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## Renewed Violence in Abyan

**Ahmed Dawood**

SANA'A, Oct. 25 — New clashes broke out between Ansar Al-Sharia militants, Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula's franchise in Yemen, and military forces in Abyan on Saturday. Government warplanes intensified their air raids in pursuit of Ansar Al-Sharia affiliates. In retaliation, militants carried out several suicide bombings targeting military sites.

On Sunday, President Abdu Rabu Mansour Hadi issued orders to military and security leaders to broaden military campaigns against Al-Qaeda strongholds in Abyan.

These orders are in response to an attack carried out by six suicide bombers Friday against the 115th Infantry Brigade, leaving 18 soldiers dead and 30 others wounded, according to a statement from the Ministry of Interior.

According to Abdullah Al-Haderi, chief officer of the brigade, the six suicide bombers, wearing explosive belts, were transported via a military vehicle. They entered the 115th camp after shooting the security officer and one of the guards dead.

Al-Haderi said some soldiers noticed the suicide bombers and attempted to stop them, but the infiltrators quickly detonated themselves.

Many people fear this will lead to renewed fighting in Abyan. Ansar Al-Sharia reportedly distributed brochures last week asserting their determination to regain control of areas they lost to security forces in Abyan last year.

Marwan Mohammed, a public figure in Lawdar, expressed his concern for Al-Qaeda's rebirth of activities in the governorate. He said he fears the continued security vacuum will leave the People's Committees to face the militants alone.

He wants the state to take a more active role in maintaining security in the area and to focus its military campaigns on tracking militants.

Brigadier General Omar Ali, Abyan's security chief, deemed the se-



One of the wounded receives a visit from a political leader.

curity situation in the governorate good and stable. He said security forces have taken measures to track Al-Qaeda affiliates and force them completely out of the governorate.

He said the suicide attack was in response to the arrest of many militants and the killing of others.

Jamal Al-Aqel, Abyan's Govern-

nor, blamed the Ministry of Interior for the deteriorating situation in Abyan.

In an interview with Akhbar Al-Youm Newspaper on Saturday, Al-Aqel said, "We lack security in Abyan and the Ministry of Interior has to provide a well-equipped security apparatus for us."

**EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW**

**مقابلة حصرية**

**وائل زقوت:**

"The risk of failure will be huge if we fail to show the Yemeni people that things will improve and that tomorrow will be better than yesterday."  
Read full interview on pages 4 & 5



وائل زقوت، مدير البنك الدولي في اليمن:

«المجتمع الدولي أرسل رسالة واضحة للشعب اليمني يقول فيها إنك لا تقف وحدك»  
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## School opening symbolizes friendly relationship between Yemen, Turkey

**Amira Nasser**

SANA'A, Oct. 21 — A Turkish School was opened Saturday in the Aser neighborhood of Sana'a in the presence of a slew of Turkish and Yemeni government officials. The school, which is largely a symbolic gesture of the continued friendly relationship between the two nations, was funded by Turkish businessmen and began construction in February 2011.

Ahmet Davutoglu, Turkey's Min-

ister of Foreign Affairs, said in a speech that Turkey has stood by Yemen's side for more than a century, and now Turkey stands again by its side in a time of political transition.

Davutoglu expressed his thanks to the businessmen who financed the educational school, the Turkish educators who came to Yemen in the name of development and those who facilitated the Turkish government's role in diplomatic ties with the Arab nation.

Prime Minister Mohammed Salem Basindawa also articulated his gratitude for the construction of the school.

"Good things always come from Turkey, and it will continue," he said.

He reiterated the two nations' close and friendly relationship.

On Saturday, Yemen and Turkey signed a number of cooperative agreements. This included removal of visa requirements for the two countries.

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القطاع الصناعي

# Revolutionary youth, Military Committee demand military restructuring

Mohammed Al-Samei

SANA'A, Oct. 21 – Yemen's revolutionary youth renewed their refusal to take part in November's National Dialogue Conference (NDC) until it sees military restructuring.

Meanwhile, the Military Committee, established to maintain security in Sana'a, asserted the importance of exerting intensive efforts to begin Yemen's reshuffling of military and security forces. The committee called on all political powers to cooperate with them to solve any and all problems and to carry out the conclusions to work in this period.

The committee held a meeting Saturday, headed by General Abdulqader Qahtan, the Minister of Interior, according to the State-run Saba news agency.

The agency reported that the committee listened to a summary report outlining the achievements of the two technical teams assigned to restructure the Ministry of Defense, the armed forces, the Ministry of Interior, and security apparatuses, as well as plans to start the restructure according to modern scientific and military standards.

Yemen uses a military and security team composed of Jordanian, American and European experts to help plan the restructure.

During Saturday's meeting, the committee asserted the importance of unifying efforts to make the restructure successful and to overcome the difficulties it could face throughout the process.

Political analyst Arif Abu Hatim said restructuring the military means defusing the civil war some expect to happen in Yemen and eliminating the sources of chaos and terrorism. He said what has been achieved so far is great and vital by virtue of President Abdu Rabu Mansour Hadi's brave decrees, announced international and popular support.

Abu Hatim confirmed to the Yemen Times that military camps in the south have been plundered and Ansar Al-Sharia militants took weaponry. The same thing happened in Al-Beida'a, he said. Ansar Al-Sharia is a Yemeni militant group with ties to Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP).

"Those who lost power and authority but still think they are powerful are behind the latest events in Yemen," Hatim said.

He said people discovered that the military design established 34 years ago by former President Ali Abdullah Saleh was meant to protect him and his relatives. Now, after the 2011 uprising that removed Saleh from power, people are demanding an army based on national interests, loyal to Yemeni citizens and to the country alone.

"Even the military men who supported the revolution consider the military forces as theirs and not the Yemenis," he said.

Abdulkareem Al-Khaiati, a media activist in Sana'a's Change Square, said Yemen needs the cooperation of regional and international countries and of Yemeni political



"Restructuring Prior to Dialogue," were the chants of demonstrators at 60 Meters Road on Friday.

parties to accept changing Yemen's military from an army of militias to an institutional entity.

"I think that agreement between President Hadi, leaders of the military that joined the revolution and the defense minister will facilitate the restructuring unless the pro-Saleh leaders obstruct it," Al-Khaiati said. "It seems that they are supported by the U.S. ambassador, who may have another view regarding the military reorganizing."

Al-Khaiati said a decree must be issued by Hadi and backed by American and Saudi officials to order the resignations of Ahmed Ali Abdullah Saleh, Ali Mohsen and Yahia Mohammed Abdullah Saleh and to appoint new lead-

ers in Sa'ada, Al-Jawf and Hajja governorates to impose state control over the north. Otherwise, he said, Yemen will be a minefield that negatively affects neighboring countries.

On Friday, revolutionary youth gathered at 60 Meters Road in Sana'a to perform Friday Prayer under the slogan "Restructuring Prior to Dialogue." They reassured their complete refusal to participate in the National Dialogue, and they demanded an immediate start to reorganization.

Friday's prayer comes following demands to remove military camps from Sana'a due to the explosion inside a weaponry store related to the First Armored Division on Thursday.

# Hodeida Airport to be fenced



Hodeida Airport has long been disputed territory.

Amal Al-Yarisi

HODEIDA, Sept. 21 – The Presidential Committee assigned to investigate the Hodeida Airport land dispute resolved Saturday to fence land by the Aviation Public General Authority (APGA), Ali Al-Twaiti, the deputy manager of Hodeida Airport, said.

