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Brain Power: The first state-run high school for advanced students in Yemen, which opened in September, claims to be a unique facility for nurturing talents. Authorities say state investment in schools like this is also an investment in the country's future. Read more on Page 10

(Photo by Samar Al-Ariqi)



Thousands of now visa-less Yemenis to be deported from Saudi Arabia

Page 3





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Around The Nation

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The total number of guns seized

by security forces is estimated to be 500 since the Ministry of In-

terior launched a campaign last

week to help stabilize security

According to the ministry, the

campaign also target cars and

motorcycles that violates traffic

Brig. Omar Abdulkareem,

security chief of Sana'a, said

security forces have confiscated

about 1,000 motorcycles and

500 cars that have violated traf-

fic regulations in the same pe-

in Sana'a, the ministry said.

regulations.

riod.

Reporting by

Samar Al-Ariqi

Shabwa's flood victims overshadowed by security concerns in the governorate

Nasser Al-Sakkaf

SHABWA, Nov. 4-While insecurity and militant violence in Shabwa governorate has made both local and international headlines, activists, local leaders and NGOs are criticizing a lack of attention being drawn to an ongoing humanitarian issues in the area.

Most recently, NGOs have had trouble entering the governoratelargely due to insecurity-to assist the estimated 200 people in the Arqah-Al-Husoon and Al-Muyasr villages in the Rudum district who have been without homes since August when heavy rains and flooding destroyed their houses.

According to the manager of Rudum district, Salem Al-Shukailah, flooding on Aug. 17 left five houses completely destroyed and 18 others partially damaged. One person died in the flooding and roads leading to the two villages were completely swept away.

"The floods came suddenly from three directions towards us. It was so fast, we couldn't take our things from our houses, even important things like gold and documents," said Salem Al-Karbi one of the flood victims. "At that moment our only thought was to escape with our children...we didn't think about anything else."

Al-Shukailah describes himself as helpless to serve the area because



Very little aid has filtered into villages destroyed by flooding in Shabwa governorate.

requested funds from the central government to aid rehabilitation efforts have yet to materialize.

"The [central] government has not taken any measures to solve this problem," Al-Shukailah said. "Some people in Rudum have been living in schools and others hosted by their relatives."

Al-Karbi's seven-member family, is currently living in the local threeroom Al-Arqah School with two other families of roughly equal size. To further complicate the situation, people's livelihoods were also debilitated following the flooding. In the area, which is along Yemen's southern coast, Al-Shukailah says

the population predominately relies on fishing and agriculture for income. Torrential down pour in August destroyed not only large fleets of fishing boats and fishing equipment but also fertile land for farming.

"Now people have no work and have no access to basic services in-

Sa'ada Working Group indefinitely delays submission of final report

Mohammed Al-Hassani

SANA'A, Nov. 4-The Sa'ada Issue Working Group at the National Dialogue Conference (NDC) has indefinitely delayed the submission of its final report due to reservations about two of the report's articles from the General People's Congress (GPC) and Houthi representatives.

Houthi representative Hassan Al-Humran said the majority of the report's articles are agreed upon except for two articles. He said the Houthis and the GPC want to include the Sa'ada wars' victims in the 2011 Revolutionary Victims Fund that was established via a presidential decree in early October. The fund currently aims to support those injured and killed in Yemen's 2011 uprising, as well as those who have been injured in peaceful protest in the South since 2007.

Additionally, the GPC and Ansar Allah, the political wing of the Houthis, objected to the constitutional drafting period that is slated to follow the NDC in which conference outcomes are meant to be implemented.

Yaseen Saeed Noman, the NDC's deputy head, said in a meeting that the Sa'ada Working Group presented their concerns to the Resolutions and Assurances Committee's members. However, Noman savs members are not convinced of the issues' relevance to the current stage of the NDC.

providing a specific description for those to be counted," he said.

However, Ansar Allah and GPC's representatives said that statements are not enough and requested presidential decrees to implement their demands.

Abdulhameed Huraiz, the acting head of the Solutions and Guarantees Committee, said the group held a meeting on Sunday, and "informed the conference presidium" that the Sa'ada group cannot hand in the report as scheduled on Nov. 6.

issue to treat them equally without Sa'ada Working Group, has said that the Resolutions and Assurances Committee announced Monday that its work would be finalized and submitted in time to be voted upon during the third NDC plenary. The NDC Reconciliation Committee met last week with the Resolutions and Assurances Committee to discuss the disagreed upon articles.

During its working period, the committee reached 60 solutions to be presented for voting. The solutions included sectarian and intellectual freedom, the practice of rituals and prohibition of imposing or banning these practices by force and the neutrality of the state and its apparatus in sectarian matters, as guaranteed by the Constitution and regulated by law.

cluding water and transportation," Al-Shukailah said.

The manager of the Al-Arqah School, Hameed Al-Gumaily says this is the worst crisis he has seen in the area he has lived his entire life.

The Sah human rights organization, a Yemeni NGO, visited the area at the end of October to prepare a report about the growing crisis in Rudum.

In addition to reporting on the complete collapse of the local economy, it found that people-mostly women-have to travel at least three km. to fetch water without the aid of transport.

Very few relief organizations have been able to reach the villages in order to provide assistance to those in need.

"Insecurity and unrest has blocked [main] roads, making it very difficult to reach the area," said Ahlam Al-Mutawakel, the office administrator of Islamic Help, a United Kingdom based relief organization.

In early October, Islamic Help was able to make their way through Shabwa and distribute 200 food packages, consisting of basics such as rice, sugar, wheat and cooking oil to those in Rudum district.

But according to Al-Mutawakel's estimates, the food packages will last a maximum of two months and the organization is unsure when they will be able to return due to a voaltile security situation.

Military camps in Shabwa were attacked in late September, when armed men believed to have been dressed in military uniforms surrounded the camps and set off car bombs, killing 22 soldiers. The area has been struggling to guard itself against future attacks in an area that is often characterized by security breaches and attacks on public interests.

"What the victims get from [relief] organizations like food and blankets is not a solution to the disaster, this is just help, the people want homes and work tools to restart their normal life," said Al-Gumaily.

Violence continues in Dammaj

Nasser Al-Sakkaf

SA'ADA, Nov. 4-Ongoing clashes between Salafis and Houthis that began last Wednesday in the Dammaj district of Sa'ada governorate, have left anywhere from 60 to 100 dead, including a student at the Islamic school Dar Al-Hadeeth, and more than 140 injured, according to various reports. Houthi fighters have not yet released official numbers of casualties on their side in the fighting. Abu Ismael Alwadie, a Dammaj resident, told the Yemen Times that the city of Dammaj's 15,000 people has been terrorized by what they call a Houthi siege. "Houthi fighters first warned citizens in Dammaj to leave their homes," said Alwadie. "And then the shelling started."

cal wing of the Houthis, in the National Dialogue Conference, proposed on Saturday a tenpoint plan for ending the conflict including a ceasefire, relief for the injured and a withdrawal of both sides from new military positions.

"An agreement was reached on the victims and injured people's

He went on to say that "voting on this report will be postponed indefinitely until the articles that provoked reservations are amended."

Nabeela Al-Zubair, head of

Battle between state forces and alleged Al-Qaeda affiliates wages on in Abyan

Reportedly government forces continue aerial raids in the area

Ali Ibrahim Al-Moshki

ABYAN, Nov. 4-Soldiers in Brigade 111 in the Al-Mahfd district in southern Yemen's Abyan governorate say they are exchanging almost daily gunfire with armed men in the area they believe to be Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula [AQAP] affiliates.

According to Shakir Al-Ghadeer, a soldier in the brigade, the men are attacking the 111th's headquarters chanting slogans typically associated with AQAP members.

All the while, over the past week, the Interior Ministry says they be-

gan an aerial campaign in the area, dropping government missiles. Although he Ministry says no casualties have been reported, the Yemen Times could not independently confirm this information.

On Monday morning, gunfire including the use of RPGs between Brigade 111 and armed militants broke out again at the brigade's headquarters.

