gender mainstreaming in performance measurement and evaluation will be an added value
- Experience in conducting similar and related assessments in the past.
- An excellent knowledge and understanding of performance measurement and evaluation in various country contexts.
- Excellent writing skills; ability to express complex issues in a clear, comprehensive and instructive manner in writing.
- Excellent research and analytical skills.
- Good IT literacy, including word processing, use of database information, and the Internet.
- Fluency in English and Arabic.

Only applications received through the email will be accepted

Interested candidates are requested to submit a Letter of Interest containing the following information:

- Explaining why the candidate is the most suitable for the work.
- Provide a brief methodology on the approach to the work and how it will be conducted (max. 300 words), with the exact number of working days required for completion of the assignment.

Applications must be sent by email to vaccancy@lgsp-ye.org

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

The deadline for receiving the applications is **24 March 2012**



FULL TIME POSITIONS ANNOUNCEMENT

Numerous posts based in Taiz

Mercy Corps (MC) is an International non-profit, non-governmental (NGO) humanitarian relief and development organization working in more than 40 countries around the world.

Positions: Project Officer- Food Security in Rural Taiz

This position will support the Program Manager and supervise a national team in the implementation of a food security voucher program in rural Taiz.

GENERAL POSITION SUMMARY: Reference Number: TAI_PO2012

The Officers will lead the project team in specific technical areas for a range of humanitarian project activities. They will be responsible for developing weekly work plans, monitoring of project implementation and management of field-based staff, building positive and cooperative relationships with local partners and beneficiaries. This is a field-based position, and Officers should expect to spend maximum of his time in the field.

REQUIREMENTS:

- University degree in a relevant field.
- Minimum of three years of work experience in project implementation preferably with an international organization
- Technical knowledge and experience for the specific job

Positions: Project Assistants-Voucher and Vendor

GENERAL POSITION SUMMARY: Reference Number: TAI_PA2012

The Project Assistants will support Project Managers and Officers in implementing a food security voucher program with vulnerable households in rural Taiz..

- Voucher Project Assistants will focus on conducting a targeting exercise to identify beneficiaries and will then sensitize the beneficiary households on using vouchers. They will be responsible for monthly voucher distributions.
- Vendor project assistants will work closely with vendors to train them on the redemption process, assist them with planning, stock/cash flow projections, addresses quality of commodity issues, and spot check that vendors are complying with terms of the program.

All Project Assistants will work closely with communities in a collaborative manner. This includes organizing and facilitating meetings and trainings in an honest, clear and transparent fashion. Ensure systems of project documentation are in place, properly completed and well-organized. He/she will have a strong commitment to teamwork, accountability and the principles of participatory community-oriented development. This is a field-based position, and he/she should expect to spend maximum of his time in the field.

REQUIREMENTS:

- University degree in a related field.
- Build and maintain trust and good relations with the local communities

Position: Monitoring and Evaluation Officer

GENERAL POSITION SUMMARY: Reference Number: TAI_M&E2012

The M & E Officer will assist in the development of monitoring and evaluation strategies and tools. He/she will be responsible for developing and maintaining databases and generating beneficiary lists and will collect and analyze relevant data in order for the team to measure project impact. He/She will supervise all M&E Assistants and Data Entry Clerk and train them on all relevant monitoring tools.

REQUIREMENTS:

- A university degree in relevant field is required.
- Two years' experience in program monitoring and evaluation within an international NGO
- Practical and theoretical knowledge in program monitoring and data collection methods.
- Understanding of the social, political and economic context of Taiz.
- Advanced computer skills in MS Office programs. Excellent skills in statistics and SPSS.

Position: Monitoring and Evaluation Assistant

GENERAL POSITION SUMMARY: Reference Number: TAI_FIN2012

The M & E Assistant will implement the M&E monitoring plan for the program through conducting surveys in local markets, with project vendors and at beneficiary households. He/she will collect and analyze relevant data in order for the team to measure program impact.

REQUIREMENTS:

- A university degree in relevant field is required.
- Practical and theoretical knowledge in program monitoring and data collection methods.

Position: Data Entry Clerk

GENERAL POSITION SUMMARY: Reference Number: TAI_DE2012

He/she will be responsible for the data entry of the different surveys conducted with beneficiary households and vendors and management of beneficiary database.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Degree in Information Technology is desired as well as fast and accurate typing skills

Position: Compliance Assistant

GENERAL POSITION SUMMARY: Reference Number: TAI_CA2012

He/she will reports directly to the Finance Officer and will be responsible for investigating complaints and cross checking vouchers redeemed against store inventory records. **REQUIREMENTS:**

- Degree in accounting or relevant field is desired
- A demonstrated ability to multi-task so as to not delay program activities.

Position: Driver

GENERAL POSITION SUMMARY: Reference Number: TAI_DR2012

The driver will provide safe, transport services for MC program and will adhere to all traffic and MC safety rules.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Valid drivers license and experience driving professionally
- Knowledge of routes throughout Taiz governate

SUCCESS FACTORS FOR ALL POSITIONS:

- Demonstrated ability to multi-task, meet deadlines
- Strong organizational skills
- Ability to interact effectively with international and national personnel.
- Professional standard of accounting and financial ethics.
- Willingness and ability to work in difficult situations.
- Strong computer skills in MS Office programs, particularly Excel
- Excellent oral and written English skills
- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Understanding of the social, political and economic context of Taiz

HOW TO APPLY:

Interested candidates are encouraged to submit a one page cover letter and their CV in English by email to recruiting@ye.mercycorps.org no later than March 23, 2012. **All applications must include the vacancy reference number in the subject line of their e-mail message. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.**

Mercy Corps is an equal opportunity organization and we encourage women to apply to these positions.

German Ambassador Holger Green to Yemen Times:

“I am not so worried about Islamists in the new Government”

Interview by Nadia Al-Sakkaf

At the June 2010 meeting of the "Friends of Yemen" working group in Berlin, Minister of State Werner Hoyer said: "Friends of Yemen" is not about money. It is not yet another donor conference. It is mainly about generating political commitment in Yemen and outside Yemen to address and to try to resolve the most pressing issues in a joint effort."

Your comments on that?

The Friends of Yemen are a group of states, which from 2010 onwards have supported your country in overcoming its difficult political situation. They are co-chaired by the United Kingdom, Saudi Arabia and Yemen. These three countries together are presently taking the necessary steps to revive this political process, which stalled in March 2011.

“

It is crucial for the sustainable success of the Friends of Yemen process that there is a permanent and focussed follow-up to high-level meetings

What the then German Minister of State said in 2010 still is valid today. It is a common understanding among the Friends of Yemen that their mandate it is to support Yemen mainly in the political field.

But the Yemeni government's number one priority seems today is to generate emergency funding to support the national budget and save the country from collapse.

I fully understand the priorities of the Government of Yemen; there are obviously huge budget short-comings. And these need to be addressed. But I do not think that this will be done through the Friends of Yemen process, which is to remain an instrument for political support.

But don't forget that many of the Friends of Yemen countries are at the same time the largest donors of development assistance. Their support to Yemen will come through the usual channels of assistance.

Does Germany have a specific role in the FoY group?

Germany has been a long-standing partner of Yemen and also has been active in the FoY group. In the past, we have in particular taken care of the Governance and Economy working group, which we co-chaired with the United Arab Emirates. We will have to see which results the forthcoming high-level FoY conference will produce.

In my view, it is crucial for the sustainable success of the FoY process that there is a permanent and focussed follow-up to high-level meetings, to which my country is willing to participate.

Are the embassy's operations back in full swing? What about its support to Yemen?

Well, the Embassy is on a good way back to normal operations, but not

all staff members are back yet. We officially reopened the Embassy on January 31 and started issuing visa in urgent political, humanitarian, economic and cultural cases. I hope that in the next months we will get additional staff, so that we can operate normally in summer.

In January I announced, together with the Country Director of the World Food Program, that Germany was supporting the WFP activities in Yemen in the order of €23 million in years 2011/2012. In addition to this we will start new development assistant projects. Projects to be agreed upon with the Yemeni Government in the next few weeks are even higher than the €25 million.