Several figures belonging to various Yemeni military branches, as well as merchants and tribesmen, have been attempting to take control of airport land, according to a July Yemen Times report.

Al-Twaiti said the committee ended all the recent construction developments on airport grounds, indicating that land will be fenced following the Sacrifice Eid, which begins Oct. 25.

Baseem Al-Janabi, a journalist in Hodeida, said the committee decided to fence the airport property, which has been under the control of the APGA since the 1970s. He said the land is officially demarcated, and lawful documents are available to prove the property lines.

The committee, headed by Chief of Staff Ahmed Ali Al-Ashwal, asserted the importance of ending all disputes concerning Hodeida Air-

port, according to Al-Janabi.

He said the committee met with all sides responsible for solving the Hodeida Airport land dispute, including the Air Defense leadership, Air Police, the AGPA and other investors who were granted plots of Hodeida Airport land.

The committee pledged compensation to civilian and military figures claiming to possess plots of land and can prove it with legal documents, Al-Janani said.

Abdulghani Muafa, the secretary general of Tehama Popular Organization, considered the implementation of the committee's decision a difficult task, explaining that Brigade 67 has not accepted any requests to hand over land until all influential figures who hijacked land return what they took first.

Muafa said the local council should be accountable for what is happening at Hodeida airport.

"The local council is the one that handed over these lands to officials and influential persons."

The Supreme National Anti-Corruption Committee decided last week on the importance of fencing the airport campus, in addition to providing full security protection to enable the AGPA to do so.

# Helal celebrates local schools' achievements

Story and photo by Ashraf Al-Muraqab

SANA'A, Oct. 21 – The Youth Leadership Development Foundation and Girls World Language Centers, in coordination with the Ministry of Education and the Secretariat, organized Sunday a ceremony for the winning schools of the Citizenship Project funded by the Arab Network for Civic Education.

Nawal Dubais, the executive manager of the Girls World Language Centers, said the foundation has a future plan to integrate the subject of citizenship consolidation into the programs schools provide.

The project aims to help determine and analyze social problems in addition to studying the general policy of the country and giving alternative suggestions. The project targets 40 teachers from 40 schools. Every teacher will train 25 students at these schools.

Minister of Social Affairs and

Labor Amat Al-Razaq Homad and Secretary of the Capital Abdulqadir Helal rewarded teacher Fawzia Abdu Rabu Saleh, the principal of Salem Al-Sabah School. Saleh has been in education for 33 years.

During the ceremony, Helal announced the launch of a residential neighborhood for male and female educators. He also said the local council will provide money for the neighborhood's infrastructure, pointing out that this project will be one of the great challenges the secretariat is working on to help teachers acquire their own houses in Sana'a.

Helal said on Tuesday, the local council will start constructing two clubs for educationalists in Sana'a as well as establishing an educational advisory council composed of senior educators in Sana'a. This council will have the authority to supervise and put in place the plans for the educational process, organize competitions, evaluate the fathers and mothers councils in



Educators are honored with Citizenship's Project's awards.

schools and select the best schools in Sana'a and other duties.

"Today we celebrate the retiring great educators who dedicated themselves to build a generation armed with strong will and knowl-

edge."

He asserted that Saleh is an example of honest teachers, pointing out that by honesty we can overcome difficulties and obstacles and improve Yemen.

# Security plan in preparation for Eid holiday

Samar Qaed

ADEN, Oct. 21 – In preparation for the Eid of Sacrifice, which begins Oct. 25, the Interior Ministry has developed a special security plan to maintain stability during the holiday season nationwide.

Omer Hulais, spokesperson of Aden's security, said a security team, in coordination with the Tourism and Culture Office, prepared a complete plan aimed at protecting parks and beaches that witness a surge of visitors during Eid.

He said that he expects the number of tourists to Aden will increase

over the course of Eid of Sacrifice.

Hulais said the security administration in Aden will work to stop weapons carrying in addition to controlling the use of fireworks.

"We have spread the traffic police in many districts of the city, particularly in overcrowded places to help ease the movement of the traffic."

Hulais called on drivers to abide by traffic rules and to be cautious of traffic accidents that are commonplace during Eid occasions.

Deputy Tourism Minister Mutahar Taqi said he commended the efforts exerted by tourism establishments in Aden. He said the

Tourism Ministry's offices prepared for Eid by coordinating with the owners of tourism establishments in addition to the cooperation of the local councils.

Taqi said the security situation is better this year compared to last year given the security forces have been tangibly improving, which reflects the increase in visitors.

Shabnam Ayoob, the promotion and sales department manager in Coral Hotel in Aden, said reservations have not largely increased as of yet, indicating that people are still concerned about the security situation in Aden given the events of recent months.

"Because of this, the hotel administration is thinking of adopting entertainment programs during the Eid holiday to draw in further visitors."

Waseem Al-Sharjabi said each year he visits Aden during Eid; however, he plans to spend Eid holiday this year in his village in Taiz.

"I am not going to visit Aden due to the unstable security situation."

Al-Sharjabi called on the government to do its best to build further tourism attractions in Aden and to improve the situation of the whole governorate because it is one of the most inviting places in the country.

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# Explosion at military headquarters leads to calls for army relocation



Smoke billows from the First Armored Division's headquarters. Authorities have still not determined the cause of the blast that killed four civilians and one soldier according to a military leader.

Story by Samar Qaed  
Photo by Ashraf Al-Muraqab

Leaders have called for the evacuation of military camps following a blast in the arms cache at the First Armored Division's headquarters in Sana'a on Thursday. Four civilians died and one soldier according to Major General Ali Saeed Obald, a spokesperson

for the Military Committee. The Military Committee said there is no need for military camps in the capital or other major cities. They advocate the relocation of military units to less crowded areas. Obald said in a statement that the explosion has now made the relocation a nonnegotiable. Obald said the cause of the explosion is still vague, but the Defense Ministry established a fact finding

committee to initiate an investigation. He furthered that the presence of the military camps in the cities has too many negative impacts, indicating that his committee is working on preparing a project draft and suggestions to President Abdu Rabu Mansour Hadi regarding the transfer of military units. "There should only be a presence of security forces in order to main-

tain security and stability in Sana'a and major cities," the Major said. In the same vein, Faris Al-Himairi, a journalist, said the presence of the military camps in the capital and other populous cities is causing local populations to worry. According to him, 19 camps affiliated with the military are situated in the middle of residential areas. "The military camps are located in strategic mountainous districts.

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These places should be exploited as natural attractions, not military camps," he said. In the name of safety, Al-Himairi said there must be immediate procedures taken by decision makers to remove the military camps. Yaser Al-Roaeini, the head of the Peaceful Youth Revolution Coordination and a member of the National Dialogue, said the military camps are a source of anxiety for people and an indicator of the jagged security situation in Yemen. Al-Roaeini argues the majority of the cities in Yemen lack parks and gardens because of the expansion of these military camps. He believes the evacuation of military camps and weapons should be aligned with the state-promised army restructuring process. Abdulqadir Ali Helah, the Secretary General of Sana'a, said the local council will be formally demanding the elimination of the military camps without exception or discrimination. He wants them replaced with parks, gardens, schools, hospitals and other government compounds.

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Wael Zakout to the Yemen Times:

## ‘The risk of failure will be huge if we fail to show the Yemeni people that things will improve and that tomorrow will be better than yesterday.’