"The clashes are almost daily. But Monday's clashes were very fierce and lasted hours," said Al-Ghadeer. "There were dozens of militants who were moving by means of car with different weapons."

On Saturday armed men who are also believed to be AQAP affiliates attacked a security checkpoint, killing four soldiers and injuring two others from Brigade 111, the Interior Ministry said.

Al-Ghadeer described the situation in Al-Mahfd as contradictory, saying he will often see the men who later attack him in the market or in the street.

"When we return to camp, the confrontations start," he said.

According to Al-Ghadeer, Popular Committees—a group of militiamen who assist the state in their battle against Al-Qaeda-in the area made an agreement with militants not to fight in public spaces.

The security manager of Abyan governorate, Colonel Mohammed Dunba, said, "Al-Mahfd district is a shelter for Al-Qaeda," adding that the group keeps weapons in the area. "The topography allows for the harboring of militants," he

said referring to the mountainous conditions of Al-Mahfd.

"The militants we have been fighting are well-trained and own lots of weapons," Dunba added.

"We cannot sleep at night for fear of being attacked at any time," said Nabeel Yahia Mohammed, a soldier in Al-Mahfd.

Although Dunba says there are plenty of forces currently located in Abyan, roughly 1,500 each in four different brigades, they are being out-weaponed by the forces they are fighting.

Last week, a video surfaced online in which a man believed to be Jalal Baleedi, an alleged AQAP leader in Abyan, threatened a resurgence of AQAP in the governorate. The video was not independently verified.

The town is reportedly facing an extreme shortage of food and medicine.

Soror Alwadie, a Salafi spokesman in Dammaj, told the Yemen Times that although the International Committee of the Red Cross managed to enter the town after several days of effort, they were only able to assist a small fraction of those injured.

He added that the temporary ceasefire which allowed for the Red Cross to conduct efforts in Dammaj still did not stop fighting completely. The humanitarian ceasefire itself only lasted for one hour, according to local sources

Ali Al-Bukhaiti, the spokesman for Ansar Allah, the politi-

Sa'ada has long been under Houthi control.

Houthis have asked a presidential mediation committee to force the release of prisoners detained by pro-Salafi fighters during clashes in mid-September, according to al-Bukhaiti.

"But this was not a condition to stop the fighting [in Dammaj]," he said.

Yahia Abu Asbu, the head of a presidential mediation committee said the Houthis prevented the committee from entering Dammaj on Saturday and asked them to release the Houthi detainees as a preliminary measure.

Abu Asbu stated that the committee "will try again to enter Dammaj and implement a ceasefire. After that, we will begin exploring permanent solutions to the dispute between Houthis and Salafis."

According to an expert on Islamist movements, Mujeeb Al-Humaid, the Houthi-Salafi conflict in Dammaj began in 2007 when Houthis attempted to persuade local residents to join their cause against the state during the Sa'ada wars against the government, from 2004 to 2010.

After residents refused to join them, Houthis attempted to take control of the city by force.



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Thousands of now visa-less Yemenis to be deported from Saudi Arabia

Yemeni officials lack a plan to deal with returning citizens

Ali Saeed

SANA'A, Nov. 4-Thousands of Yemeni migrants will be deported back to Yemen from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia beginning Monday, on the first day of the Islamic New Year. A four-month grace period granted by the Kingdom for undocumented workers to sort out their residency issues ended on Sunday.

Preliminary estimates indicate that 150,000 Yemeni workers are on the verge of deportation to the country this year following an announcement from Saudi Arabia in April that foreign laborers in the work for their original visa sponsors

Rafeeq Qasim, 28, is from Mahwit and has been working in Saudi Arabia since 2006. He is one of the thousands of Yemenis who are eligible for deportation after failing to meet the new regulations imposed by the Saudi government.

Millions of Yemeni households live on remittances sent monthly by family members working in the neighboring country. Qasim's work in Saudi Arabia is the only source of income for his 13-member family.

"I know hundreds of Yemenis who have sold everything they have, even their cell phones, as they prepare for their return to Yemen. The situation is very bad here," Qasim told the Yemen Times.

Until the latest regulations were announced, most workers who

kingdom would only be allowed to went to Saudi Arabia signed contracts with sponsors, often for very low salaries, and supplemented their incomes by working for other employers. Workers must now work for one sponsor and have their professions written on their visa. Anyone found working for another employer will be deported according to the new regulation. Non-compliant employers can face fines of up to SR100,000 (about \$26,600) and up to two years in prison.

> In July, the Yemeni government unsuccessfully attempted to persuade Saudi authorities to exempt Yemenis from the change in law, according to business reporter Rasheed Al-Haddad.

"A Yemeni delegation headed by the prime minister that included the foreign minister, expatriates minister and labor minister was supposed to visit Saudi Arabia last regarding July

The

declined to agree

government has

neither proposed

The Saudi gov-

new licenses or

ernment

Yemeni

de-

has

small businesses in the Kingdom unofficially. Yemenis often own a business but secretly pay Saudi citizens to put it under their name.

Sixty percent of small businesses in Saudi Arabia are owned by Yemenis, Al-Haddad said.

The strict regulations were imposed by Saudi authorities on all foreign workers earlier this year, but many Yemenis feel that the move was intended to specifically target them for political purposes.

In a former interview with the Yemen Times, Mahasin Al-Hawati, the deputy minister for the Ministry of Expatriates, said the most recent round of deportations are political.

"In 1990, we paid the price for our stance on the Gulf War. But now we are paying a price without knowing the reason," he said.

In 1990, Saudi Arabia deported over 1 million Yemeni workers after Yemen sided with Iraq during the Gulf War.

Al-Haddad disagrees that the new Saudi labor regulations were set up to target Yemenis.

"It is not logical to accuse Saudi Arabia of adopting these regulations to target Yemenis because they were imposed on all foreign migrants."

There are an estimated 1.5 million documented and undocumented Yemenis living in Saudi Arabia. There are 9 million foreign workers in the country in total, according to the state-run Al-Riyadh newspaper. About 4 million workers have been able to meet the new regulations and about 1 million workers have left the country in the past few months, the newspaper reported. Yemeni authorities are not pre-

renewing expired licenses for Yepared to deal with returning Yemenis who own menis, many fear.

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matter, the Ministry of Expatriates,

Labor Ministry, and Foreign Affairs

Ministry, disagree about where the

burden will fall for dealing with the

The confusion has left returning

workers without anyone strongly

advocating for their rights, they

One consequence of the new

returning workers.

say

The monitoring and superviregulations is that Saudi authorision of returning Yemenis is not organized, Al-Haddad said. Three

ties will confiscate any worker's remittance that exceeds his or her monthly salary as stated in the worker's contract. Al-Haddad says that Saudi au-

thorities have arrested about 500 Yemenis in the past two months for sending home remittances that exceed the monthly salaries stipulated by their employers.

Yemenis have resorted to sending money back physically with those traveling to Yemen.



ersona

this issue. However, Saudi officials Foreign worker's annual financial obligations to the visit," Al-1. SR650 (\$173) for one-Haddad said. year residency renewal SR650 (\$173) for health 2. insurance 3 SR500 (\$133) for a alternative labor documents' check markets for the 4. SR3,000 (\$800) for the soon-to-be sponsor ported migrants, SR2,500 (\$667) for the 5. nor improved the Labor Office climate for invest-6. SR1,500 (\$ 400) for ment in Yemen a one time exit and in order to create entrance visa new jobs, he said. SR200 (\$53) for phone calls and bureaucratic follow-up stopped issuing Total: SR9,000 (\$2,400)

A cartoon circulated on social media by Saudi-based Yemeni workers.

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Corruption and inefficiency wreaking havoc on economy **Economists: government must collect** taxes, better manage oil revenues

Ali Saeed

he Yemeni government is borrowing considerable amounts of money from international financial institutions to keep the country and the central government afloat, economists say. The move is a risky one, says Mostafa Nasr, the chairman of the Studies and Economic Media Center in Sana'a, but more transparency and efficient management could increase government revenues, reduce the country's debt and strengthen the national economy.