We are presently preparing three new programs in the amount of €35 million. These are projects to improve the health of mothers and children, to get damaged water works running again and to repair and construct schools for primary and secondary education.

Altogether there are €265 million available for projects in Yemen from earlier commitment, which so far have not been utilized. These funds could be mobilized relatively fast, provided the security situation permits activities in the envisaged project areas.

You were reported in the media to be concerned that Saleh's presence in Yemen might affect the transition. How do you feel about this issue today?

It certainly helped that the former President Saleh was outside of the country during the transition of power. It was completed successfully with the early elections on 21st February. The unexpectedly high voter's turnout confirms that President Hadi assumed his office with the full backing of the Yemeni people. Obviously, it is longing for a return to normalcy.

“

Altogether there are €265 million available for projects in Yemen from earlier commitment, which so far have not been utilized

Ali Abdullah Saleh has come back on the very day, when President Ali swore the oath of office, and we have to see which role he is going to play. The international community will continue to monitor the situation carefully; we hope that all political actors will abide by Security Council Resolution 2014 of last year and the GCC initiative.

Germany has been very open to dealing with the opposition from the very beginning, eg. visits to Change Square when no other diplomat would do that. Are you dealing with today's opposition the same way?

Well, the interim Government comprises the GPC and the JMP; today's opposition are groups which have been outside of the political transition process like the youth, women, Al Hirak and the Houthis. We, together with our partners in the European Union and others, have been

“

In Islah party there are many reasonable people. I am more worried about the lack of security in many parts of the country, which allow fundamentalist terrorists to gain ground

engaging with these groups.

I flew to Aden in December together with some EU colleagues to encourage representatives of the South to constructively participate in the forthcoming national dialogue. We did so also in February, when we were in Sa'ada to talk to the Houthi movement, including its leader Abdulmalik Al-Houthi.

We also engage with youth and women groups here in Sana'a and other cities. We firmly believe, Yemen can overcome its difficult political, economic and security situation only, if all relevant political forces actively work together.

Are you not worried of the rise of the Islamists in the new regime especially since Al-Qaeda seems to be gaining grounds in the south?

I am not so worried about Islamists in the new Government. In Islah party there are many reasonable people. I am more worried about the lack of security in many parts of the country, which allow fundamentalist terrorists to gain ground. I hope that the Government will find the right strategy to effectively curb their terroristic activities, which have already cost the lives of so many Yemenis.

Do you think - considering that both Yemen and Germany share some similar history through the unification- that a Federal system the German way will work for Yemen?

Even if there are certain similarities between our two countries, the political system of one country usually cannot be used as a blue print for the system of another. But I am sure that many Yemeni would prefer a system, where decisions are not taken at the central, but at a more local level.

Therefore, Yemen should study our constitutional system and our federal structure as well as those of other countries, take what seems applicable to Yemen and adapt it to the realities of your country. Germany stands ready to support these efforts.

“

I am sure that many Yemeni would prefer a system, where decisions are not taken at the central, but at a more local level

Holger Green was born in 1951 in Bernburg, Germany. After completing his masters degree in mathematics and geography from Aachen and Johannes-Gutenberg-University Mainz, he joined the Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs in 1977.

His first post outside Germany was in Beijing where he worked for around three years at the cultural department of the German embassy. His second external posting was between 1985 and 1988 as deputy head of the German embassy in Kathmandu in Nepal, from where he was posted to Japan where he served at the German embassy's economic department until 1991.

The following three years he spent in Paris as deputy head of the economic department at the German embassy and after that returned to Germany and worked for another three years as deputy director of the East Asia Foreign Affairs division.

Heading back to Beijing between 1997 and 2004, Green first worked as head of the cultural department and then as head of the economic department of the embassy; then he returned to Germany where he headed a division in the United Nations affairs and then the communication and public relations division at the Foreign Ministry. His first posting as ambassador was in the Kyrgyz Republic between



2008 and 2011 and he commenced his work as ambassador of the Federal German in Yemen since September 2011.

In addition to German he speaks fluent English, French and has a good command of Chinese and Russian. He is married to Doris and has one adult son.

مصرف اليمن البحرين الشامل (بنك إسلامي)

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Inside Yemen's revolution, cracks appear as Saleh leaves

By: Sudarsan Raghavan
The Washington Post
Feb. 27

The youth activists who spearheaded the uprising that ended President Ali Abdullah Saleh's 33-year rule are now grappling with internal divisions, as politics and competing visions weaken one of the Arab world's most dynamic revolts of the past year.

In Change Square, the nexus of the revolution, protesters have splintered into politically aligned groups, each determined to hold sway over the sprawling tented encampment near Sana'a University. The demonstrations have grown smaller as opposition parties take control, and clashes have erupted over who controls the microphones and the stage.

Independent activist leaders say they were manipulated by the opposition parties, which agreed to a deal with the government last year and are now sharing power with Saleh's ruling party. Although Saleh has formally stepped down, he appears determined to remain influential through his powerful rela-

tives and allies.

The activists say that they won't leave Change Square until the remnants of Saleh's regime are gone and that they will press the new unity government to enact far-reaching reform. But a sense of frustration fills their discussions.

"This revolution has been stabbed in the back," said Khaled Al-Anesi, a lawyer and one of the core leaders of the revolt.

Across the Middle East and North Africa, young activists are struggling to find a role in post-dictatorship societies as they continue pushing for their vision of a better future. They face well-organized opposition movements or armed militias that now wield much greater influence.

In Yemen, many of the young protesters say they have been left out, their voices silenced. Instead, an older generation of opposition leaders, their credibility tainted by previous ties to Saleh's government, will have the greatest say in shaping a new Yemen.

The revolution could gain momentum again, especially if the new government fails to meet its promises or if Saleh meddles in the country's

affairs. But for now, youth leaders acknowledge that the current environment is partly their own doing. They have not been able to unify, allowing political parties to influence the direction of the uprising.

"They pulled the revolution in different directions," said Maizar Al-Junaid, 32, a Sana'a University graduate seated inside a large tent in Change Square near posters of Che Guevara. "Every side is trying to attract the youth to achieve its own goals, and this has led to divisions and fear for the future."

From unity to division

A year ago, Change Square was buzzing with unity. Protests that began with a small group of youth activists, including one of last year's Nobel Peace Prize winners, Tawakkol Karman, blossomed into a revolution. Political parties sent their supporters to the square, multiplying the size of the demonstrations and the pressure on Saleh.

By last summer, the square was a remarkable sight as rival tribesmen and political foes pitched their tents side by side. They had one goal: Saleh's removal.

Despite their different political

affiliations, most of the youth activists held the same views. They were against a US-backed power-transfer deal, crafted by Yemen's Persian Gulf neighbors, that gave Saleh and his family immunity from prosecution for allegedly killing protesters. And they opposed allowing Saleh to turn over power to his hand-picked successor, Vice President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi, who is also a former defense minister.

But after Saleh signed the deal in November, the traditional political opposition ordered its young supporters to stop demonstrating, which significantly reduced the size and influence of the protests.

"We feel the demonstrations are empty from the inside," said Fouad Shujaa Al-Deen, 34, an independent activist. "There are no real goals anymore, no real meaning to them."

By some estimates, more than half the youth in Change Square are affiliated with Islah, the nation's wealthiest and most influential opposition party. Today, Islah youth dominate many of the committees in the square.

"Whoever possesses media and the tools of power, even the food,

controls the whole square," Al-Deen said.

"Islah," he added, "is the biggest power in the square."

As part of the governmental power-sharing deal, Hadi ran uncontested in a presidential election this month and was sworn in Saturday, formally ending Saleh's rule. Islah youth in the square actively campaigned in favor of the vote, deepening the rift with other young activists.

"We went out calling for a civil state. We came out against military rule," Anesi said. "Now, a military man is being forced upon us and given legitimacy through the ballot box. This is an assassination of democracy."

Mohammed Al-Saadi, Islah's deputy leader, acknowledged that the party uses young people to advance its political goals. "The Islah youth in the square get orders from the party," he said.