**Wael Zakout, the World Bank's Country Manager in Yemen, began working for the organization in 1994. In the past, Zakout has worked on teams in East Asia, Europe and Central Asia, focusing on areas such as disaster risk management and sustainable development. He has a doctorate in civil and environmental engineering from the University of Wisconsin.**

YT photo by Sadeq Al-Wesabi



**Wael Zakout remains optimistic about Yemen's future while recognizing the government's need to establish itself as a credible institution, capable of using donor's money for development.**

Interview by Sadeq Al-Wesabi

**The World Bank played a big role in raising the commitment ceiling and mobilizing regional and international support for the Friends of Yemen Conference, which took place in New York. Did the World Bank achieve its goals?**

The donors' meeting, as well as the Friends of Yemen meeting, which was held in Riyadh and later on in New York, was a very successful story for the Yemeni people. We managed to raise \$6.4 billion in pledges for Yemen in Riyadh, in addition to \$1.5 billion in New York, and this is a great success.

The government requested \$11.9 billion, and so we raised \$7.9 billion for the transitional period, and we're planning to have another donor meeting after the transitional period to raise an additional amount of money.

That's not it. There are two other important aspects, which are not mentioned usually in the news, and I want to reiterate them. First is the international community came together to send a very important message to the Yemeni people, that they are not alone during this difficult time, and the entire international community is with the Yemeni people.

The second important element of the donors' meeting is an agreement between the donors and the government for a Mutual Accountability Framework, which defines clear progress on economic policy reform by the government during a 1.5 year period, but also commitment by the international community to deliver the pledges that we promised the Yemeni people.

We're going to work very closely with the government, civil society and the private sector to make sure that the money is delivered quickly, effectively and transparently. We're also working with the government to support them in implementing a Mutual Accountability Framework.

There are very important economic policies the government has committed to do. We will be working with the government, as well as the other partners, to make sure the government has the resources but also the capacity to undertake these important reforms.

“

**We will use 'name and shame' and publish the names of countries and how much they spent out of their commitment.**

**One economic analyst said there was indifference and ignorance from the government when it submitted an inappropriate plan for Yemen's development priorities. Do you agree with him?**

The government put a lot of effort into preparing the economic transitional plan. We provided comments on the plan. If you ask me whether the transitional plan is perfect for Yemen, I have my opinions, but I would not say that the government didn't do a good job.

There are two things in my view that could be improved on in this plan. One is clear prioritization—the plan doesn't have a clear priorities but the government established a ministerial committee to prioritize investment in programs.

The second part is the government needs to strengthen its capacity to implement their programs. In my conversations with the government, they have a great willingness to do the right thing, and they committed to undertaking reforms. The government needs to be strengthened so they are enabled to undertake these commitments.

We're working with the government to strengthen its capacity to implement reform programs.

**You said the World Bank has observed a government plan provided at the donors' meeting. How will you help the Yemeni government succeed in implementing a proper development program?**

The government needs to show the Yemeni people that there is a difference. We clearly support the government's economic transition plan, and we will be working with the government to implement certain aspects of the plan. We will provide special support in terms of government capacity to implement its economic transitional plan. We will provide funding to generate jobs quickly because this is one of the major issues.

In summary, in three years we will be providing support, too. First, support will go to short-term things to restore services and creating jobs. Secondly, we will support intermediate-term to long-term things like health, education and infrastructure. Thirdly, with regard to building the capacity of the government, we will help to effectively implement the economic transitional plan.

**There is concern over non-compliance of the donors regarding commitments made in previous donors meetings.**

It's a legitimate concern. We're also concerned about this. Some countries promised and didn't deliver on their promises. That's why we will [have] a monitoring mechanism to monitor the fulfillment of the donors' commitments to Yemen. We will meet every three months, and we will use 'name and shame' and publish the names of countries and how much they spent out of their

commitment. There are a lot of lessons that came out of the 2006 donors' meeting. We know that less than 25 percent of the money has reached Yemen.

**Some economic analysts said that the amount of pledges was disappointing. Do you agree with this point?**

I completely disagree with this. The donors' conference money raised for the transitional period, and the financing gap for the short time is \$4.6 billion, and we know this is something that needs to be raised.

In fact, the international community was very generous, and we raised more than the intended target. I think those economists are not aware that we asked for pledges to cover the transitional period, and the idea is to have another donors' meeting after the successful completion of the transition period.

We're hoping to have another donors' meeting in the summer or the fall of 2014.

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**I think we're on the right track. I'm very optimistic about the future of Yemen.**

If we compare the pledges that Yemen has received from the international community with that of other countries, it is a little bit higher than what Afghanistan has received.

This is very good news for Yemen. In my view, the problem is not in the money but in the ability of the government to absorb this money.

**Are you confident the Yemeni government is capable of using this money properly to implement developmental projects needed for the transitional period?**

This is probably one of the biggest challenges - the government's capacity to absorb this amount of the money to implement programs in a fast, effective and transparent way and also to deal with corruption. We're working with the government to address many of these issues. I know the government is very committed and wants to do things differently because in 2006 the government was not able to absorb this large amount of money so we will provide all our support.

I don't think the country will have another chance. The risk of failure will be huge if we fail to show the Yemeni people that things will improve, and that tomorrow will be better than yesterday. If the government doesn't absorb this money or this money doesn't reach normal Yemenis, the failure will be huge, not only for the Yemeni people, but also for the political process, for the region and for the world.

We understand, and I know the government understands the huge responsibility they have.

**What are the World Bank's biggest challenges when dealing with the Yemeni government?**

Our relations with the Yemeni government are very strong. We have open and frank conversations on all aspects of development.

One of the major challenges for the World Bank operating in Yemen is the capacity of the government. The capacity of the government to implement large-scale programs is not strong.

There is another challenge facing the World Bank; it is the security situation that hasn't enabled us to travel outside Sana'a, where we can meet Yemeni people, civil society and governors. I, myself, have not [had the] chance yet to visit other governorates where I can interact with people there.

The third challenge is the corruption. It's a very big problem, and we know if this is not addressed quickly, it will slow down the implementation of the programs because those who are involved in corruption usually use delay tactics.

Many people know that all systems of investigation of ministers

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**In my view, the problem is not in the money but the ability of the government to absorb this money.**

and those above require the approval of two-thirds of Parliament or the president's approval, and these systems act like a license for high-level officials to be involved in corruption so that nobody will touch them.

The government is clearly very committed. They are going to change this so nobody is above the law, and anybody who is involved in corruption will be investigated. Also, the government agreed on a Mutual Accountability Framework to establish a special court and train judges to deal with corruption cases to accelerate the prosecution of those who are involved in corruption.

**Do you see serious intentions from the government to fight corruption?**

Since talking to the Prime Minister, the Minister of Planning, the Minister of Finance and other ministers, I believe they are very committed to doing this. The question is whether they have the capacity to do it quickly, and this is something we're working on with them.

We always say will isn't enough. We need to establish a system, and we need to have laws, regulations and institutions, and without this, even with the strongest commitments from the President or the Prime Minister, we know it will not happen.

Right now, I can tell you that the system isn't there, even if the Prime Minister said he will prosecute everybody involved in corruption. They don't have the system, and there is [an] anti-corruption commission, but their mandate is limited. We need to work together with the government to establish a comprehensive system to deal with corruption issues.

**How are the current World Bank projects in Yemen?**

We have about 18 ongoing projects the World Bank is financing right now in Yemen. Most of these projects are going well. Social funds for development are going well. Public works' projects are going well. We have programs in basic education and higher education. We have programs in water and health.

Regarding education projects, we will go beyond building schools, and we will focus on the quality of education because this is the area where the country has not made progress in over the last few years. Although, I think they made progress in the enrollment, and there is a higher percentage of children in Yemeni schools.