"When the government faces a shortage of cash, it borrows, seeks foreign aid or prints new notes," said Nasr. "These responses each pose a threat to the national economy.'

Mohammed Jubran, a professor of economics at Sana'a University, who audits numerous government ministries with access to unpublished reports, said dependence on loans forces the country to rack up debt due to interest rates.

In 2012, Yemen's nation debt was YR412 billion (\$1.9 billion), according to the Central Bank of Yemen.

"About YR400 billion [about \$1.8 billion] was borrowed from local financial institutions," Jubran said. "The remaining loans were borrowed from foreign financial institutions.

The government has not yet released data on this year's accrued



oil exporters, the country's export and domestic oil consumption of Yemeni oil have dramatically decreased in the past years.

interest-based debts, but at a time of declining revenue and a growth in spending, Jubran told the Yemen Times that he believes it will be no less than YR500 billion, more than \$2 billion.

Oil revenues decline

A report issued Wednesday by the Central Bank of Yemen detailed

a \$580 million loss in oil revenue between January and August 2013 due to continuous attacks on oil pipelines.

According to the report, Yemen's oil exports declined from 21 million barrels from January through August 2012 to 16.6 million for the same period this year.

The attacks on oil pipelines are

not the only reason behind declining oil revenues, Jubran said, adding that there has also been a considerable decrease in oil production.

Oil production decreased from 96.5 million barrels in 2010 to 71 million barrels in 2011. It further fell to 56.3 million in 2012, according to Yemen's Central Statistics Organization.

While the number of barrels produced this year is still undocumented, Jubran said it is certainly less than that produced in previous years.

Lost resources

"A financial strategy must be put in place in order to increase state revenues," Jubran said. He believes a solid economic plan could be created if there was adequate financial management at a government level.

However, a weak central government with little oversight means Yemen has missed out on billions ing, the operations of the oil sector

annually in oil revenues because of the cost of oil production. This cost, instead of being shouldered by oil companies operating in Yemen, is paid for by the government. Production costs include security, food, housing and other expenses for workers in the oil sector.

While the government used to directly provide these services, it is now doing the same by paying private companies owned by influential Yemeni figures.

These influential figures are hoarding a significant amount of the country's oil wealth, Jubran said. He told the Yemen Times that oil production costs went from \$3 per barrel when the government was providing the services directly, to about \$20 with the current outsourcing.

Despite having a transitional government, following the stepping down of President Ali Abdulla Saleh as a result of the 2011 upris-

The country loses about \$1 billion have not changed, according to a report released by Chatham House in September 2013.

Data source: Central Bank of Yemen - Visualized by the Yemen Times

Failure to end this siphoning of oil resources threatens the success of the transitional period because it puts Yemen on its way to economic collapse, according to the report. The country's elites-who are largely responsible for this economic deterioration-are expected to win the upcoming elections, Chatham House says.

Yemen is also losing potential revenue through state-owned telecommunication companies, trading institutions, banks and other institutions. If run efficiently, these state-owned institutions should be generating \$2.32 billion yearly, Jubran said.

"There is no monitoring on spending-corruption has increased during the transitional period. If actions are taken and regulations are implemented, the government will increase revenues and lower the national debt," he added.





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of dollars in unpaid taxes. The country loses about \$4.7 billion in unpaid taxes, according to Jubran. Ministers, government officials, sheikhs, security and military leaders, as well as ordinary citizens are among those who are failing to pay their fair share.

Unpaid customs fees in 2007 alone were YR300 billion, about \$1.4 billion according to a Journalists Against Corruption report, published in 2010. Combined with unpaid taxes, the loss of revenue in 2007 was \$2.5 billion.

The Ministry of Finance declined to speak to the Yemen Times regarding this article with an explanation of these numbers.

State-set prices have also meant the loss of billions of dollars for Yemen, Jubran said. The Yemeni government set the price of liquefied natural gas at about \$3 per metric ton-through 2025. Selling gas at current global market price would contribute \$3 billion annually to the Yemeni economy, Jubran estimates.

The transitional government has ordered the increase of liquefied natural gas prices and is in negotiation with numerous foreign governments. In August, the government agreed to initial talks with South Korea to increase the cost of oil from \$3.20 per metric ton to \$14, voiding the 20-yearagreement signed by South Korea and the former government of Yemen in 2008.



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Feature



G33 to reopen talks on subsidies at WTO

Jaspreet Kindra IRIN First Published Oct. 21

6

he combined effects of the global economic slowdown and increasing climatic shocks are threatening food security in developing countries, prompting many to re-open World Trade Organization (WTO) discussions on limits to support for farmers

A group of developing countriesknown as G33-is asking to exceed their agreed domestic support limits when they buy, stock and supply cereals and other food to boost food security among the poor. They want these changes to be exempt from any legal challenge.

Essentially, these countries want the freedom to buy grains at set prices from producers and to use

that grain to build stockpiles for distribution. The WTO rules do not prescribe limits on the amount of food that can be bought at market prices for food stocks, and it does not limit the amount of food that can be provided as domestic food aid at subsidized prices. The WTO only disciplines buying cereals at administered prices.

The proposal will be discussed at the WTO Ministerial Conference in Bali, Indonesia, in December.

Developed countries and some developing countries are concerned that the G33 proposal-which is backed by India, China and Indonesia-could affect food security in neighbouring countries. They fear these measures could lead to surpluses in stocks, which the G33 members might dump in the global market, disrupting global prices.

Ashok Gulati, chairman of India's Commission for Agriculture Cost and Prices (CACP), reckons India wants more leeway to provide support for its farmers and consumers because the government is launching a massive subsidized food scheme through a public distribution system that will reach twothirds of its population—nearly 800 million people. He told IRIN that a situation where India would be in a position to dump excess stocks could arise "once in 10 years." He added, "the larger distortion will be domestic," referring to disruptions to local markets.

A representative from one of the G33 countries at the WTO, who did not want to be named, said not all the members of the group were supportive of the proposal. "India is already the largest exporter of rice in the world... Small exporters will lose their competitiveness because of Indian subsidies... Rice prices are already going down, and



Currently the WTO disciplines the buying of cereals at administered prices. Developing countries are asking for a change in policy.

The Ministry of Public Works and Highways The Rural Access Program-Central Management Office (RAPCMO)

Job Vacancy-Program Manager

i. Background:

The Government of Yemen, through the Ministry of Public Works and Highways is committed to ensure that the Rural Access Program contributes to the Government's plans to promote economic growth and poverty reduction in rural areas of Yemen.

The Rural Access Program is a multi-donor funded program aims to support the government strategy in providing year-round access to basic services, markets, jobs and thus alleviate poverty among the rural population of Yemen where more than 65% of the populations live.

The Ministry of Public Works and Highways now invites highly qualified applicants to fill the position of Program Manager of the Rural Access Program. The selected candidate will report directly to the Minister of Public Works and Highways-Chairman of the Steering Committee who has the overall oversight of RAP. The position seeks candidates with expertise and practical experience in rural roads/highway construction and maintenance, procurement, contract management combined with knowledge in Environmental and Social safeguard policies and their applications in road/highway construction would be an added advantage.

ii. Duties and Responsibilities:

The selected candidate will work under the Ministry of Public Works and Highways, and liaise effectively with other line-ministries, and donors in the interest of accomplishing RAP's development objectives. The primary duties and responsibilities of the selected applicant would be:

- Execute the engineering, planning, technical, procurement, financial and managerial activities and day-to-day operations of the Rural Access Program.
- Ensure that RAP's projects are prepared and implemented in line with Government of Yemen's, World Bank's and other donors' guidelines, policies and procedures.
- Provide professional input with respect to formulating government of Yemen's and its partners' strategies and policies toward RAP achieving its development objectives.
- Work effectively with Ministry Public Works and Highways, and liaise with other line ministries, mainly Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation and Ministry of Finance, and stakeholder to secure government's contributions in financing RAP.
- Ensure that donors' legal and financing agreements are implemented and effectively met.