Clashes in Change Square

With Saleh's rule over, Yemen's political conflicts have emerged in Change Square.

When clashes erupted between Shiite Houthi rebels and ultra-con-

servative Sunni Salafists in Al-Jawf province and other northern areas late last year, tensions grew between the Houthi and Islah youths in the square. The Salafists are widely believed to be aligned with Islah.

In interviews, Shiite Houthi youth leaders in the square said Islah youth had denied them medical treatment at the makeshift clinic, targeted them with religious hate speech and distributed pamphlets that called them "the enemies of the revolution."

In January, the factions clashed over who should control the outdoor stage.

"When we joined the square, we joined with open hearts, for all of us to be united under the same goals," said Ali Al-Saqaf, 30, a Houthi activist. "But the continued attacks on us show that we don't have true partners in the revolution."

Habil Al-Ariki, 40, an Islah leader in Change Square, denied the allegations and accused the Houthis of trying to damage his party's image. But he played down the divisions in the square, saying that "the regime could take advantage" of them.

"We are capable of moving forward and past them," he said.

An indomitable Arab force is defying even death

By Rami G. Khouri
The Daily Star
March 14

What is it that drives ordinary Arab men and women to do extraordinary things, such as demonstrate against their government for 12 months non-stop, at the risk of being killed every day? I have heard many explanations for the ongoing Arab uprisings, but one of the best and most succinct I heard was at a seminar on Arab youth unemployment this week in Beirut, co-sponsored by the International Labor Organization regional office and Germany's Friedrich Ebert Foundation. ILO regional director Nada Al-Nashef captured one of the most complex but important dynamics underpinning the uprisings when

she said that to learn the lessons of the past 16 months of populist citizen revolts across the region, we must better understand "the nexus between unemployment, poverty and inequality" defining the lives and attitudes of so many young men and women in the Middle East. That may sound like obvious and slightly clichéd, but it strikes me as profoundly important for touching the heart of the malaise that had driven millions of Arabs to revolt.

Al-Nashef touched the critical emotional center of gravity of the Arab uprisings. This is more striking in Syria, Bahrain and Yemen today than even the overthrow of the Tunisian, Egyptian and Libyan regimes last year, because of the sheer magnitude, danger and longevity of the continuing protests. What kind of mindset is it that drives men and women of all

ages – not just unemployed youth – to go out into the streets of Syria, Bahrain and Yemen to peacefully protest because their government is treating them with disdain, inequality and injustice? And this when the demonstrators know very well that their chances of being killed or tortured are relatively high, compared to other nonviolent protests around the world.

What is this indomitable force that sends Arab men and women into the streets for 10, 11 or 12 months in a row, braving death, defying arrest and degradation, in order to shatter their own humiliation and transgress their vulnerabilities? How do we explain this willingness – no, more than willingness, this determination – to risk one's physical life in order to bring about a better quality of total life in the political, social, economic and psychological realms?

In a few days it will be 15 months since demonstrators took to the streets of rural Tunisia to challenge police brutality during protests that followed the death of Mohammed Bouazizi. Defying death, still the demonstrators take to the streets, finding ever more effective ways of organizing themselves.

It will take time and plenty of serious research to fully understand the underlying motivation that causes otherwise ordinary and unexceptional human beings – fruit vendors, shopkeepers, teachers, farmers, taxi drivers – to persist in this extraordinary feat.

One thing already is clear. Men and women who are mistreated by their own government for years on end go through a linear process by which they move from irritation, anger and indignity, to humiliation, to defiance and protest, to open revolt and finally to full-scale

national revolution. That critical path from listless, deprived subject to empowered, assertive citizen is sparked in large part by the combination of phenomena that Al-Nashef captured so succinctly – unemployment, poverty and inequality.

These three attributes capture the critical dimensions of a citizen's life that usually balance each other out to maintain social order. A poor or unemployed person does not automatically revolt from those conditions, if he or she feels there are opportunities to improve their condition. But if they are poor and are also subjected to continuous and structural mistreatment and discrimination, they will ultimately fight back to regain their humanity and live a normal life.

Citizens who experience poverty and inequality together suffer deprivations in their material needs

– food, schooling, health care, housing and so on – alongside denial in their political or psychological needs – namely, being able to take care of themselves and their families and act to improve their living conditions. If this condition endures for years, a human being loses his or her humanity, and turns into a vegetative organism – until that moment when the humiliation and degradation become too much to bear, and the conscious human spirit fights back, demanding the full rights and attributes of the human condition in its modern form, as a citizen of a sovereign state.

When and why that moment strikes – and how it strikes millions of people simultaneously across half a dozen countries – must be a high priority for those researchers and analysts who are now focusing so much attention on the continuing Arab uprisings.

SKETCHED OPINION

gulfnews.com



Gulf union will require major commitment

Gulf News
Editorial
March 12

The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) has not delivered the objectives it set itself, but there is no clear agreement on what to do about this.

Some of the GCC leaders want to move the six nations to a closer political union, but others are worried that this may not be able to work.

The challenge will be to move the loose arrangement of the present GCC into a more formal institutional structure, which would require both a secretariat able to handle

decision-making, and a willingness from the member states to cede some of their control to the GCC. It is hard to imagine both happening in the present GCC.

In addition, it is a glaring gap that the proposal for a Gulf union has not included any plan on how to consult the peoples of the GCC nations on such a profound change.

There has been no recommendation that a debate in the parliaments or consultative assemblies would have to happen, or even that a referendum on the idea be held.

The GCC has done moderately well in foreign policy, where it functions as a club of like-minded nations and can reach a consensus on

regional issues fairly quickly.

It has offered a lead to the Arab world, even if that was helped by the collapse of the Arab League, and the implosion of the traditional leaders of the Arab world in the aftermath of the invasion of Iraq and the Arab Spring in Egypt.

But the GCC has not delivered in building closer domestic links between the six member states.

There is freedom of movement and ownership of land which is a big step towards more integrated societies, but mutual recognition of laws and standards is still very haphazard which means that any thought of a single market or trade zone is a long way off from reality.

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- Submissions will not be returned to the writer under any circumstance.
- For information on advertising, contact the advertising department at any of the Yemen Times' offices

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Post: Internal Auditor
Location: Sana'a
Deadline: March 31st, 2012

The purpose of this post is to:

Carry out an independent appraisal of the effectiveness of the policies, procedures and standards by which the organizations financial, physical and information resources are managed.

Reports to: Executive Director

Duties and responsibilities:

- To work with the management to ensure a system is in place which ensures that all major risks of the organization are identified and analyzed, on an annual basis.
- To plan, organize, and carry out the internal audit function including the preparation of an audit plan which fulfils the responsibilities of the department, scheduling and assigning work and estimating resource needs.
- To report the executive director on the policies, programmers and activities of the audit function.
- To coordinate coverage with external auditors and ensure that each party is not only aware of the other's work but also will be briefed on areas of concerns.
- To make recommendations on the systems and procedures being reviewed, report on the findings and recommendations and monitor management's response and implementation.
- To review and report on the accuracy, timeliness and relevance of the financial and other information that is provided for management
- To report of the value for money that the organization obtains in all its activities, with special regard to economy, efficiency and effectiveness.
- To conduct any reviews or tasks requested by the Executive Director provided such reviews and tasks do not compromise the independence or objectivity of the internal audit function.
- To provide management with an opinion on the internal controls in the organization.

Person Specification:

- ABA in accounting from a reputable University (those studying towards professional qualifications will be favored., Ministry of Industry and Trade, CIMA, IIA, ACCA, ACA, CIPFA).
- A knowledge of computerized accounting and auditing record keeping systems
- An ability to gather, analyze and evaluate facts and to prepare and present concise oral and written reports
- An ability to establish and retain effective working relationships with other organization staff to communicate clearly and effectively, both orally and writing.
- An understanding of an empathy with the development sector.
- An ability to work unsupervised.
- We will be particularly interested to hear from applicants that covered audit work for organizations working in development

How to apply: send your CV along with a Covering letter to HR@smeps.org

JOB VACANCY

A reputable organization is looking for multiple Project Development Assistants to be based in Sana'a for its community engagement programming in these urban areas.