There are projects that are not going well like vocational training and power projects. Unfortunately, the two power projects we're financing are not moving, and we're discussing with the government what to do with them.

**The government is incompetent in solving the power problems. In your view, what is the proper solution for the power problem?**

The power problem in Yemen is multiple. Unless the government solves the political and security issues, they will not be solved.

There is a structural aspect in this problem. The power generation capacity in Yemen is much smaller than what the country needs. The government's ability to build power stations using their money is very limited because the government has many other obligations in health, education, public services and infrastructure and so on. They

don't have the money to invest in building a big power station.

What many countries have done is to use partnerships with the private sector to enable the private sector to build power stations.

Here, the private sector will not come unless there are two things, security and a power structure in general. Many countries have restructured their power sector, including a separation between generation, distribution and transmission.

Citizens also have an obligation. They should pay for electricity.

**Let's talk about unemployment in Yemen. What are the steps the government should take to solve it? And is employing many people in the public sector considered a solution?**

Unfortunately not. The government has limited resources to employ so many people. The government's ability to employ more people is very limited because the more they employ, the less money they will have to pay salaries. Secondly, they will have little money to invest in

health, education and other services that the community needs.

The solution for unemployment in Yemen is a private sector, and in order to make the private sector thrive and grow, the government has to create the right policies for the private sector like a taxation policy, access to land and an easing of business registration.

The government needs to focus on education because the human capability is very important for unemployment. They should also focus on infrastructure because you cannot have big factories coming to Yemen without securing power, water and transport.

**How do you evaluate the government's steps in officially employing tens of thousands of Yemenis in the past year?**

I think it's like a cancer patient to whom we give an aspirin. I don't think it's the right solution for the problem. We recognize that a lot of people are out of jobs, and the government wants to ease the pain.

There are two ways to do it. One thing is to employ them directly with the government, and the other way is to undertake the necessary reforms so they can get the private sector thriving and growing to employ them, and this step will take time.

**What's the role of the World Bank in encouraging the small private sector and protecting them from bankruptcy?**

Unfortunately, we do not have tools in every aspect. With regard to small and medium enterprises—we don't have programs to help them. We know during the crisis, they faced a lot of problems - credit markets have frozen and businesses have shrunk.

**Let's talk about qat. What do you think of the problem of expanding qat farming, especially considering Sana'a's basin is about to be drained?**

Qat is the biggest problem Yemen is facing. I know it's part of the culture, and I respect that, but the way I see qat as a problem is that most people chew qat almost the whole day, which takes a good part of their income, especially that of poor people. Instead of buying qat, they should spend money on nutrition and education for their children.

The second problem is that qat takes a good percentage of fertile land, which could actually be used to grow fruits, vegetables and healthy foods for the population.

Thirdly, it takes somewhere in the range of 40-50 percent of the water in or around Sana'a so it's a multiple problem.

On the other hand, lots of people do not look at it as a cultural habit but as income. There are a lot of farmers and traders.

If you balance the positives and the negatives of these things, the government needs to deal with it in a very serious way. I truly believe that the government needs to deal with the qat issue to resolve it, but at the same time, they need to

sustain a living standard for those who are involved.

There are a lot of examples around the world. North Carolina, for example, in the United States, used to be a tobacco state, and the American government and community at the time, decided to say that it is not right. They took a long-term approach, which helped tobacco farmers to do something else, but at the same time, they made sure that those who were involved in the tobacco trade were not affected.

It's a long-term agenda that require lots of education, lots of governmental policy and incentive to convert those farmers who are working on qat to grow alternative crops, which will generate the same income but reserve water.

Something needs to be dealt with, and things will not be solved overnight. It will take time, but also require imagination, good thinking and strategy.

I think the government can prevent civil servants from using qat during their duty. We see a lot of policemen and soldiers using qat while on duty. I think this is something the government can do something about and should do it.

**You called on government officials to solve the qat problem while most of them are qat addicts ...**

As I mentioned earlier, it's a cultural habit, but the government needs to recognize the negative health, as well as economic aspects of qat. If they're going to chew qat once a week, the health and economic impact of qat will most likely be small.

I do hope the government takes it seriously.

**You've talked a lot about the water running out in Sana'a's basin. What are the steps the government should take to deal with this?**

There is something that the government can do and should do it

**SANA'A BRITISH SCHOOL**

"Education is the Window to the World"

**Sana'a British School joins global community of Cambridge schools**

Sana'a British School, SBS, has been awarded Cambridge International School status by University of Cambridge International Examinations and is now approved to offer Cambridge programmes and qualifications, including:

1. Cambridge Primary Checkpoint,
2. Cambridge Secondary Checkpoint,
3. Cambridge IGCSE and Cambridge O Level
4. Cambridge International AS and A Level.

University of Cambridge International Examinations is the world's largest provider of international education programmes and qualifications for 5 to 19 year olds. It is part of the University of Cambridge, one of the world's top universities and trusted for excellence in education. Cambridge programmes and qualifications are taught in more than 9000 schools in over 160 countries.

Ann Puntis, Chief Executive of University of Cambridge International Examinations, said: "We are delighted to announce that Sana'a British School has joined our global community of Cambridge schools. We look forward to a long and productive relationship which will be of great benefit to learners throughout the region."

Cambridge programmes and qualifications are recognised and valued by universities and employers around the world. Cambridge helps schools deliver the best education possible by providing comprehensive support, including teacher training, classroom resources and membership of a global learning community.

Cambridge International School

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**The solution for unemployment in Yemen is the private sector, and in order to make the private sector thrive and grow, the government has to create the right policies.**

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**The international community came together to send a very important message to the Yemeni people, that they are not alone during this difficult time.**

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# YEMEN

## Celebrates Jamal Benomar, 2011's Person of the Year

I stand before you extremely humbled. I always say that Yemen is my second home as you have always welcomed me, and I am truly humbled to have been named as the Person of the Year for 2011. Thank you, Yemen Times, and thank you to your readers.

In fact, the ones who really deserve this are you, my Yemeni friends and family:

You, the Youth who opened the doors and took the courageous first steps to seek change.

You, the Yemeni leaders who chose to step back from the spectre of civil war and come to a negotiated solution.

I hold my praise to you.

—U.N. envoy *Jamal Benomar*



U.N. envoy to Yemen Dr. Jamal Benomar speaks after accepting his award for 2011 Person of the Year.



Benomar was selected by Yemen Times readers for his efforts to improve the situation in Yemen throughout 2011.



From left: Head of Yemen TV Hussein Basalim, Human Rights Minister Horia Mashhoor, the Egyptian ambassador to Yemen, Head of Arab Bank in Yemen



Benomar is greeted by various businessmen, politicians, and community leaders.



Throughout the ceremony, videos and speeches celebrating the work of Benomar were presented.

# TIMES

## حفل تكريم جمال بن عمر شخصية العام ٢٠١١



Yemen Times Editor-in-Chief Nadia Sakkaf said she commends the role Benomar has played in helping with Yemen's transition to greater peace and stability.

اسمحوا لي بداية أن أعبر باسمي ونيابة عن منظمة الأمم المتحدة وفريقها العامل في اليمن عن امتناني البالغ لصحيفة يمن تايمز ولقراءها الذين شرفوني باختيار شخصية العام في اليمن ٢٠١١. عندما بلغني الخبر مطلع يناير الماضي، تفاجأت وانتابني مشاعر مختلطة من التواضع والفخر والمسؤولية ازاء توقعات اليمنيين من مهمة الأمم المتحدة في بلدهم.