To achieve the above, applicant must meet the following qualifications and experiences.

with further subsidies it can lead to a price crash," the representative said.

The delegate estimated that support for rice production in Indiaboth in the form of agricultural inputs and procurement-ran into billions of dollars. Even more support could "ruin" agriculture sustainability and "create food insecurity instead of food security" in the region.

Gulati has publicly come out against the government's plan to stockpile staple grains because of the effect it would have on prices in the local markets, according to interviews with the Indian daily the Economic Times and news agency DNA.

He maintains that dispensing subsidized food will not address malnutrition, a significant problem in India, where almost half the population of children are malnourished. Gulati believes this problem can only be addressed by comprehensively tackling the various dimensions of food insecurity, such as by increasing access to clean water and improving the status of women.

But a new paper, produced jointly by the Geneva-based International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), takes a sympathetic view of positions on both sides, and uses the proposal to flag the need to reform global agricultural trade rules. The paper contends there has been minimal reform to agricultural trade rules since the Uruguay Round of multilateral negotiations that led to the formation of the WTO two decades ago. "The G33 proposal can more broadly be seen as symptomatic of the challenges many countries face in designing policies to achieve food security goals in the new price environment," the paper notes. "Although agricultural markets have evolved dramatically since 2007, global trade rules have not," it adds.

new proposed bill recommends an expanded insurance program with new crop insurance subsidies, which would see farmers receive money when income from certain crops falls below a targeted level. It also sets higher target prices for crops that trigger payments when revenues fall for several consecutive years. The bill is likely to come up for negotiations in the coming weeks.

The EU has largely done away with export subsidies that support the disposal of surplus production abroad, but the EU Common Agriculture Policy still ensures high levels of direct support to farmers and protects EU markets. The EU has substantially reformed farm support over the years to reduce its impacts on trade and production, but some still question whether the support provided continues to give

European pro-ЮΤ ducers an advantage over rules competitors need to elsewhere. take into hand, the ecoaccount nomic slowthe realdown and its impact on loity that cal currencies countries have are in developing countries like different Zambia to resituamove

in the form of cheaper agricultural inputs or higher prices for produce, do not get to the intended poorest farmers, and they are often driven by political opportunism - appeasing the majority of the people in developing countries who depend on agriculture for income and food.

CACP's Gulati, who formerly headed IFPRI's Asia office, said, "Subsidies on fertilizer, power and irrigation are not targeted. Subsidies have risen much faster than public investments in agriculture [in India]. The marginal return on subsidies is less than one-fourth of that from investments. Yet subsidies multiply due to higher political returns. So India wants more leverage on subsidies.'

Yet Morrison adds that, for many countries, direct support for farmers "may be essential in facilitating agricultural transformation" and the "only practical option available given weaknesses" in other public institutions that could have supported production. "Greater use of a system more reliant on marketbased instruments may make a more efficient use of resources, but may be impractical at the current time".

Jonathan Hepburn, agriculture programme manager with ICTSD says, "WTO rules need to take into account the reality that countries are in different situations, and that some have fewer resources at their disposal to achieve public policy

iii. Qualifications, Experience and Skills:

- Minimum Bachelor's of Science degree in Civil Engineering.
- Minimum of 10-years of proven experience in road/highway planning and programming, construction management, supervision and maintenance works.
- Extensive experience in road/highway Engineering, infrastructure and technologies and translate such knowledge into practical application to the overall needs of RAP, and decision making. In addition, the applicant should demonstrate proven experience in contract management, procurement and financial management at senior management level in government or private sector organizations.
- Demonstrated skills and ability to ensure the implementation, and long-term sustainability of RAP projects.
- Good understanding of donors, especially World Bank's, financial, procurement, guidelines and procedures, and Environmental and Social safeguard policies.
- Team-work, leadership and people management skills, including demonstrated ability in mentoring and providing guidance to staff to deliver high-guality output and projects.
- Ability to identify needed resources to accomplish results and find solutions to overcome obstacles and problems.
- Excellent communication skills in sharing ideas and making presentations to wide and diverse audience in a clear way
- Proven ability to read, write and speak fluently in English language.
- Demonstrated ability to use modern personal computer technologies, softwares and their applications.

iv. Selection Criteria

- Selection shall be based on the applicant's ability, to the extent possible, to meet the above requirements.
- Interested applicants are requested to write a covering letter to be submitted with his/her CV, no less than 200-words, explaining the reason why he/she is applying for this position.
- Selection shall be based on the combined results of the person's evaluation of his/her credentials, cover letter and the interview.
- Short-listed applicants only shall be invited for interview.

Interested applicants shall submit their applications in sealed envelope, clearly marked, to the following address NO LATHER THAN NOVEMBER 24, 2013. LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED:

RAPCMO-Program Manager Position. The Ministry of Public Works and Highways The Minister's Office-4th Floor **Dhaher Himyar area- Berlin Street** Sana'a, Yemen.

To subsidize or not

Agricultural subsidies have been a contentious issue for years. The WTO has placed ceilings on how much the U.S. and the European Union (EU) can spend on agricultural subsidies that distort trade, but these are still rather high, food rights groups say.

A drought in the U.S. in 2012 and fluctuating food prices have led policy-makers there and in the EU to rethink protection and support for their farmers, the International Food Policy Research Institute (IF-PRI) pointed out.

The U.S.'s agriculture policy is governed by the Farm Bill, which is updated every four years, but the 2008 legislation was extended to September 2013, when the two parties -- the Democrats and the Republicans—were unable to come to an agreement on subsidized food for the country's poor. The

tions

ers and millers because the expenditure is perceived as drain-

On the other

forced

subsi-

ing the country's limited resources.

More imbalances?

If richer nations are strengthening support to their farmers while the poorer countries cut back, could global imbalances grow?

Jamie Morrison, a senior economist with FAO and a co-author of the ICTSD/FAO paper, says that, generally, when considering support to farmers in times of disasters, countries should take into account the kind of support they have to fall back on. In rich countries, farmers have access to insurance and other safety nets, which might not be the case in developing countries.

He says rich countries use public funding to "underwrite potential losses [for farmers] which private sector insurance institutions may be less willing to cover. This type of support is considered to be less distortive of markets and trade."

But developing countries tend to intervene directly in the market to stabilize prices for their producers while providing their consumers "with some level of protection against high food prices", Morrison said. This generally leads to buying grains at prices above the market value and managing cross-border trade. This support not only drains the country's coffers but "is considered to be distortive of markets and trade."

Often these subsidies, whether

dies for farmobjectives.

Negotiating

In the recent past, negotiating groups at the WTO have sought preferential treatment. The least developed countries (LDCs), for instance, are negotiating to enjoy some flexibility in their implementation of import tariffs on agricultural products. However, even the LDCs face limits on the amounts and kinds of subsidies they provide - although many lack the resources to provide the amount of farm support that would be capped by WTO rules, points out ICTSD's Hepburn.

Part of the problem in creating new rules on trade, Hepburn said, has "been striking a balance between the rights and responsibilities of different groups of countries - especially as the global economic landscape has evolved dramatically over the last decade or so."

In December, according to the WTO, countries might decide on a "temporary "waiver" (a formal legal exemption allowing some member states to exceed their limits), a non-binding political statement by the conference's chairperson or some option in between. Flexibility along these lines has sometimes been called a "peace clause" or "due restraint", because members would avoid bringing legal disputes against developing countries in these circumstances."

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Yemen is not so much in transition as in endless crisis

Farea Al Muslimi Thenational.ae First Published Nov. 2

s a dust storm swirls, a five-year-old boy walks barefoot, his arms thinner than carrots. The boy's father, Saleh, is next to him, bending down occasionally to remove his son's mucus with his hands. Saleh's resignation mixes with frustration when he later holds forth on his plight, blaming Yemen's current government for failing to aid him and the 100,000 other internally displaced people (IDPs) living in the Al Mazrak camps in the far northern Haradh district.