General functions: Under the direct supervision of the Coordinator, and overall supervision of the Program Manager, the incumbent will be responsible for relationship building and grant activity development for a community engagement program in Sana'a, Taizz and Aden; in particular, the incumbent will:

- Identify potential partners through networking and outreach, and work closely with them to design and develop grant concepts and activities that fit within program objectives;
- Develop and finalize multiple grants, on an ongoing basis, in a fast-paced and highly changeable environment;
- Provide technical assistance to partners as required, during the grants' preparation and implementation stages, working closely with appropriate Sana'a-based staff;
- Evaluate activity progress, and coordinate with partners, and relevant Sana'a-based staff to ensure that monitoring, real-time reporting, evaluation and final reports are provided and are satisfactory.

Required Qualification and competencies

- Bachelor's degree, with at least three years of relevant professional experience in project design, development and management of community development projects;
- At least three years of field experience in working with local organizations in assessing their technical and programmatic capacities, and in working closely with these actors on project design and implementation of small activities;
- Proven knowledge of local and international NGOs and community-based organizations in Yemen, as well as key governmental actors and stakeholders;
- Demonstrated analytical ability and understanding of local and regional context, with the ability to think creatively to develop appropriate activities;
- Strong experience in monitoring, reporting and evaluating multiple activities simultaneously;
- Personal commitment, drive for results, efficiency, flexibility, respect for diversity;
- While the position is based in Sana'a, must be able to travel as needed between urban areas, and to other areas if needed;
- Good level of computer literacy;
- Fluency in Arabic required. Proficiency in English preferred but not required.

Interested candidates should send complete resume and cover letter in English with job reference within one week from the publication date of this job advertisement via email to: pda.engagement.vn@gmail.com. Only short listed candidates will be contacted.



مشروع دعم الفئات المستضعفة من خلال برامج تقوئها الأسرة والمجتمع
Strengthening The Powerless Groups Through Family-Community Led Programs

Vacancy Announcement Yemeni Women Union

Yemeni Women Union is looking for a Project Coordinator for its **Strengthening Power through Family – Community Led Programs** project. The project aims to improve the quality of life of the poor and vulnerable groups (especially women ,youth and children) including the issues of environmental degradation and health risks of having qat .The project is grant from the Japanese Development Social Fund through the World Bank to be implemented in seven governorates.

Title : Project Coordinator

Location : Executive Office of the Yemeni Women Union – Sana'a ,Yemen

Contract: Start April 2012 – 12 months full –time contract ,with option of extension.

Core Responsibilities :

- Overall project coordinator of activities and delivery of objectives.
- Coordination of training activities including assessment ,design, implementation and monitoring.
- Facilitate regular meeting and communication ,and responsible for reporting.
- Smooth coordination with project partners and develop strong relationship with key stakeholders.
- Assess and negotiate capacity development plans with partners.
- Assist with recruitment and orientation of staff ,and conduct performance coordinator of project team.
- Ensure that financial procedures are maintain budget in liaison with Project Accountant.

Required Qualifications & Experience:

- Degree in public health social work, development ,social science or related discipline.
- 3 – 5 years managing and coordinate project and staff in development or humanitarian context ,including .
- Managing partnership and capacity building.
- Design and implementation of Monitoring and Evaluation.
- Report writing and communication tasks.
- Knowledge and experience in women .children and youth programming.
- Fluency in Arabic and good English language skills (written and spoken).
- Excellent leadership ,team ,communication and negotiation skills ,and ability to manage stress problem solve and make decisions.

Note :

- Women are particularly encouraged to apply.

Application Procedure : Interested application are provide a letter of motivation and copy of their CV (English) by 23 March by email to :

Nojoodywu@yahoo.com , or by Fax :480490 with the subject heading “ **Strengthening the Powerless**

Groups Project” and the position title. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** invites Yemeni Nationals to apply for the following position with its “**Youth Economic Empowerment programme**”



Title: Participatory Market Assessment Consultant

Duration of Assignment: Two month – with possibility of extension

Duty Station: Sana'a, Yemen

Duties & Responsibilities:

1. Market Needs Assessment

- Conduct a market assessment in the project areas and large markets to yield adequate and updated market information on those economic activities, entrepreneurial opportunities and specific market sectors with the highest potential for sustainable enterprises/businesses, self-employment as well as wage employment for poor women and youth
- Identify current and potential market linkages and value chains for job creation and enterprise development for the target group

2. Training Needs Assessment [TNA]

- In light of the potential feasible economic opportunities identified in the selected project areas area, determine the skills training needs of the potential target group, their existing levels of skills, and the capacity gaps that need to be bridged.
- Examine opportunities for on-the-job training and short-term apprenticeships for women and youth in specific market oriented trades. List possible business entities/organizations which could support this.

3. Market Validation Workshop

- Organize a Market Validation Workshop to validate the findings of the market and training needs assessment with the respondents (community people, women and youth, government, NGOs and private sector) and jointly prioritize activities that could be can be initiated by women and youth for both self and wage employment

Qualifications:

- Post graduate degree in economics, rural development, business administration, development studies or related disciplines, or Five years practical experience after a Bachelor degree on market and enterprise promotion is desirable.
- Training on gender issues, women and youth entrepreneurship development is preferable.

Only Online Applications will be accepted

For further details on the job description and online application, please visit our website at <http://jobs.undp.org>

**Response will only be made to short listed candidates
The deadline for receiving applications is March 31st, 2012**

Aden's marginalized people (part 2)

The black belt of Aden

By: Muaad Al-Maqtari

In the streets and public markets of Aden, pale brown faces largely dominate the human activity. The open city of Aden is located between two seas and an ocean, and appears as a large exhibition of all black-skinned mankind.

Aden includes a large number of Somali refugees, black-skinned people known among civil society organizations as marginalized people, and among Yemeni tribesmen as 'Akhdam' (in Arabic, literally 'servant'). Other brown faces in Aden or elsewhere in Yemen do not necessarily belong to this class.

About 120,000 black-skinned people live in Aden according to Al-Amal Development Association, a local NGO that is active in addressing the issues of marginalized people in Aden.

They inhabit shabby houses in roughly 20 scattered community groups amongst Aden's seven districts, forming a black human belt surrounding the middle of the black city.

A large proportion of this population is centered in the two districts of Dar Saad and Al-Sheikh Othman, which combined host about 70,000 marginalized people, according to the association.

In the two districts, the marginalized population are distributed between nine residential compounds, in homes made of planks, cardboard and zinc.

One residential community in Al-Sheikh Othman, known as Sisban Mahwa, started twenty years ago and has a population of about 15,000 people. The same number exists at Al-Mahreeq Mahwa in the same district.

The other four communities of Al-Sheikh Othman's black skinned people are Kood Al-Othmani, Kood Baihan, Al-Mimdarah and Abdul-Qawi, with a combined population of around 15,000 people.

In Dar Saad district, there are three large communities including Al-Basateen, where the houses of Yemeni black-skinned people are interconnected with the Somali refugee population. The population in Al-Basateen, in addition to Al-Baln Al-Sharqia and Al-Damina of Dar Saad is about 40,000 people.

In the districts of Al-Mansoura and Al-Buraikah there are middle-sized communities including Al-Farisi, Al-Hufra, Salah Al-Deen (Al-Dowiabab) and Kibal Airis. The total population in these four communities is about 20,000. The same number also live in the Castro slums, Al-Sheikh Eshaq, Hafat Al-Raml and Jabal Qawareer.

The 'bidoon' of Number Six residential area

If anybody loses his makeshift house in any of the slums of Aden's 20 marginalized communities, they may end up at Number Six residential area. Gaining an identity card or a birth certificate for a child there is impossible. All the tragedies experienced by the marginalized people are exacerbated in this residential area of Aden.

The Number Six residential area forms a crowded section of the black belt, laying exactly between Daar Saad and Sheikh Othman. It has a population of 10,000 people who live on the bottom rung of the marginalized ladder.