تفاجأت كوني جئت في مهمة حسن نوايا لا تنتظر جزاء ولا شكرا وإنما تتوخى تقديم كل دعم ممكن لتجنيب اليمن سيناريوهات قاتمة ووضعه على طريق الانتقال الديمقراطي السلمي نحو دولة مدنية حديثة.

أما الشعور بالتواضع، فمصدره أن ما أنجزه فريق الأمم المتحدة هنا كان عملا تأسيسيا في مرحلة مفصلية، لكنه في نظرنا لا يزال في مراحله الأولى.

فما اعتبر إنجازا أمميا يستحق التكريم لا يرقى في أهميته إلى ما تحلى به أهل اليمن من حكمة وشجاعة عندما ساروا على طريق الحوار في محاولة للابتعاد عن خيار المواجهة والعنف. شباب اليمن اليوم يستحق التقدير والاحترام لتعبيره سلميا وحضاريا عن تطلعاته المشروعة نحو التغيير والإصلاح والديموقراطية. من دون شباب اليمن ما كنا لنقف هنا اليوم في مرحلة انتقالية، ونتطلع إلى المستقبل بكل أمل وثقة في أن اليمنيين سوف يحققون ما يتطلعون إليه.

— جمال بن عمر



Diplomats, U.N. staff members, and community members were all present.



Benomar with Sana'a city's head of public relations



Yemen Times staff with Secretary of the Capital Abdulqadir Helal. The ceremony also celebrated the launch of 88.8 FM Radio Yemen Times, the first community radio station in Yemen.



Sakkaf speaks with Dawood Kattab, general manager of the Community Media Network based in Jordan.

Photos by Yemen Times staff and Saba

للفترة الانتقالية. هناك حاجة بأن يكون هناك وضوح كامل فيما يتعلق بالأولويات وهناك إدراك كامل بهذا الموضوع والحكومة قد شكلت لجنة وزارية لتقوم بهذه المواضيع لوضع الأولويات فيما يتعلق بالبرامج الاستثمارية وأيضاً المشاريع التي ستنفذ خلال الفترة الانتقالية. الجانب الآخر هو فيما يتعلق بتعزيز قدرة الحكومة على تنفيذ مثل هذه البرامج. هناك إدراك كامل على أن الحكومة لا تمتلك القدرة الكافية في تنفيذ مثل هذه المشاريع وبالتالي تحتاج إلى تعزيز وتقوية قدراتها في هذا الجانب. ونحن نعمل إلى جانب الحكومة في تعزيز قدراتها على تنفيذ برنامج الإصلاح الشامل وكذا المشاريع المختلفة التي تنفذها بالشراكة مع مجتمع المانحين.

**قلت بأن البنك الدولي وضع ملاحظات فيما يخص بالمفهوم المتقدم لمؤتمر أصدقاء اليمن. ما هي أبرز هذه الملاحظات؟**

في الواقع ندعم بوضوح برنامج التنمية الانتقالي للحكومة من خلال بذل الجهود لدعم قدرات الحكومة في تنفيذ البرامج المختلفة وأيضاً سوف نوفر التمويل اللازم لخلق فرص عمل سريعة لأن الحكومة تحتاج أن تخلق فرص عمل سريعة وخاصة أن معظم الشباب عاطلين عن العمل. والحكومة يجب أن تعمل في هذا الجانب لتبني لمواطنيها أن هناك فرق وأن هناك أشياء تسير إلى الأمام.

كذلك ندعم الحكومة في توفير وإعادة الخدمات الأساسية للمجتمع اليمني، ونعمل معها في نفس الوقت لتنفيذ البرامج متوسطة المدى وخاصة فيما يتعلق ببرامج التعليم والصحة والبنية التحتية وكذلك القطاع الخاص.

**هناك قلق من عدم التزام هذه الدول بتعهداتها ووعودها تجاه اليمن...**

هذه ملاحظة شرعية، وخاصة بناء على تجارب سابقة. ولكن سوف نتأكد هذه المرة على أن المانحين يفون بالتزامهم ولذلك شكلنا آلية للرقابة على التزامات المانحين وسوف نجتمع كل ثلاثة أشهر لنقف عند مدى التزام المانحين بتعهداتهم لليمن وسنستخدم آلية فضح المانح الذي لا يفي بتعهداته وننشر اسمه بأنه يتلصق في تنفيذ التزاماته تجاه اليمن. ونحن استفدنا من الدروس التي حدثت في مؤتمر المانحين في ٢٠٠٦ والذي لم ينفذ المانحين فيه سوى ٢٥ بالمئة من التزاماتهم تجاه اليمن.

**بعض المحللين الاقتصاديين قالوا بأن حجم التعهدات في مؤتمر أصدقاء اليمن لم يكن بالشكل المتوقع وشكل خيبة أمل لدى اليمنيين.. هل تتفق مع هذا الطرح؟**

لا أتفق كاملاً مع هذا الطرح وخاصة بأن التعهدات فاقت التوقعات ولم تكن تتوقع أكثر من ٦ مليار دولار خاصة وأن هذه المبالغ ستستخدم في الفترة الانتقالية، حيث طلبت الحكومة دعم الفجوة التمويلية لديها وهي ١١,٩ مليار دولار للبرنامج الاستثماري بالكامل. المبلغ المطلوب لتغطية الفترة قصيرة المدى لا تبلغ سوى ٤,٦ مليار دولار والفجوة الأخرى هي ٧,٩ مليار دولار وكان المجتمع الدولي في الحقيقة في هذين الاجتماعين كريماً للغاية حيث تم جمع هذا المبلغ الذي سيغطي الفترة الانتقالية وبعض الالتزامات للمدى القصير.

وهناك نية لعقد اجتماع للمانحين إما في صيف أو شتاء ٢٠١٤ لجمع وحشد التمويلات اللازمة لتغطية الفجوة الاستثمارية لبقية الفترة.

وإذا ما قارنا طبعاً نسبة تعهدات المجتمع الدولي لبلدان أخرى وقارنا ما تم التعهد به بالنسبة لليمن، فاليمين حقيقة حصل على تمويلات أكثر بكثير مما حصلت عليه أفغانستان على سبيل المثال، فيما يتعلق بالتمويل ليست هناك أي مشكلة بالنسبة لليمن، ولكن المشكلة تكمن في قدرة اليمن على استيعاب هذه المبالغ وأيضاً قدرة مجتمع المانحين على الإيفاء بالتزاماتهم.

**هل أنتم وإثقون من قدرة الحكومة على استغلال هذه الأموال في تنفيذ برامج تنموية والخروج بالبلد من أزماته الاقتصادية؟**

حقيقة، هذه المشكلة الكبيرة التي ستواجه اليمن وهي فيما يتعلق بقدرتها على تنفيذ البرامج المختلفة بشكل سريع وفعال، وأيضاً مكافحة الفساد بشكل واضح وأن تعمل على

**سوف نواجه خلل كبير فيما يتعلق بالتوازن بين المخزون المائي وبين التغذية وبين ما يتم استخراجها في حال عدم اتخاذ إجراءات سريعة لهذا الموضوع**

يمكننا أساساً من التنقل في مناطق مختلفة في اليمن لتتحدث مع المجتمع المحلي وقياداته. وأنا شخصياً لم أتمكن حتى الآن من زيارة محافظات أخرى مثل عدن وتعز والمكلا وشبوة لأتحدث مع المسؤولين هناك حول العديد من القضايا التي تهم المجتمع المحلي والمشاريع التي ينفذها البنك في هذا الصدد.