More than three years ago, Saleh fled his home in Sa'ada province as the war between the Yemeni government and the Houthi rebel group escalated.

Saleh has long hoped that matters would calm down in Sa'ada, that the government would rebuild damaged infrastructure and that he'd finally be able to return home. The anti-government uprisings of 2011 fuelled a fleeting sense of optimism, but instead brought a worsening of the country's humanitarian crisis. Saleh says he can't go back to Sa'ada. Damages from the fighting have rendered his home uninhabitable. Having refused to fight with either side during the wars, he worries returning would put him and his family in danger.

"The hope was the sand of a storm, rather than the storm of change," he reflects.

Unlike Saleh, the frustrations of Amjad, another IDP, are directed at Yemen's post-Arab Spring transition, rather than the 2011 uprising itself. It may be celebrated by Sana'a-based politicians and diplomats, but for Amjad, Yemen's ongoing National Dialogue Conference only hardens lingering anger. The conference has brought 556 delegates from across the political spectrum to a luxury hotel in the capital to discuss the country's most critical issues.

In Amjad's mind, the conference is nothing but a "carnival for the ones who lead to his displacements and problems" rather than one that will come up with solutions to the real issues he suffers from every day. Many others in the camp echo his sentiments. The words "national dialogue" tend to provoke a flurry of complaints, as IDPs note the lack of food, health, blankets and tents in their camps.

The frustration here isn't new. The arrival of the IDPs doubled Haradh's population, heightening competition for the few available jobs and worsening the longstanding problem of the trafficking of women and children across the border into Saudi Arabia.

These escalating problems are not on the agendas of Yemen's National Dialogue Conference. Its by-laws, mandates and tasks are clearly not those of the government. However, the hopes sold by the conference organizers, government officials and the international community painted the conference

as the answer to all Yemen's problems – even those that it could never have been expected to solve.

The conference's proponents have exaggerated its achievements and intensified their discussions.

And while they believe in the importance of the dialogue's proceedings, they tend to seem irrelevant to people outside the capital. In other words, these extensive efforts take place out of the view of ordinary Yemenis.

Those left out of the transition in Yemen aren't just the new groups in the squares, but also those who were motivated to protest in 2011 due to hunger, unemployment and day-to-day concerns. "We protested to increase the

quality of life, not to increase prices and power blackouts", says Assem, another IDP from Sa'ada, who says he participated in the 2011 uprisings.

The voice of the powerless wasn't just left out of the National Dialogue Conference. The government's determination to tackle the by people across Yemen, whose issues facing regular Yemenis remains deficient. The power struggle in the capital leaves the president focused on managing crises and attempting to satisfying different armed groups without any real attention to the deeper problems of development and poverty.

The central unity government is split among many opposing parties that are wrestling arms rather than working together. The Eid holidays saw more than half of the cabinet's ministers leave the country.

The government didn't consider how such absences hurt its cause: as the country remained mired in crisis, political factions appeared to treat ministerial positions nearly as "spoils of wars."

Any tentative progress the country makes is severely undermined by the lack of attention paid to the humanitarian crisis faced by millions of Yemenis. The efforts of the international community to support the transition are questioned basic needs and right to live in dignity were neglected and ignored in the praise for political moves that only empower the old elites.

More than 13 million Yemenis still urgently need humanitarian assistance. The UN humanitarian plan still has less than half the money it needs from donors in order to respond to humanitarian crises that have faced Yemen since 2011 and before.

The distance between the delegates in five-star hotel in the capital and the rest of Yemen only continues to grow.

As the dialogue's sessions continue, Yemenis in rural areas outside the capital's compounds are wondering where the "Yemen in Transition" the international community keeps referring to is.

Farea Al Muslimi is a Yemeni activist and writer

Yemen can and should end child marriage now

Houriah Mashhour Aawsat.net First Published Nov. 2

hild marriage is a phenomenon found around the world, including in Arab societies. Yemen is the most prominent of the Arab countries where child marriage is at issue.

Child marriage is found most frequently in rural, poverty-stricken areas. However, poverty is not the only reason families and societies encourage underage marriage. There is a cultural and social acceptance of child marriages, and furthermore, there are those who seek to bring religion into the debate knowing both that religion is a

fits of such a law. Furthermore, they will realize that by enacting legislation, governments seek to promote, rather than damage, people's interests

Without doubt, the need for wide-ranging awareness campaigns will arise both before and after the enactment of legislation to communicate the dangers early marriages pose on girl as individuals and on the entire family. These campaigns need to demonstrate the importance of wives being educated in order to take a good care of the family, and the fact that society in its entirety needs an educated population capable of advancing it and confronting the challenges and burdens of development. Given that women make up 50 percent of humanity, we cannot continue to neglect educating and training them or integrating them into society by encouraging their full and effective participation. First and foremost in the fight against child marriage must be conveying the fact that being married at a young age has negative effects on girls' normal growth-not only physical growth, but also their mental and psychological development. No girl that age can be fully ready to bear the responsibilities of marriage. The risks are not only to personal development. Yemen is facing enormous developmental challenges, high population growth and fertility rates being among the most serious, 3.1 percent and 7.4 percent per annum respectively, further complicating economic and social issues.

be based on people's cultural and religious beliefs. We must assure people that establishing a minimum age for marriage does not in any way go against the core of the Islamic Shari'a, a body of law that raises the status and dignity of human beings and protects their interests.

Today, many organizations are concerned with this issue, which has become part of a wide debate both inside and outside Yemen. At the forefront of these bodies are media and human rights activists. The Women's National Committee of Yemen, a governmental body, worked on this issue for more than a decade, particularly with regards to calling for the enactment of a legislation restricting child marriage Furthermore, Yemen's Ministry of Human Rights is working to defend the rights of vulnerable groups, particularly women and children. Now that the issue of child marriage has been raised at the Yemeni National Dialogue Conference, human rights groups that say the absence of a minimum age law violates the right to childhood have become more vocal. There are also those who support the cause within the Yemeni Parliament. All of this action is a source of power and an opportunity to challenge this reality. Child marriage is not a logical part of a modern society, which is marked by a greater advocacy of human-and particularly children's-rights.



JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Oxfam, an international NGO working with others to find lasting solutions to poverty and suffering, has been working in Yemen since 1983. Oxfam announces the following vacancy for its programme

Gender Advisor- (1 position)

Location: Sana'a Contract Duration: One year

Job Purpose

Mentoring and coaching programme teams in gender; scoping out the potential integration of gender specific activities in programming and ensuring integration of gender sensitive priorities in programming.

Main Responsibilities

- Supporting teams in implementing gender specific programming.
- Lead on gender specific assessments.
- Participate in other programme assessments in order to ensure gender is integrated into assessments and evaluations.
- Build the team's capacity to implement gender minimum standards.
- Provide strategic gender analysis for programming and advocacy for the country and regional response strategies on an on-going basis
- Support country teams to ensure MEAL processes are engendered.
- Supporting the organization to learn how programming in crisis contexts can be used as to address gender power imbalances and transformative change. Participate in coordination meetings relevant to gender in coordination with gender and protection advisor and gender programme manager.

fundamental and entrenched component of Yemeni identity and that the issue is related to the interpretation of Islamic Shari'a law.

The public—and many religious leaders-mostly take a moderate approach to the issue of child marriage, mixing the prevailing attitudes of our era with the founding rules of our religion. However, a minority are seeking to impose their radical beliefs on the issue by resisting the enactment of legislation providing for a minimum marital age.

I admit that people, especially in rural areas where literacy rates are low and customs and traditions prevail over law, continue to practice child marriage. However, introducing a law governing the matter would limit the spread of this phenomenon, changing attitudes against the practice and eventually making it a taboo. Only then would everyone in society realize the bene-

The second part of the fight to eradicate this phenomenon should

Houriah Mashhour is the minister of human rights in Yemen.

Attend representation of Oxfam at national level including cluster.