Many of the houses in the Number Six area are only made from cardboard to protect occupants from the sun. The houses cannot stand up against small floods or strong winds. The area has no access to water, sanitation or electricity, and the lack of a sewage system means the air is filled with a pungent unhealthy smell.

The city of Aden has been a modern civilized city for over a century, and the possession of an ID card is one of life's necessities. But for those who have been displaced to the Number Six area, it is desperate struggle to obtain one. This issue

has been taken up by some human rights activists.

Number Six is the English name coined after the colonization of Aden by the British. During the British occupation, this area located at an entrance to the city, was used as quarantine point for all arrivals coming from the north or the southern protectorates.

Ali Nasser Mohammad, 65, came from Tehama on Yemen's western coast. He arrived in Aden during the British occupation to find work as a cleaner. He said he was quarantined at this and was sprayed with the insecticide DDT.

Mohammad said the DDT spray was to kill lice and bugs that were on their skin and inside their clothes. He said he was one of many that were escaping the hunger, poverty and illness imposed by imams and sultans on their hopeless villages.

"We entered Aden after we were disinfected and cleaned," he recollected. "On Saturdays we would receive bonuses in addition to our salaries, so we lived there as princes."

The Number Six area with its population of 10,000 has turned into a community of people who are called

'bidoon', people who are banned from obtaining identity cards and birth certificates for their children.

Salah Dabwan, director of the Popular Neighborhoods Association, affirmed that 70 percent of Aden's black-skinned people have been denied their right to have an ID card.

"And for the community of black-skinned people who live in Number Six, Yemen's Civil Status Authority in Aden has denied this right publicly," Dabwan said.

Ahmed Al-Harazi, deputy director of the Civil Status Authority, denied the claims of the association. He said: "Any Yemeni citizen can get the ID card easily, and there are not any difficulties for anyone to obtain the card."

"For marginalized groups coming from the Horn of Africa, we can't grant them ID cards since they are refugees and not Yemenis," said Al-Harazi.

For marginalized people to get an ID card or a birth certificate for their children, he or she is required to bring a document of house ownership, as well as bills for water and electricity to the authorities.



Ali Nasser Mohammad

Adel Faraj, a human rights activist, in collaboration with other activists in this population have organized several campaigns that demand the granting of birth certificates to the children of marginalized people.

"The new culture that prevailed in Aden after reunification made the obtaining of an ID card dependent on recommendations by the community leaders of the zones," he said. "These chiefs who came from the north of Yemen have installed a culture of disrespect against this group."

He explained that those com-

munity leaders have supported the marginalized people's right to have election cards, but not identity cards, so that they can utilize the black-skinned people's vote during elections.

"There are Somali refugees who can obtain identity cards, but those who are labeled 'Akhdam' cannot get them, despite the fact that they are Yemenis," Faraj said.

He added that the Civil Status Authority has deliberately deprived the marginalized people from Number Six area from gaining identity cards.



About 120,000 black-skinned people live in Aden. The community experiences discrimination and live in poor houses.



CHF INTERNATIONAL, YEMEN

CLP Education Sub Grant
FUNDED BY

USAID Yemen

REQUEST FOR: Prequalification of Construction Companies

LETTER OF INVITATION

CHF International, Yemen, is implementing an Education Sub Grant in partnership with the Community Livelihood Project (CLP). The sub grant will focus on Basic Education Schools in eight governorates. A major aspect of the Sub Grant is the rehabilitation of schools, water and sanitation infrastructure in schools.

CHF is seeking to prequalify registered construction firms in classes 1-3 for anticipated rehabilitation works in a total of 134 schools in eight Governorates: Aden, Lahej, Dhala, Taiz, Hodeida, Mareb, Amran, and Sana'a. Depending on available funding, projects are anticipated to be awarded in groups of 3-6 schools per contract. One contractor may be awarded one or more contracts. Contracts are anticipated to encompass renovations, water and sanitation infrastructure rehabilitation, and could be awarded as complete systems or as components, depending on the contractor's capacity and areas of competence. Contractors, desiring to participate in the bidding process **must first request a questionnaire from CHF**, then provide a package including the questionnaire and company profile, that will include the following, to the address below:

Required information & qualifications

- 1) Water supply and sanitation experience; bore hole water wells, water, towers and reservoir tanks, etc.
- 2) List of previously completed construction contracts with dollar value.
- 3) References from NGOs and other agencies/clients of previous construction work.
- 4) Company history and office location in Yemen.
- 5) Disclosure of finance systems including taxes and logistic systems for tracking and purchasing.
- 6) List of permanent staff members including construction foremen and financial officers.

CHF reserves the right to visit any interested contractors offices and/or projects to interview contractor's staff and to reject firms considered to be unqualified for the proposed work.

For further information about this prequalification, please contact:

The Project Director,
CLP Education Sub Grant
CHF International Yemen
Hadda-Iran street behind Korean restaurant, Sana'a
Tel: +967 1 427425
P.O. Box 18407
Email: rcontin@chfyemen.org
wadhah@chfyemen.org

Completed responses to the pre-qualification should be submitted not later than 3:00 p.m. on 24th March 2012 to the above address

SIGNED
PROGRAM DIRECTOR
CHF INTERNATIONAL/YEMEN



Over the past 10 years, DNO Yemen AS, with its country headquarters in Sana'a and its Field Operations in the Hadramout Governorate, has played an important role in the onshore Exploration and Production of Oil and Gas.

QUALITY, HEALTH, SAFETY & ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGER

Sana'a Based Yemeni Oil Production Operations



Recent organisational developments have created an opportunity for an experienced professional to join our operations in Yemen and to take managerial responsibility for our quality, health, safety and environmental activities.

Reporting to the General Manager, the successful candidate will possess a recognised engineering degree (ideally Chemical or Petroleum) PLUS a recognised industrial health and safety qualification, which will have been gained in conjunction with hands-on QHSE industrial experience. The roles and responsibilities include, but are not limited to, quality control of the company's business management system, working to ensure a healthy working environment for all our personnel, the prevention of industrial accidents and injury and ensuring that our production and drilling related activities operate to the highest environmental standards.

If you, in addition to meeting the above specification, can demonstrate superior Microsoft Office IT and English language skills, we would be pleased to hear from you.

Yemeni Nationals Only

Should you wish to further develop your career within our QHSE Group, please in the first instance, e-mail your resume, along with an introductory letter, detailing why you feel you should be considered for this position to: - careers@dnoyemen.no

Please specify **QHSE Manager** in the "Subject" box and attach one integrated MS Word file. Applications with attachments in excess of 1MB in size cannot be accepted. We regret that we can only respond to those applicants who meet the above criteria.

Street cleaners suspend strike after agreement with the government



Cleaners say if the government didn't recruit them by March 21, they will resume their strike.

By: Maaadh Al-Maqtari

Months of accumulated garbage in Sana'a started to be cleared away on Saturday as cleaning workers suspended their strike until the 21st March. The cleaning campaign will target the ten most seriously affected areas across the capital.

The Secretary-General of the

Cleaning Workers' Syndicate, Mr. Jabri Ahmed Darwish, told the Yemen Times that the cleaning campaign was part of a comprehensive agreement with the Yemeni government. The agreement was signed at the beginning of the year by representatives of the cleaning workers and the Prime Minister, Muhammed Salim Basindawa.

Darwish said that the old city of Sana'a was the first of ten critical areas where the cleanup has begun.

Other regions that will be focused on include Azal, Al-Safiya, Al-Qadisiya, Al-Wahda, Tahreer, Ma'een, and the Airport area.

Tons of piled garbage formed a strong base for negotiations between the cleaning workers and the government. It is the first time in Yemen that the Prime Minister has meet Yemeni cleaning workers and signed an agreement with them that strikes a balance between their rights and their duties.

The prime minister met the cleaning workers in Sana'a last February after cleaning operations had been completely stopped for over ten days.

Basindawa told the cleaning workers: "If I do not deliver on my promise to officially employ you, you can bring back all the garbage to where it is now."