التحدي الثالث هو فيما يتعلق بمكافحة الفساد، ومشكلة الفساد في اليمن دوماً ما تبطل في تنفيذ المشاريع لأن الفاسدين يستخدمون تكتيك التأخير للحصول على منافع والضغط على المقاولين للحصول على أموال، ونحن نريد هذه المبالغ أن تذهب لفائدة المجتمع اليمني وليس للفاسدين، وبالتالي قمنا في إطار المسؤولية المشتركة بإيجاد مادة في هذا الإطار تلزم الحكومة على أن تتحرى وتحقق في قضايا الفساد التي يشترك فيها أي إنسان بغض النظر عن موقع مسؤوليته لأن قانون الحضانة السابق للوظائف العليا كان يحد من قدرة الحكومة على ملاحقة المفسدين في الوظائف العليا بالذات، لكن هذا البند في إطار المسؤولية المشتركة سيلزم الحكومة على أن تحقق مع أي إنسان يشتبه به في قضية فساد.

**لكن هل ترون بأن هناك جدية لدى الحكومة في محاربة الفساد؟**

عندما أتحدث مع رئيس الوزراء ومع وزير التخطيط والتعاون الدولي وكذلك مع وزير المالية والوزراء الآخرين أشعر بأنهم جادون في مكافحة الفساد. لكن السؤال هو: هل هناك قدرات كافية لمكافحة الفساد؟ طبعاً المجتمع الدولي بما فيه البنك الدولي سيبدلون كل ما في وسعهم لمساعدة الحكومة في تنفيذ كل ما التزمت فيه ليس فقط في الرياض وإنما في الاجتماعات الأخرى وفي الوثائق المختلفة.

دائماً نقول الإرادة ليست كافية، فالإرادة متوفرة لدى الساسة في اليمن على مكافحة الفساد ولكن ينبغي أن يكون هناك منظومة متكاملة لمكافحة الفساد، ولا بد أن نؤسس هذا النظام وأن نؤسس للقوانين التي تعطيهم الصلاحية الكافية لمكافحة الفساد. عندما يقول رئيس الوزراء بأنه جاد في مكافحة الفساد نحن ندرك أن هذه المنظومة ليست كاملة فهناك أيضاً الهيئة العليا الوطنية لمكافحة الفساد لكن اختصاصاتها لحد الآن محدودة ولم تمكنها من مكافحة الفساد، فينبغي أن تكون هناك منظومة متكاملة تشترك فيها أطراف أخرى تعمل على محاربة الفساد بفعالية.

**كيف يسير العمل في المشاريع التي يركز عليها البنك الدولي في اليمن في هذه المرحلة؟**

في الواقع، في محافظة مشاريع البنك الدولي في اليمن ١٨ مشروعاً ممولاً من هيئة التنمية الدولية ومن الصندوق الائتماني الخاص بمشاريع البنك الدولي. كثير من المشاريع وخاصة مشروع الصندوق الاجتماعي للتنمية وكذلك مشروع الأشغال العامة ومشروع الطرق الريفية، والمشاريع المتعلقة بالتعليم الأساسي والصحة جميعها تسير بشكل جيد من ناحية التنفيذ.

لكن هناك ٣ مشاريع فيها تعثر لا سيما مشروع التعليم الفني والتدريب المهني، وهناك مشروع في مجال الطاقة ومشروع آخر في مجال كهرباء الريف، ونحن الآن بصدد مناقشة الحكومة حول هذين المشروعين لنقرر ماذا سيتم حيالهما.

والفكرة أننا نحاول إما أن نعيد هيكلة

هذين المشروعين لندخل طرق جديدة للتسريع في تنفيذها أو إلغاء هذين المشروعين ولكن بإلغائهما المبالغ لن تختفي وسوف يتم تخصيصها لمشاريع أخرى في اليمن.

**إذا تحدثنا عن مشكلة الكهرباء في اليمن، الحكومة عجزت عن وضع حل لها، ما هو الحل المناسب لهذه المشكلة حسب رأيك؟**

المشكلة في الواقع لها جوانب عديدة لا سيما جوانب متعلقة بالسياسة وكذا جوانب أمنية وخاصة فيما يتعلق بخطوط النقل. الجانب الآخر هو فيما يتعلق بالهياكل الخاصة بقطاع الطاقة. قدرات الحكومة على إنتاج الطاقة محدودة إلى حد ما وأيضاً قدراتها على بناء محطات لتوليد الطاقة محدودة خاصة أن الحكومة لديها التزامات عديدة فيما يتعلق بالصحة والتعليم والبنية التحتية، والشئ الذي يمكن القيام به، مثل ما قامت به بلدان أخرى، هو أن تكون هناك شراكة مع القطاع الخاص في بناء محطات

**الفرص تكمن في القطاع الخاص، والتحدي الأكبر لدى الحكومة هو في قدرتها على خلق مناخ مناسب وبيئة مناسبة تجذب القطاع وتحفز نمو هذا القطاع ليتمكن من توظيف الناس.**

التوليد حيث يقوم القطاع الخاص ببناء محطات وبيع الطاقة لشبكات التوزيع. لكن القطاع الخاص لا يمكن أن يأتي إلى اليمن إلا إذا توفر شيئين: تحسين الوضع الأمني والشئ الثاني أن يكون هناك إصلاح للهياكل الخاصة في قطاع الطاقة. وعادة ما يحصل فصل بين توليد الطاقة وبين شبكات خطوط النقل والتوزيع، واليمن بحاجة أن تخوض في هذا الإصلاح ومن الواضح أن هذا الشئ سيأخذ وقتاً طويلاً وبالتالي الحكومة يجب أن تبدأ بهذه العملية من الآن لتحقيق نتائج خلال عامين أو ثلاثة.

كما أن على المواطن أيضاً مسؤوليات. المواطن ينبغي أن يقوم بدفع فواتير الكهرباء لأن البعض منهم ممتنعين عن تسديد هذه الفواتير في الفترة الأخيرة.

**إذا ما تحدثنا عن موضوع البطالة.. ما هي الخطوات التي يجب أن تتبعها الحكومة في الحد من البطالة، وهل التوظيف في وظائف الدولة حل مجدي؟**

لسوء الحظ، الحكومة لا تمتلك القدرات الكافية لتوظيف المزيد من الناس في الحكومة، وحتى وإن قامت بذلك الذي سيحصل هو أنه ستكون هناك مشاكل جديدة. أولاً سيكون العاملين في الحكومة أكثر فقراً لأن الحكومة ستضطر إلى دفع مرتبات أقل للعاملين. كذلك لن تتوفر لدى الحكومة إمكانيات أخرى للإنفاق على مجالات الصحة والتعليم والخدمات الأخرى. الفرص تكمن في القطاع الخاص، والتحدي الأكبر لدى الحكومة هو في قدرتها على خلق مناخ مناسب وبيئة مناسبة تجذب القطاع وتحفز نمو هذا القطاع ليتمكن من توظيف الناس.

يمكنها أن تقوم بذلك من خلال وضع السياسات المناسبة المتعلقة بالضرائب والحصول على الأراضي وإيجاد البنية التحتية المناسبة والتسجيل السريع للمنشآت التجارية الجديدة.