Skills and Competencies Required for this Role

- A university degree in Social Sciences or related or related discipline.
- 2-3 vears experience working with INGOs / NGOs / UN agencies in gender and resilience programming.
- Proven ability to mobilize and influence community.
- Substantial and demonstrable experience working on gender in conflict and crisis affected contexts.
- Preferably experienced in resilience building programming.
- Proven experience in capacity-building.
- Technical expertise in gender in relation to crises.
- Good understanding of gender issues in WASH and Emergency Food Security and Livelihood. Expertise in participatory methods.
- Excellent communication skills, fluency in spoken and written English.
- Proven analytical and strategy development skills.
- Good understanding of monitoring processes, learning, adaptation and evaluation,
- Willingness to work in insecure environments
- A high level of adaptability and willingness to travel to field offices for extended periods.

To apply

If you believe that you have the qualifications and skills to excel in this position, please send a copy of your CV and a cover letter, clearly stating the job you are applying for and the location of the job in the email subject, to yemenjobs@oxfam.org.uk .

Closing date for applications is 18th November 2013

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Mohammed Al-Sibiri to the Yemen Times: 'We should understand that change in Yemen isn't as easy as reading a newspaper where a person finishes the first page and moves to the second immediately'

Everyone is waiting for the end of the National Dialogue Conference (NDC). What do you think of the conference's progress after seven months? First, although the NDC is important, it should not be dealt with as a commercial advertisement that will solve all problems. We should look at the NDC objectively.

The NDC created a roadmap through which Yemenis can draw the country's future and put forth the first major steps towards how the state and society will be structured and the relation between the two.

Do you think the NDC will be a success or a failure?

We need to define what sort of success is expected from the NDC. In the transitional phases, success is not as people expect. But, current circumstances dictate that a dialogue is the only way. Any other way is costly. By choosing a dialogue, we are boycotting other paths that lead to wars or a government guided by force and influence.

Will the outcomes be felt on the ground or be just ink on paper?

We should differentiate between theoretical outcomes including recommendations and proposed decisions, and the guarantees and implementation mechanisms of these outcomes.

What are the guarantees?

There are guarantees in place to ensure outcomes. Some of these guardialogues from 1993 through 2011, I can say the NDC is the key institution of the transitional phase.

Regarding the Southern Issue, what will happen now that the issue is under the jurisdiction of the Southern Issue Working Group subcommittee [8+8]? The subcommittee has hinted that it is as a substitute for the Southern Issue Working Group. But this is untrue, and the fate of the Southern Issue is a matter in the hand of the Southerners. Our brothers in the Southern Movement should answer this question: 'What is the relationship they want to see be-

The problem does not lie in unity. The problem lies in those who had state control, using state resources for their personal interests

tween Southerners and Northerners?' Our brothers in the South should contemplate and differentiate between unity and the authority that ran the country after unity.

We should understand that change in Yemen isn't as easy as reading a newspaper where a person finishes the first page and moves to the second immediately. The transitional period which [is supposed to end] in three months was based on an unknown timeline.

Has the two-year [transitional] period been insufficient? Yes, two years isn't enough. [Yemen's] popular uprising erupted to bring down a regime. Several problems and conflicts arose simultaneously. Setting a short transitional period isn't realistic. The timeline of the Good Governance Working Group focuses on the post-NDC phase. The main part of our plan explains how we can guarantee implementation of the NDC's outcomes. The second part of the plan stipulates that a constitution be drafted.

But Yemen is currently undergoing bad situations in various fields.

We believe there aren't alternatives to setting aside a period to draft a constitution.

What about elections?

Elections from a constitutional perspective cannot be held until after the NDC concludes and a constitution is created. Moreover, elections will be held according to new laws based on the new constitution. Currently the political environment isn't ready for elections as there are still several calls for separation in different areas and some areas are

outside of government control.

that decisions coming out of the conference are implemented.

Interview and photo by Rammah Al-Jubari

As the National Dialogue Conference (NDC) winds down, participants are getting more vocal about the end of Yemen's transitional period which, according to the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Initiative, is meant to culminate in national elections in early 2014. In an interview with the Yemen Times, Mohammed Al-Sibiri, a leading political figure and a member of the Good Governance Working Group at the NDC, said now more than ever, political parties need to be rallying their support behind the conference and its outcomes. He remains optimistic that the conference will have systems in place that will ensure

> [Do you think what happened in Egypt's elections] will happen in Yemen too?

No, but we should benefit from others' experiences. What we want to follow initial elections is stability and an acceptance of the results on the part of people. We want to avoid instability and war.

Therefore, we want to ensure that the constitutional drafting period doesn't benefit a certain party or President Hadi. But rather, must be true to the people, state and political process.

I believe there are members of the former regime that are responsible for killings and assassinations.

Do you support an extension for President Hadi?

Some [political] parties only care about for their position and not for Yemen in general, so they use forms

of blackmail whenever the issue of extension is presented. An extension for President Hadi's term must be presented within the context of essential and national need. There needs to be a dialogue to decide if it is a national need for Hadi to remain in his position.

This may lead to protests potentially worsening an already fragile situation, particularly if the Houthis and the General People's Congress (GPC) unite to refuse an extension?

I agree that political figures that are a part of the former regime fear an extension, but I think the will of people will appear in the form of a national reconciliation. Based on my political experience, I think Yemen is on the brink of an economic, security and government services collapse. We should work together to overcome that.

The Good Governance Working Group had ratified the proposal for a political isolation law. Will the law be passed and voted on in the concluding plenary?

First, we in the Good Governance Group view the law through a future lense and not one that focuses on the past. We don't want to prosecute people for the past with the exception of what is decided in the Transitional Justice Law. This includes isolating individuals who were in positions of power and violated human rights.

I believe the immunity law, under which the former regime was

and the

granted immunity, was issued in a non-objective, non-technical and illegal manner.

Would a political isolation law be objective and professional?

We did not talk about the law in terms of politics but approached it from the perspective of good governance.

Will the law be passed in the concluding plenary?

The Good Governance Working Group has the right to decide on that. We have voted for the law twice and 90 percent agreed to it with the exception GPC representatives.

People created the [2011 uprising] to demand a better future, but many are resentful of the current situation which includes continuous electricity outages, assassinations and a fragile economy. They say the current government is a failure, which includes members of the Joint Meeting Parties [the GPC's opposition]. What are your thoughts?

First we shouldn't focus on part of the government but view it as an integrated system. There are individuals responsible for the assassinations and acts of sabotage on electricity, but the government bears part of the responsibility too

I believe there are members of the former regime that are responsible for killings and assassinations.

antees are of legal nature and some are of executive nature, locally and internationally. The legal guarantees are defined in the NDC's regulations that all NDC factions are committed to the outcomes. Other legal guarantees are that the government and all other authorities that are legally and constitutionally committed to implement these outcomes

The foreign guarantees are that the international and regional community will keep Yemen on the path of dialogue.

Will the NDC outcomes face obstacles?

Of course, the first obstacle is that some factions at the NDC want to derail it. The second obstacle is the implementation mechanism. The government is currently not strong enough to absorb the NDC's outcomes. The third major obstacle is the extent of a troubled [governing] past that may hinder progress.

Undoubtedly, all progress faces obstacles, but we should strengthen our will to overcome these obstacles.

The former regime [under President Ali Abdullah Saleh] held many dialogues with various political parties. You participated in many of those dialogues. What is the difference between today's dialogue and the one of the past? Based on my participation in many

The problem does not lie in unity. The problem lies in those who had state control, using state resources for their personal interests.

We should think about building the state before thinking about its shape because the shape is one part of solving the problem. Today, we say building the state comes before the shape.

But the State Building Group halted its sessions until they reach a consensus on the shape of the state.

This is one mistake that should be corrected. It seemed possible for the group to talk and discuss building the state and then develop outcomes to solidify the idea. But unfortunately, the group's performance was not good enough. We made this opinion clear in the second concluding plenary session.

As a member of the Good Governance Working Group, what has your group accomplished?