Ali M. Ahmed, a cleaning worker, says that he has been an unofficially employed cleaning worker for 14 years. He said that the agreement with the government covered several points, including "health insurance for cleaning workers, that their jobs will be officially approved no later than the 21st March, and half the salary for each worker will be provided before they start work."

Based on this agreement, cleaning workers have suspended their strike and started cleaning parts of the capital. The critical regions were identified through direct negotiations with the government, in particular the Minister of Finance, Mr. Sukhr Al-Wajeeh, and Head of the Local Council in the Sana'a, Mr. Ameen Jama'an.

The cleaning workers resumed their duties once they received half their owed salary, however, they say its continuation depends upon them obtaining official employment.

According to Darwish, the procedures for implementing the agreement are not proceeding as agreed. The financial commitment for cleaners to be officially employed has not yet been made, making some cleaners fear the government is evading the implementation of the agreement.

Another serious problem is that many of the cleaning vehicles are broken down.

"The number of Hyundai garbage vehicles that don't work out-number those garbage vehicles that do. The Cleaning Fund does not maintain these machines," Darwish said.

Environmental danger

There is no monitoring of the performance of the Cleaning Fund in Sana'a, so officials from the General Authority of Environment Protection (GAEP) say that their responsibility is limited only to environmental awareness.

"In the past, GAEP was called the Supreme Environment Council and the Cleaning Fund in Sana'a was part of it," said Murad Abdulaziz, a GAEP staff member.

According to the Director of Research and Studies at GAEP, Mona Al-Watari, the garbage has been sitting so long that it has started to ferment in the rains, and its toxicity has increased due to interactions between materials.

"The piled garbage today forms a breeding ground for diseases in many parts of Sana'a, and provides a favorable environment for harmful insects and odors," Al-Watari said.

Entisar Al-Yami, director of the GAEP library, said that the burning of garbage and tires is helping to spread the environmental pollution over large residential areas. He said these environmental pollutants threaten public health.

Al-Yami said that the burning of garbage increases the spread of asthma and shortness of breath, and may cause all types of malignant tumors.

The piled garbage also has many serious health impacts including providing a breeding ground for pests such as flies, mosquitoes and rats. Also the chances of diseases such as diarrhea, cholera, amoebic dysentery, hepatitis, tetanus, tuberculosis, and visual disturbances are greatly increased.

HEALTH WATCH

By: Dr. Siva



This weekly column disseminates health information to readers in Yemen and beyond. Dr. Siva currently works at Aden Refinery Company Hospital. Lifestyle diseases and cancer prevention are his special interests. Complementary medicine and naturopathy are his passions.

The many faces of depression

Depression isn't a one-size-fits-all illness. Just like a rash or heart disease, depression can take many forms. As you'll see, there's a cluster of symptoms that are typically present, but one person's experience of depression often differs from another's. Definitions of depression — and the therapies designed to ease this disease's grip — also continue to evolve.



What is major depression?

Major depression may make you feel as though work, school, relationships, and other aspects of your life have been derailed or put on hold indefinitely. You feel constantly sad or burdened, or you lose interest in all activities, even those you previously enjoyed. This holds true nearly all day, on most days, and lasts at least two weeks. During this time, you also experience at least four of the following signs of depression:

- a change in appetite that sometimes leads to weight loss or gain
- insomnia or (less often) oversleeping
- a slowdown in talking and performing tasks or, conversely, restlessness and an inability to sit still
- loss of energy or feeling tired much of the time
- problems concentrating or making decisions
- feelings of worthlessness or excessive, inappropriate guilt
- thoughts of death or suicide, or suicide plans or attempts.

Other signs can include a loss of sexual desire, pessimistic or hopeless feelings, anxiety, and physical symptoms such as headaches, unexplained aches and pains, or digestive problems.

What is dysthymia?

Mental health professionals use the term dysthymia to refer to a low-level drone of depression that lasts for at least two years in adults or one year in children and teens. While not as crippling as major depression, its persistent hold can keep you from feeling good and can intrude upon your work, school, and social life. Unlike major depression, in which relatively short episodes may be separated by considerable spans of time, dysthymia lasts for an average of at least five years.

If you suffer from dysthymia, more often than not you feel depressed during most of the day. You may carry out daily responsibilities, but much of the zest is gone from your life. Your depressed mood doesn't lift for more than two months at a time, and you also have at least two of the following symptoms:

- overeating or loss of appetite
- insomnia or sleeping too much
- tiredness or lack of energy
- low self-esteem
- trouble concentrating or making decisions
- hopelessness.

Sometimes an episode of major depression occurs on top of dysthymia; this is known as double depression.

What is bipolar disorder?

Bipolar disorder always includes one or more episodes of mania, characterized by high mood, grandiose thoughts, and erratic behavior. It also often includes episodes of depression. During a typical manic episode, you would feel terrifically elated, expansive, or irritated over the course of a week or longer. You would also experience at least three of the following symptoms:

- grandiose ideas or pumped-up self-esteem
- far less need for sleep than normal
- an urgent desire to talk
- racing thoughts and distractibility
- increased activity that may be directed to accomplishing a goal or expressed as agitation
- a pleasure-seeking urge that might get funneled into sexual sprees, overspending, or a variety of schemes, often with disastrous consequences.

How to cope when a loved one is depressed, suicidal, or manic

Like a pebble thrown into a pond, depression, dysthymia, and bipolar disorder create ripples that spread far from their immediate point of impact. Those closest to people who have these illnesses often suffer alongside them. It's upsetting and often frustrating to deal with the inevitable fallout. But you can do a lot to help a loved one and yourself handle this difficult period.

Encourage him or her to get treatment and stick with it. Remind the person about taking medication or keeping therapy appointments. Don't ignore comments about suicide. If you believe your loved one is suicidal, call his or her doctor or therapist. If neither is available, call a local crisis center or emergency room.

Care for yourself. Being a caretaker is a difficult job. You may want to seek individual therapy or join a support group. Numerous mental health organizations sponsor such groups and can also provide you with information on the illness and the latest treatments.

Offer emotional support. Your patience and love can make a huge difference. Ask questions and listen carefully to the answers. Try not to brush off or judge the other person's feelings, but do offer hope. Suggest activities that you can do together, and keep in mind that it takes time to get better. Remind yourself that a disease is causing your loved one to act differently or perhaps be difficult. Do not blame him or her, just like you wouldn't if it were chronic physical pain that caused the person to change in certain ways.

Try to prevent reckless acts during manic episodes. It's all too common for a person to make poor decisions when manic, so it's a good idea to try to prevent this problem by limiting access to cars, credit cards, and bank accounts. Watch for signs that a manic episode is emerging. Disruption of sleep patterns can trigger an episode, so support your loved one in keeping a regular sleep schedule. Consistent patterns for other activities such as eating, exercising, and socializing may also help.

Ref: Harvard Medical School



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT Operation Manager

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) is an international humanitarian NGO that has been providing development services in Yemen since 1995. ADRA invites candidates to apply for the Operation Manager position in Sana'a governorate.

Responsibilities:

- Build good relationship with the stakeholders, donors, suppliers and government.
- Act as the Focal Point for the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC) for any issues related to ADRA Yemen, including visas, travel permission, agreements, programs among others
- Prepare mid-year and annual reports for MoPIC
- Act as the focal point on security related matters with the INGO security advisory organizations and with other INGOs
- Oversee and ensure timely and accurate processing and documentation of procurements as described in the Procurement Policy
- Conduct quarterly training on the procurement policy to ensure the staff understand the procedures that they should follow
- Ensure the warehouse procedures are followed as described in the Warehouse Policy and Procedures Guidelines.
- Work closely with program management to facilitate operations aspects of program planning, and upcoming operations resources needs, especially procurement
- Assist in the preparation of the budget of any new proposals
- Lead, manage, motivate and develop capacity of operations team members (Logistics, Admin and Procurement).
- Work closely with program and finance teams to deliver successful programs while demonstrating excellent stewardship of donor funds and compliance with ADRA and donor regulations.
- Work closely with finance compliance to mitigate fraud, conflict of interest and legal ramifications on ADRA Yemen's activities
- Report on program and administrative activities and security situation, in addition to incident reports, to the Country Director.