على الحكومة أن تركز أيضاً على مجال التعليم وتحسين نوعيته لتوفير الكوادر المدربة والمؤهلة التي سيستفيد منها القطاع الخاص وكذلك لا بد أن تعمل على البنى التحتية التي تعمل على جذب القطاع الخاص والمستثمرين في مجال الطاقة

والنقل وتحسين البنية الأساسية بشكل عام.

**كيف تقرأ الخطوة التي اتخذتها الحكومة مؤخراً بتوظيف عشرات الآلاف من اليمنيين في القطاع العام؟**

هذه الخطوة وكأنك تتعامل مع مريض سرطان وتعطيه جرعة اسبرين. الحكومة بإمكانها أن تتعامل مع الموضوع بطريقتين: إما أن توظفهم توظيفاً مباشراً، والشئ الثاني هو إجراء الإصلاحات اللازمة لتحفيز القطاع الخاص ليتمكن من استيعاب المزيد من العاملين.

ما تقوم به الحكومة عادة حول العالم هو زيادة الإنفاق الحكومي للبرامج كثيفة العمالة والتي تخلق فرص عمل سريعة.

**هل هناك خطوات يتبعها البنك الدولي لتشجيع الشركات الصغيرة في اليمن وحمايتها والحفاظ عليها من الضخام؟**

لسوء الحظ ليست لدينا الأدوات لتتعامل مع كافة الجوانب.

بالنسبة للمنشآت الصغيرة والمتوسطة نحن ندرك أنها عانت مشاكل كبيرة فيما يتعلق أولاً بانخفاض الأعمال وثانياً بخسارة التسهيلات الائتمانية والمصرفية التي كانت تقدم لها.

أعتقد بأن هذا الجانب مهم للغاية، ونحن قد بدأنا العمل مع الحكومة للنظر في التحديات العديدة التي تواجهها الشركات الصغيرة، وسوف ننظر إلى تجارب الدول المجاورة لنرى كيف استطاعت أن تساعد هذه المنشآت ليس فقط على البقاء وإنما على النمو.

**لو تحدثت حول القات، كيف تنظرون إلى موضوع التوسع في زراعة القات وتهديده للمياه وأنتم تعلمون بأن حوض صنعاء مهدد بالجفاف؟**

مشكلة القات هي بالفعل مشكلة كبيرة تواجه اليمن، ونحن ندرك بأن هذه المشكلة جزء من النسيج الثقافي اليمني مثلها مثل النسيج الثقافي الموجود في أمريكا فيما يتعلق بالتدخين والفرنسيين فيما يتعلق بوجود النبيذ.

لكن المشكلة في اليمن تكمن في أن الكثير من الناس يتناولون القات بشكل يومي مما يجرهم من مبالغ ومعدلات كبيرة من دخولهم التي تنهب على الإنفاق على القات وتحرم أطفالهم من التعليم وأسره من توفير الغذاء اللازم لهم. كما أن القات يحتل مساحات كبيرة من الأراضي الخصبة التي يمكن أن تستغل لزراعة الخضروات والفاكهة والتي من الممكن أن توفر الغذاء لليمنيين. والشئ الآخر هو أن القات يستهلك ما بين ٤٠ - ٥٠ بالمئة من المياه على الأقل حول صنعاء.

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**قدرات الحكومة على إنتاج الطاقة محدودة إلى حد ما وأيضاً قدراتها على بناء محطات لتوليد الطاقة محدودة خاصة أن الحكومة لديها التزامات عديدة فيما يتعلق بالصحة والتعليم والبنية التحتية**

لكن هناك جوانب اقتصادية منها وتأخذها بعين الاعتبار في اتخاذ أي إجراءات لمكافحة هذه الأزمة ولا بد أن تقوم بتطوير سياسات تبنيتها على الأثر السلبي الاقتصادي والصحي بدلاً من أن تركز على جوانب العادة. تحدثت كثيراً عن التهديد الذي يتعرض له حوض صنعاء المهدد بالجفاف.. ما الخطوات الواجب على الحكومة اتباعها لحل هذه المشكلة؟

أعتقد بأن هناك إجراء سريع ينبغي على الحكومة اتخاذ الإجراءات الفورية لذلك، وهو منع الحفر العشوائي وغير القانوني بحوض صنعاء، حيث يتم استنزاف المياه بشكل كبير من المياه من خلال الحفر العشوائي. وسوف نواجه خلل كبير فيما يتعلق بالتوازن بين المخزون المائي وبين التغذية وبين ما يتم استخراجها في حال عدم اتخاذ إجراءات سريعة لهذا الموضوع.

**كيف تقرأ مستقبل اليمن خلال السنتين المقبلتين؟**

أنا بطبيعتي متفائل. أتيت لأول مرة في اليمن وجدت الجيش منقسماً على نفسه والبلاد تنزلق باتجاه الحرب الأهلية، ولكن الآن نجد بأن الأمر قد تغير بشكل كبير. هناك الاتفاقية الخليجية، وقد أجريت الانتخابات الرئاسية، وشكلت الحكومة الانتقالية والمجتمع الدولي ملتزم باتجاه اليمن أي أن الأمور تتحسن وتسير في الاتجاه الصحيح. لكن هذا لا يعني أن المسائل ستكون سهلة، فهناك صعوبة في هذا التقدم وسوف نستمر بالتحقيق خطوتين نحو الأمام وخطوة إلى الوراء.

متروك للساسة ليتخذوا الأمر المناسب والوقوف بجدياً لمكافحة هذه الآفة.

لكن هناك أساليب كثيرة للنظر في هذا الموضوع. الحكومة ينبغي أن تأخذ بعين الاعتبار مصالح الناس الكثيرين الذين يعملون في هذا المجال، من خلال النظر إلى مستوى معيشتهم والحفاظ عليها.

على سبيل المثال في كارولينا الشمالية في أمريكا، الجميع اعتقدوا أن الذين يعملون في تجارة وزراعة التبغ سيؤثرون بشكل سلبي على صحة المجتمع الأمريكي ولا بد أن تتخذ إجراءات حيال هذا الموضوع فأخذوا في الاعتبار مصالح الناس الذين يعملون في هذا القطاع سواء المزارعين أو المتاجرين فيه واتخذوا إجراءات تحمي هؤلاء الناس من فقدان دخولهم ومستوى معيشتهم. وبالتالي نحن بحاجة إلى إجراءات مماثلة هنا في اليمن لمعالجة هذه القضية. لا بد أن يكون هناك نوع من الإجراءات الخلاقة في معالجة هذه المشكلة.

ولكن بإمكانني أن أختبر ما مدى جدية الحكومة في مكافحة هذه الآفة من خلال

**سنستخدم آلية فضح المانح الذي لا يفي بتعهداته وننشر اسمه بأنه يتلصق في تنفيذ التزاماته تجاه اليمن.**

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وائل زقوت، مدير البنك الدولي في اليمن، ليمن تايمز:

# «المجتمع الدولي أرسل رسالتاً واضحة للشعب اليمني يقول فيها إنك لا تقف وحدك»

سبلعته البنك الدولي في هذه الجولة؟

بعد اجتماع المانحين في الرياض وكذلك مجموعة أصدقاء اليمن، سوف يقوم البنك الدولي بالعمل عن كثب مع الشرائح المختلفة في المجتمع اليمني مثل الحكومة والمجتمع المدني وكذلك القطاع الخاص للتأكد من أن كل هذه التعهدات يتم الالتزام بها.

كما أننا سوف ندعم الحكومة اليمنية في عملية تنفيذ إطار المسؤولية المشتركة، وذلك لتمكينها من تنفيذ التزاماتها تجاه ما قطعته للمانحين وذلك في مجال مكافحة الفساد وخلق الشراكة اللازمة مع القطاع المدني وكذلك الشراكة مع القطاع الخاص.