We came up with 120 constitutional and 80 legal recommendations as well as 35 good governancerelated decisions that should be implemented.

The group proposed a timeline for a phase that includes a five-year extension for President [Abdu Rabu Mansour] Hadi. Does this promote good governance?

Global Communities Yemen MENA-YES Program REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (LETTER OF INVITATION



منظمة مجتمعات عالمية، اليمن ير نامج استر اتبحية توظيف الشيابMENA-YES ظلب تقديم عروض فنية ومالية

The MENA YES program, implemented by Global Communities in Yemen, Jordan and Lebanon, will address youth unemployment through workforce readiness and entrepreneurship, engaging employers and trainers to identify and address employment opportunities and related skill gaps in the labor market for each country. Special emphasis will be given to disadvantaged youth, low- to medium-level skilled individuals, women, urban and rural youth, and individuals working in hazardous environments. In Yemen, the Vocational Training (VT) component of the program will focus on the provision of short term VT courses, ranging between 60 and 200 hours.	إعداد قوى العمل و منطليات ريادة الأعمال وذلك عبر تحديد فرص توظيف الشيف و تحديد نوعية المهارات المطلوبة تسوق العمل في هذه الدول . بردامج إستراتيجية توظيف الثنياب يولي اعتمام خاص يظات الثنياب وخصوصاً الثنياب من الفلات السحرومة ، الثنياب ذوي المستويات المكنية و المتوسطة من الثعليم ، النساء الشابات ، شباب المناطق الريقية و والحضرية ، الثنياب العاملين في ستات خطرة .				
Interested Vendors/Training Providers are invited to submit proposals for the implementation of VT courses in one or more of the following sectors: 1. Cosmetology/hair dressing. 2. Basic Nursing . 3. Restaurant waiters . 4. Resturants chefs . 5. Security guards.	فعلى مراكز و معاهد التدريب الراغبة في إقامة الدورات التدريبية و الإشراف على مرحلة التلمذة القيام يتقديم عروضنهم المائية والفنية الخاصة بواحد أو أكثر من مجال من المجالات التالية في حال توفرت الخيرة و الفدرة الغنية للجهة المقدمة العروض في مجالات التدريب التالية . (التجميل والكرافير ؛) إعداد الطعام (الطهاة)				
All trainings will take place in Sana'a.	۲)الحذاية بالمرضى ♦)لأمن والحراسة ٢)الخدمة في المطاعم				
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Accompanying data, background information, Terms of Reference (TOR) and other requirements for the assignment is available upon request. For further information about this RFPs, please contact: The Program Cordinator , Global Communities Yemen Hadda-Iran Street behind Korean restaurant, Sana'a Tel: +967 1 427425 Email: hani@globalcommunitiesyemen.org	وتترفر كافة المعلومات الصرورية والنقنية وشروط المرجعية للتعاقد،والمتطليات الأخرى عند الطلب. لمعلومات أكثر عن تقديم العررض القنية والمالية يرجى التواصل مع: منسق المشروع برنامج إستر تنجبية الشباب MENA - YES منظمة مجتمعات عالمية ، اليمن شارع هدة-إيران، خلف المطعم الكوري، صنعاء تطفون: 1427425 1 967				
Completed responses to the RFPs should be submitted not later than 3:00 p.m. on 11th of NOV 2013 to the above address.	البريد الالكثروتي: <u>hani@globalcommunitiesvemen.org</u> آخر موجد للتمليم الملقات مكتملة على هذا الطلب هو 11 نوفس 2013 الساعة 3 مساءبالى العنوان المذكور أعلاه.				

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Interview



القيادي الناصري محمد الصبري ليمن تايمز:

ابتزاز رخيص يمارس من قبل الأطراف السياسية عندما يطرح التمديد للرئيس هادي علي صالح هو الذي يبتز اليوم وبقاءه داخل البلد يخلق مشكلات كثيرة

قال القيادي في التنظيم الوحدوي الناصري محمد الصبري إن الالتزام بمخرجات الحوار الوطني خيار إجباري لكل الأطراف السياسية وأن الرحلة الانتقالية، يجب أن تتبعها مرحلة، التأسيس..وأضاف الصبري، وهو عضو مؤتمر الحوار في فريق الحكم الرشيد أنه لا وصاية دولية على الحوار وأن جمال بن عمر يقوم بدور "المسرر". كما تحدث الصبري عن قانون في حوار مع "يمن تايمز" عن العزل السياسي ومخرجات الحوار وحصانة الرئيس السابق ومواضيع أخرى.. في سياق السطور الآتية..

حوار/ رماح الجبري

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بداية لاشك أن الجميع يترقب مخرجات مؤتمر الحوار الوطني.. كيف تقرأ سير أعماله خلال السبعة الأشهر الماضية؟

أقول أولا أن مؤتمر الحوار الوطنى على قدر أهميته وتطلع الناس إليه لا يجب أن نتعامل معه على طريقة الاعلان التجارى بأنه سيحقق كل الطموحات ، علينا أن ننظر الى مؤتمر الحوار بالقدر الصحيح والموضوعى، مع أن هناك أطراف سياسية تقدم مؤتمر الحوار وتصوره بأنه مشكلة مع استمرار قطع الكهرباء وكافة الأعمال التخريبية.. وعلى كل مؤتمر الحوار شكل خلال الفترة الماضية خارطة طريق يستطيع اليمنيون من خلالها رسم مستقبل اليمن ووضع الخطوات الرئيسية الأولى حول ما يجب أن تكون عليه الدولة والمجتمع وعلاقة كل منهما بالآخر.

هل تعتقد أنه سيكتب الخرجات الحوار النجاح في ختام أعماله ؟

أولاً نحتاج الى أن نعرف ما هو النجاح المرجو من مؤتمر الحوار في المراحل الانتقالية والاستثنائية.. لا يكون النجاح بالصورة التي يتوقعها الناس، كما أنّ المعطيات الراهنة تقول لا طريق غير طريق مؤتمر الحوار، والطرق البديلة للحوار مكلفه وغالية الثمن، واختيار طريق مؤتمر الحوار هو إعلان قطيعة مع طرق أخرى كالحرب وممارسة السلطة عبر النفوذ والقسر.

متكون مخرجات الحوار حقائق على أرض الواقع أم أنها ستظل حبرا

الحوار بالقدر المطلوب، كما أن هناك عائماً ثالثاً، وهو الأهم أن لدينا ركام من الماضى يمكن أن يسد الطريق.. وبلا شك فإن كل عمل كبير تواجهه عوائق، ولابد من تنمية الإرادة العامة التي خرجت بها الثورة، والتي جعلت مؤتمر الحوار ينعقد.

يصبح لمخرجاته قبول موضوعي.

حوارات عدة تمت بين الأطراف

السياسية خلال فترة حكم النظام

السابق وأنت شاركت في كثير من

هذه الحوارات ما الفرق بين الحوار

من خلال حوارات عده شاركت فيها من

عام ٩٣م وحتى ٢٠١١م أستطيع القول

الحوار اليوم في مؤتمر الحوار هو مؤسسة

من مؤسسات المرحلة الانتقالية، وهذا

التوصيف جاء في نص الآلية التنفيذية

للمبادرة الخليجية، وهذه الصيغة أعطت

مؤتمر الحوار الصفة المؤسسية والصفة

سابقا والحوار اليوم؟

الدستورية.