Qualification:

- B.A degree in Business Administration or other relevant discipline;
- 5 years of field experience in administrative or operational management in a development setting;
- Experience in setting up and managing administration, procurement, logistics and providing effective management support in emergency responses in a multiple field offices.
- Excellent negotiation and presentation skills
- Effective skills in coordination, organization and prioritization as well as in Microsoft Office applications.
- Demonstrated attention to detail, ability to follow procedures, meet deadlines and work independently and cooperatively with team members.
- Proven experience of budget and proposal development as well as financial management.
- English proficiency required; excellent written and oral skills.

The deadline for receiving applications is **Saturday, March 24, 2012**

Interested candidates are requested to submit their application along with curriculum vitae to ADRA- Yemen by e-mail to: recruitment@adrayemen.org. Please note in your cover letter where you saw/heard about this vacancy.

Only short listed candidates will be contacted

GCC immunity does not cover the embezzlement of public funds

By: Fuad Al-Alwai

Ali Abdullah Saleh, the former president of Yemen, is refusing to disclose his total funds and assets, and no one has a clear figure about the real amount that he and his family owns.

When he was asked about the assets of USD 60 billion he is claimed to own, he jokingly replied that he had more than this amount.

Reports about the real assets owned by Saleh and his family are highly contradictory, with some putting the fortune at more than USD 50 billion, while others report that it is less than half this amount.

Western officials who spoke after the assassination attempt against Ali Abdullah Saleh at the Presidential Palace last June, placed Saleh's assets at USD 27 billion.

Documents released by Yemeni and Arab media outlets in 2011 claim that Major Brigadier Ahmed Ali Abdullah Saleh, commander of the Republican Guards, possesses several estates in the French capital, Paris. These include luxury apartments in exclusive neighborhoods, specifically on the Avenue Champs-Élysées, priced at EUR 12 million.

Regardless of the assets collected by Saleh's regime during his 33-year rule, many Yemenis have questions whether the immunity given to Saleh and his regime exempts him from giving back the looted funds, or was the immunity only from prosecution in murder cases.

A number of people who were met by the Yemen Times said that the funds belong to the Yemeni people. Even if the GCC Initiative granted Saleh immunity from prosecution, the funds must be given back to the people of Yemen, and the regime should not have exemption from returning them.

Ahlam Saleh Al-Maqbool, a Yemeni economist said that the immunity deal given to Saleh and his aides does not include his funds.

“

“Yemen's public budget does not exceed more than USD 6-8 billion, and if we suppose that USD 10 billion will be taken back into the budget from Saleh, this means we will have a budget for the two coming years.”

“I understand that the GCC deal gives Saleh immunity from prosecution, but it did not include the funds he gained in the years of his rule, so he must give them back to the public budget,” Maqbool said.

She believes that the return of such funds would boost Yemen's ex-

“

“Restoring funds is an important demand, otherwise Saleh and his family will use such money to support armed groups in Yemen to provoke more problems,”

hausted economy.

“Yemen's public budget does not exceed more than USD 6-8 billion, and if we suppose that USD 10 billion will be taken back into the budget from Saleh, this means we will have a budget for the two coming years,” Maqbool said.

“If funds such as these were returned back, the economy will recover, many unemployed people will get job opportunities and poverty will be reduced,” she said.

The Yemeni interim government which was formed in Dec. 2011 after Saleh signed a power transition deal, said in its two-year economic plan that Yemen will ask donor countries for urgent financial aid to revive the economy.

This is planned to take place in April in the Saudi capital, Riyadh, at the Friends of Yemen Meeting which includes the GCC countries and the five permanent members of the UN Security Council.

“Instead of asking the donors to support the economy, the government should take back the funds looted by Saleh and his family,” Maqbool said.

The problem is exacerbated since Saleh's capital is being invested abroad, and this deprives Yemen from its money being utilized to generate job opportunities, according to the economist.

Political immunity, not economic

Wadea Ata'a, a journalist and activist in 'Change Square', says that Saleh's immunity was political not economic, stressing that the deal has nothing to do with the crimes of financial corruption.

“We must take legal action by filing suits that prove the involvement of these officials in the looting of public funds whether through em-

bezzlement or fraud, particularly in the investment sector, as they take a percentage of the sales deals,” Ata'a said.

“In the military, for instance, commanders steal allocations meant for soldiers and officers using several justifications, particularly cuts to salaries and money for medical treatment,” he said.

“The immunity does not stop the right of the people to retrieve these funds, and it does not stop the families of the killed protesters demanding prosecutions,” he said.

He said the looted money is among the most important issues that should be focused on, calling the protesters camped at the Change Squares to make this an important issue among their current priorities.

Public money for peace

Contrary to the statements above, some people believe that there is no need to raise these problems, and that all people should forget the past history and open a new page towards development and construction.

Jamal Al-Omki, an activist in Saleh's party, the General People's Congress, said people at present are seeking peace, and that the raising of these issues will provoke tensions and conflicts.

“We just want Ali Abdullah Saleh to leave, to live in peace and stability. We do not want more problems and in the hereafter, everyone will be accountable,” Al-Omki said.

“Threats of punishment and the prosecution of killers pushed Saleh to procrastinate on the signing of the GCC Initiative, and the matter turned into one of defiance and stubbornness,” he said.

“If the people had come to Saleh and asked him kindly to resign, we would not have suffered all these troubles,” Al-Omki said.

He stressed that Saleh was not corrupt, and that only his cronies and relatives had exploited his position to make their fortunes from public money.

Popular initiative to pursue missing funds

Other civil activists, however, suggest the establishment of a civil institution to pursue officials involved in financial corruption.

Nada Al-Faqih, a child-rights activist, suggested forming a popular initiative to follow up persons who have embezzled Yemen's public funds.

“I don't rule out that the fortune of Ali Abdullah Saleh and his family is not less than USD 100 billion,” said Al-Faqih. “This family made us live in poverty and famine and only think of how to survive hunger.”

She thinks that a specialized institution formed with the aim of pursuing the looters of public funds will make it easier to get documents

pertaining to the looting, and improve access to the perpetrators and bring them to justice.

“Nobody can deprive me from my rights to recover the looted funds, and have the killers of my father, brother or son prosecuted,” said Al-Faqih. “This is a right ensured by divine laws and international legislation.”

Attempts at recovering public funds in Yemen has been inspired by similar actions in Egypt. There is a popular campaign to restore embezzled public money run by Egyptian activists, who are still struggling to retrieve stolen and frozen money and return it to the Egyptian people.

Al-Faqih said that a similar campaign should be applied in Yemen which was subject to plunder by Saleh's regime.

Khalid Al-Ghaithi, a Yemeni lawyer, affirmed that the immunity given under the GCC Initiative prevents only criminal accountability and prosecution. He pointed out that anyone can sue any official over the embezzlement of public funds, and that the immunity given does not cover this kind of action.

“As for funds and compensation, the people harmed can go to the court to ask for compensation, as that is considered a personal right, and no one can ban anybody of his right to sue the perpetrators, whatever kind of immunity they have been given.”

Al-Ghaithi says that the demonstration to demand the recovery of the looted funds does not violate the GCC deal, indicating that these funds can still be taken back.

Al-Ghaithi suggested including the restoration of public money in the transitional justice law. This law will soon be approved to allow the

coming government the capability of paying compensation to affected people who have lost their homes, properties and have had relatives killed.

“Restoring funds is an important demand, otherwise Saleh and his family will use such money to support armed groups in Yemen to provoke more problems,” he said.