محلل اقتصادي قال أن هناك لا مبالاة وجهل كبير لدى الحكومة اليمنية، في إعداد ملف برامجها التنموية، هل تتفق مع هذا؟

هذه ملاحظة طرحت من قبل الخبراء الاقتصاديين. ولكن أستطيع أن أقول بأن الحكومة اليمنية قد بذلت جهداً كبيراً في إعداد الخطة التنموية للفترة الانتقالية وكذلك البنك الدولي وضع ملاحظته على هذه الخطة. إذا ما سألتني عما إذا كانت هذه الخطة هي الخطة الكاملة بالطبع سأقول لك لا، ولكن لا أستطيع أن أقول بأن الحكومة اليمنية تقاعست في إعداد هذه الخطة وإنما بذلت جهداً كبيراً جداً.

كما أن هناك جوانب يمكن تعزيزها وتقويتها فيما يتعلق بالخطة التنموية



وائل زقوت، مدير البنك الدولي في اليمن

قال وائل زقوت، مدير البنك الدولي في اليمن، إن على الحكومة اليمنية أن تتحرى وتحقق في قضايا الفساد التي يشترك فيها أي إنسان بغض النظر عن موقع مسؤوليته.

وأشار زقوت في حديثه لـ «يمن تايمز» أن البنك الدولي يعمل إلى جانب الحكومة في تعزيز قدراتها على تنفيذ برنامج الإصلاح الشامل وكذا المشاريع المختلفة التي تنفذها بالشراكة مع مجتمع المانحين.

وتحدث زقوت في هذا الحوار حول العديد من التحديات الاقتصادية والتنمية التي تواجه اليمن، وحول تعهدات المانحين تجاه اليمن، وأداء الحكومة اليمنية، والفساد، والبطالة والقات والمياه وغيرها من القضايا.

حوار: صادق الوصابي

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لقد كان اجتماع المانحين في الرياض وكذلك اجتماع مجموعة أصدقاء اليمن في نيويورك قصة نجاح كبيرة لليمن، حيث استطعنا جمع ما يقارب ٦,٤ بليون دولار في اجتماع الرياض و ١,٥ بليون دولار في اجتماع نيويورك.

وكانت الحكومة اليمنية قد طلبت تمويل للفجوة الاستثمارية بحوالي ١١,٩ بليون دولار وتمكننا في الجولة الحالية من جمع ما يقارب من ٧,٩ بليون دولار وهذا مبلغ لا بأس به. وسيكون هناك جولة أخرى بعد الفترة الانتقالية لحث المانحين لمساعدة اليمن في البرنامج التنموي الطويل المدى.

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# Political parties weigh in on who is, is not advantageous to National Dialogue success

Ahmed Dawood

The National Dialogue Conference (NDC), scheduled for November, is quickly approaching, and the challenges and complications facing those participating continue to mount. Its success rests largely on political parties and civil society organizations.

Many are pondering the compelling question, "Which political parties and civil society organizations will be advantageous to the NDC?"

Mohammed Qahtan, a member of the supreme authority for the Islamic Party, said that the NDC is the only way to propel Yemen out of its current crisis into a better future, pointing out that the aims of the November 2011 Revolution will not be finally realized without the conference.

Qahtan said that the Southern issue will be a main focus of the dialogue, asserting that the political meeting will not be successful unless it heeds the complaints of the Southerners and finds a fair solution to appease all. He called on President Hadi to issue certain decrees like granting the Southerners some of the lands that were taken from them.

Furthermore, Qahtan thinks President Hadi is the only one who can create a safe haven in Yemen so these discussions can take place, but that each citizen bears the responsibility of assuring success at the dialogue table by accepting views from all spectrums.

However as the NDC approaches, many southerners are not convinced of the meeting's chances at success.

Afra'a Al-Hariri, a lawyer and chairwoman of the Social Relief Association, said that the South faces several problems such as a terrifying security vacuum. Moreover, she claims Southerners are marginalized and considered second-rate citizens.

According to her, the dialogue will never succeed because it is based on the tenants of democracy and there will never be democracy as long as a portion of the population believes they do not received equal treatment under the law. The chairwoman further calls for an end to what she sees as religious and tribal speeches that mock the South.

Al-Hariri said it is fundamental to hold a South on South dialogue first so leaders can decide if they will join the national one. While she believes that "the NDC is vital to building a society," she refuses to accept its premises until Southerners receive the same treatment as their northern counterparts.

Murad Al-Gharati, head of the

“

**Afra'a Al-Hariri, a lawyer and chairwoman of the Social Relief Association, said it is fundamental to hold a South on South dialogue first to leaders can decide if they will join the national one.**

“

**Murad Al-Gharati, head of the Tamkeen Development Organization, said that the NDC requires a secure and peaceful climate, indicating that those involved in the dialogue must be committed to principals of mutual respect and a recognition of human rights.**

Photo courtesy of Mohammed Saaded



Activists campaign for the issues they most strongly believe in.

Tamkeen Development Organization, said that civil society organizations play an important role in the NDC's goal to bring in different political parties. They have the capacity to hold symposiums and conferences, engaging many different interest groups.

Al-Gharati sees that the NDC requires a secure and peaceful climate, indicating that those involved in the dialogue must be committed to principals of mutual respect and a recognition of human rights.

Hussein Abdullah Al-Jonaid, an engineer and member of the executive authority of the Justice and Building Organization, said there are several issues in Yemen that will never be solved without the dialogue. Besides consideration for those in the South, Al-Jonaid hopes the dialogue will provide solutions to Sa'ada's insurgency and an eventual agreement on the structure of the state and constitution.

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3			9	7	1			
8	6	5	3	2				
1	1	2			7			
5		4	7					
7		2	9	8	4			
7								
3								

### Easy

8		2		1				
	7		3	2				
	9	7	4					
4		2		7				
	1		7		8			
	5	6						

### Intermediate


### Difficult

	4			2				
		6		8	9			
		5		3				

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## Workshop held focusing on ways to empower the blind

Story and photo by  
Nadia Haddash

A workshop for alleviating hurdles faced by blind students in public schools concluded Wednesday in Sana'a. The workshop coincided with Disabled World Day and was organized by the Yemeni Disabled Forum, in partnership with the Aman Association for Taking Care of the Blind. It was funded by the Ministry of Education and the British Cultural Council.

The three-day workshop aimed to highlight the educational rights of the blind according to international standards. The workshop also called for the government to adopt educational policies to help integrate blind people into society.

Hana Al-Shami, a project assistant at the British Council, said the workshop produced ideas based on an "on-the-ground" action plan.

Dr. Ahmed Ateeq, a supervisor and a

trainer for the workshop, said a team made up of organizations affiliated with the educational process has been established to submit regular reports on obstacles blind students and those that teach them face.

There were 45 participants, including school principals, sociologists, and representatives of disabled associations and the Ministry of Education. The workshop included four working papers focused on issues of integrating those with sight disabilities, the definition of an integration program and ways to combat institutional shortcomings.

Daris Mutahr Al-Ba'adani, a blind university student, provided insight on what he hopes workshops like this can create.

"The blind need autonomy when they learn and receive their lessons," he said. "This cannot happen unless they get the academic books in a proper way, in addition to providing them with staff qualified to deal with them. If this takes place, then we can say the blind exercise their life autonomously."



Workshop participants discuss improving policies towards the blind in and outside of schools.

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