JOB VACANCIES

A Yemeni trading company working as an exclusive dealer of premium commercial vehicle and heavy construction machinery brands would like to invite qualified foreign or Yemeni nationals to apply for the following vacant positions:

- Service Manager**
Qualifications and Experience
 - University or technical degree in Mechanical Engineering.
 - Minimum experience of 10 years in vehicles and heavy construction machinery mechanical engineering.
 - Strong team leading skills.
 - Strong command of English Language.
 - Very good computer skills.
- Mechanic**
Qualifications and Experience
 - University or technical degree in Mechanical Engineering.
 - Minimum experience of 5 years in vehicles and heavy construction machinery mechanical engineering.
 - Good command of English Language.
 - Very good computer skills.
- Electrician**
Qualifications and Experience
 - University or technical degree in Electrical Engineering.
 - Minimum experience of 5 years in vehicles and heavy construction machinery electrical engineering.
 - Good command of English Language.
 - Very good computer skills.
- Head of accounts department**
Qualifications and Experience
 - University degree in accounts.
 - A strong financial accounting background with minimum experience of 5 years as head of accounts dept.
 - Experience of managing teams with a range of capabilities.
 - Strong finance and computer system skills.
 - Good command of both Arabic and English Languages.
- Accountant**
Qualifications and Experience
 - University degree in accounts.
 - Good financial accounting background with minimum experience of 5 years as an accountant.
 - Good finance and computer system skills.
 - Good command of both Arabic and English Languages.

Application Process

Interested candidates are requested to send their applications along with their CVs to:

Email: emacommercial@y.net.ye

Fax: (+967 1) 209502

Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation Public Works Project

Job vacancy INVESTMENT PLANNER

Background:-

The Public Works Project (PWP) is one of the main components of the Social Safety Net. It was established in 1996 with the main objectives of mitigating the adverse effects of the Economic Reform Program on the poor segment of the society.

Main objectives are creation of short-term employment; provision of infrastructure to improve services and environmental conditions of the poor communities; community participation in project selection, preparation and implementation, and, development of local contracting and consulting firms.

Main Responsibilities:-

The Investment Planner will function directly under the Project Director and shall be responsible for:-

- Distribution of funds to governorates & districts based on criteria
- Selection of sub-projects in accordance with selection-criteria
- Prepare annual and quarterly investment programs
- Work closely with beneficiaries
- Preparation of quarterly and annual Progress reports for each donor
- Coordination with donors and other similar implementing agencies
- Ensure compliance with PWP Procedures

Qualifications & Experience:-

The candidate should have:-

- academic background in engineering and/or finance;
- well documented experience, at least 10 years in investment planning in the public and preferably also in the private sector;
- experience in community participation, in assessment studies and in the use of selection criteria and performance indicators;
- experience in carrying out of cost/benefit analysis;
- experience in coordination with donors;
- experience in computer applications and MS-Office; and
- good communication and writing skills and fluency in Arabic and English.

All application letters along with a detailed resume should be submitted by April 10, 2012 to PWP director office in Sana'a Almahrokat street branch from Zubairy street
Tel. +967 1 409283/7

The result of the selection will be published at the PWP web site:

www.pwp-yemen.org



بقلوب مؤمنة بقضاء الله وقدره
نتقدم بأحر التعازي وأصدق المواساة القلبية إلى

مختار أحمد الطائع

لوفاة المغفور له بإذن الله تعالى /

والده / أحمد الطائع

ونحن إذ نشاطره أحزانه فنسال الله العلي القدير أن يتغمد الفقيد بواسع رحمته ويسكنه
فسيح جناته، وأن يلهم أهله وذويه الصبر والسلوان...

{ إنا لله وإنا إليه راجعون }

المعزون

جميع موظفي شركة ألفا بانسونيك - فرع تعز



A man sprays water on anti-government protesters to alleviate the heat during a march to show solidarity with the Syrian people and to demand the trial of Yemen's former President February 5, 2012. Reuters

Eating red meat raises risk of death



By: Sarah B. Weir
 Yahoo! blogger

A major new study may put the final nail in the coffin, so to speak, of the "bacon with everything" food craze. Researchers at the Harvard School of Public Health examined data from more than 110,000 people and found that eating as little as two pieces of bacon or one hot dog a day upped their mortality rate by 20 percent over a 20-year period. A small, three-ounce serving of red meat a day (about the size of a deck of cards) increased mortality by 13 percent.

Consuming processed meat has long been linked to higher rates of cancer, heart disease, and diabetes. Dr. An Pan, lead author of the study, told the LA Times that before they crunched the numbers, his team of researchers assumed that only processed meat posed significant health risks. They were surprised by the final results: "Any red meat you eat contributes to the risk," said Pan.

The good news? The team found that swapping poultry or vegetarian protein options for processed or red meat made a big difference in outcomes. Eating a serving of nuts instead of red meat was associated with a 19percent lower risk of mortality. Choosing poultry over red meat was linked with a 14percent lower risk of dying.

"This study provides clear evidence that regular consumption of red meat, especially processed meat, contributes substantially to premature death," said senior researcher Frank Hu, PhD, in a statement. "On the other hand, choosing more healthful sources of protein in place of red meat can confer significant health benefits by reducing chronic disease morbidity and mortality."

Although Pan says that no amount of processed meat or red meat is good for you, he suggests that, "If you want to eat red meat, eat the unprocessed products, and reduce it to two or three servings a week." He told the Times he eats two to three servings of red meat a week and avoids all processed meat.

Saudi has more mobile phones than people: U.N. Report



A report by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) shows Saudi Arabia has the largest number of mobile phone users per population worldwide.

The report revealed that there are 180 mobile phones for every 100 residents in Saudi Arabia, and that the use of mobile phones is on the rise among teenagers and children as young as nine years of age.

Saudi Arabia came first in the report despite its population of only 25 million, of which a sizable number are expatriates.

China's Macau Island came in second place. Macau is considered to be the most densely populated region in the world, with a population density of 18,428 people per square kilometer. It is estimated that almost 550,000 people live on the island.

Source: Al Arabiya News

Work burnout tied to emotional eating in women

By: Amy Norton

Women who are fed up with their jobs may be more likely to turn to food for comfort in times of stress, according to a Finnish study.

The study, reported in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, found that those who reported work burnout were also more likely to have a habit of "emotional" eating, or eating when stressed, anxious or down, rather than just hungry.

What's more, they were more prone to "uncontrolled" eating – the feeling that you're always hungry or can't stop eating until all the food's gone.

"Those experiencing burnout may be more vulnerable to emotional eating and uncontrolled eating and have a hindered ability to make changes in their eating behavior," wrote Nina Nevanpera of the Finnish Institute of Occupational Health, who led the study.

"We recommend that burnout should be treated first and that burnout and eating behavior should be evaluated in obesity treatment."

The findings are based on 230 women ages 30 to 55 who were part of a clinical trial looking at healthy lifestyle changes. All were employed, and at the start of the trial they completed surveys on job burnout and eating habits.

Overall, 22 percent of the women had some degree of work burnout. As a group, they scored higher on measures of emotional eating and uncontrolled eating.

Women who did not have job burnout at the study's start tended to cut down on uncontrolled eating over one year. But, on average, the burnout group failed to make that change.

"Work permeates our lives," said Sherry Pagoto, an associate professor of medicine at the University of Massachusetts Medical School and a clinician at the university's Weight Center.

"People may be in a job where they're unhappy, or a marriage where they're unhappy, and eating can become one of the few pleasures in their lives," added Pagoto, who was not involved in the study.

There was no obvious effect of burnout on the women's weight, however. At the outset, half of the women reporting work burnout were normal weight – compared with a third of women reporting no burn-



out. One reason might be education, Nevanpera said. Women with work burnout generally had a higher education level, and education, in turn, was linked to lower weight.

Still, she added, emotional eating is a potential risk factor for becoming heavy in the future. And it's not particularly healthy, since stressed-out people are more likely to reach for chocolate or fast

food than an apple. Pagoto agreed that addressing sources of stress in general was important, adding that big stress triggers in life may make it difficult to lose weight and keep it off.

When people are not overweight, emotional eating is still not a good idea, she said. "It's reinforcing a habit that's not healthy."

Source: The Daily Star, Lebanon



النهوض بالمرأة، نهوض بالأسرة والمجتمع والوطن

(المؤتمر الوطني للمرأة 20/19 مارس 2012)



من الشعب الأمريكي



مشروع إستراتيجية اليمن



اللجنة الوطنية للمرأة



وزارة حقوق الانسان