أنشطة الحراك غير المشارك في التضحيات فيما الحوارات السابقة كانت الحوار وسلاح الحوثي في صعده هل غالبتها ذات طابع حزبي صرف. هذه من العوائق؟ كما أن حوار اليوم تجربة فريدة والتمثيل نعم هذه من العوائق، لكن هناك فرق

فيه واسع ومتعدد وتشارك فيها أطرافا بين أن تشكل عائق وبين أن تسد لم تكن فى الحوارات السابقة على الطريق، مع أن مثل هذه القضايا ليست الاطلاق، فهَّناك حضور قوى للمرأة وليدة خلال فترة انعقاد مؤتمر الحوار، وللشباب وللمهمشين، ولديناً أصوات وانما هي سابقة لفترة انعقاده، وبما تمثل المجتمع بكل فئاته وطبقاته، وهذا يخص القضية الجنوبية لدينا واقع مالم يكن متوفرا في الحوارات السابقة. محتقن على الارض ومزاج شعبى غاضب من أوضاعه التي يعيشها، وكنا نطرح أن فريق الحكم الرشيد اقترح خارطة مؤتمر الحوار الوطني يحتاج الي تهيئة زمنية لمرحلة تأسيسية تتضمن

قبل المؤتمر ويحتاج آلى تهيئة مصاحبة، التمديد للرئيس هادي خمس سنوات، هل هذه الخارطة تعزز وأعتقد أن الفرصة متاحة بأن لا يختتم مؤتمر الحوار أعماله الا وتكون هناك الحكم الرشيد؟ يجب علينا أن نفهم أن التغيير في إجراءات قد تحققت على الأرض حتى

اليمن ليس كالقراءة في الجريدة ننتهيّ من الصفحة الأولى لنذهب الثانيةً بكل سهولة، فنحن نقول إن المرحلة الانتقالية التى ستنتهى بعد ثلاثة أشهر وضعت بطريقَة لا أحد يُعرف ماهو المعيار الزمني التي وضعت عليه.

مؤتمر الحوار لها قوة الدستور وليس قوة

السياسه فقط، في السابق كان الحوار

يجرى بين سلطة ومعارضة أو خصوم

كلهم موجودون في السلطة، لكن الحوار اليوم له طابعه الشعبي والوطني

والسياسي والثوري والمستقبلي، نحنّ

أمام مؤسسة وطنية جاءت بعد ثورة

شعبية قدم الناس فيها كثير من

هل هذا يعني أنك مع التمديد للرئيس هادي لكي يقود المرحلة التأسيسية؛ هناك ابتزاز رخيص يمارس من قبل الأطراف السياسية عندما يطرح موضوع التمديد للرئيس هادى، والتى يهمها فقط أين سيكون موقّعها في تقاسم الحقائب وليس أين سيكون اليّمن، كما أن التمديد للرئيس هادى يجب أن نطرحه في سياق الحاجة الموضّوعية والوطنية، وليّتم حوار حول هذا الموضوع، فإن كانت الحاجة الوطنية أن يبقى هادي بمنصبه فلا مانع,

يشعل احتجاجات مما يؤدي لتأزم الأوضاع ولاسيما اذا تحالف الحوثي وحزب المؤتمر لرفض التمديد؟ أنا معك في أن بقايا النظام القديم مستنفرين من موضوع التمديد، لكنى أعتقد أن الإرادة العامة ستتجلى بمظهر وفاق وطنى، ومن خلال تجربتي السياسية أقول إن اليمن على حافة الهاوية اقتصاديا وأمنيا وخدماتيا، ونحن في هذا الوضع يجب أن نعمل للخروج من الهاوية.

فريق الحكم الرشيد أقر مقترح بقانون العزل السياسي، هل تعتقد أن القانون سيمر في الجلسة الختامية؟ أولا نحن في فريق الحكم الرشيد نظرنا الى القانون من زواية المستقبل وليس الماضي، فلا نريد أن نحاكم الماضي لكن صّفحة الماضي قبل أن تغلق لابد أن يجرى فيها فتح مبدأ العدالة الانتقالية، ومن ضمنها تنحية الذين تولوا مناصب وقصروا في مهامهم أو ارتكبوا خروقات كبيرة عن المسؤولية.

لم تجبني على سؤالي.. هل تعتقد أن القانون سيمر في الجلسة الختامية؛

فريق الحكم الرشيد، ونحن صوتنا عليه مرتين، النتائج كانت ٩٠٪ ولم يعترض سوى ممثلى فريق المؤتمر الشعبى العام، وهذا بالأشك متوقع منهم.

قانون العزل السياسي يستهدف من منحوا الحصانة من نظام الرئيس صالح ولكن من يحدد عددهم وأسمائهم فقانون الحصانة صدر بشكل عمومي يشمل كل من عمل مع الرئيس صالح خلال فترة حكمة؛ الى الآن علينا أن نفهم أن صيغة قانون الحصانة ناقصة فهى لم تحدد شى لذلك نحن نعتقد أن يتم تصحيح هذا القانون، ولا يجب أن يكون هذا القرار سيادى لأن هذا القانون يخترق الدستور وكل الشرائع السماوية.

هناك من يقول إن قانون العزل السياسي ابتزاز للرئيس السابق صالح لأنه على خلاف مع الرئيس هادي؟

لا يوجد شى اسمه ابتزاز لعلى عبدلله صالح فعلى صالح هو الذي يبتّز اليوم، وبقاءه داخل البلد يخلق مشكلات كثيرة، ويجب إغلاق صفحة الماضى، لكى ندخل على ورق؟

يوجد ضمانات لتنفيذ مخرجات الحوار ذات طبيعة قانونية وضمانات ذات طبيعة تنفيذية على الصعيد الداخلى وضمانات تنفيذية على الصعيد الخارجي والدولي، فالضمانات القانونية يعرفها ماجاء في اللائحة المنظمة لمؤتمر الحوار وهذه المخرجات كل الأطراف ملتزمة بها التزام قاطع ولايجوز مخالفتها، كما أن الضمانة القانونية الأخرى هي أن الحكومة وكل السلطات ملزمة إلزام دستورى وقانوني بتنفيذ هذه المخرجات، أما الضمانات الخارجية فتكمن في أن المجتمع الدولي والإقليمى والجوار الخليجى لايستطيعون تحمل أن سير اليمن في طريق غير طريق مؤتمر الحوار.

وهل هناك عوائق ستقف أمام مخرجات الحوار؟

رغبة لدى بعض الأطراف المشاركة في الحوار بتعطيل أعماله، والعائق الثاني في الآلية التنفيذية وتتمثل في أنّ الحكومة لاتستطيع استيعاب مخرجات

بجب أن نفرق بين المخرجات النظرية التى سيخرج بها مؤتمر الحوار لكى تتخذ إجراءات من قبل الحكومة والجهات المعنية و القرارات المقترحة للحكومة وللرئيس حتى أثناء صياغة الدستور ومابين الضمانات والآليات التنفيذية لهذه المخرجات.

وماهي هذه الضمانات؟

بالتأكيد.. أول هذه العوائق وجود

بمعنى أن لاشرعية فوق شرعية مؤتمر الحوار؟ لا.. مؤتمر الحوار ومخرجاته يكتسب شرعيته من شرعية الإعلان الدستورى



ADVERTORIAL

Hello Dubai: Flying Start for Emirates' Home City Themed Marquee on Derby Day

Melbourne, Australia, Nov. 2 — Emirates' Dubai-themed marquee was off to a flying start on AAMI Victoria Derby Day offering guests the very best that the Pearl of the East and City of the Future has to offer. On the track, Robbie Laing's Polanski landed the 2,500 metre Victoria Derby with Hugh Bowman in the saddle.

Special guest, Al Montaser (meaning 'The Winner' in Arabic), a 200 kilogram camel statue made of copper



Boutros Boutros, Emirates' Divisional Senior Vice President, Corporate **Communications, Marketing and Brand with former England football** player Michael Owen, in the Emirates marquee on the first day of the Melbourne Cup Carnival.

and brass from Bab Al Shams Desert Resort and Spa in Dubai, welcomed an exclusive list of guests to the marquee, including retail CEO Mark McInnes; Dancing with the Stars hosts Kym Johnson and Adam Garcia; Australian actress, Kat Stewart; new couple Jesinta Campbell and Buddy Franklin; and Ten's The Bachelor star, Tim Robards.

Barry Brown, Emirates' Divisional Senior Vice President, Commercial Operations East said, "We felt that this year was the perfect time to celebrate Dubai, the home of Emirates. Dubai has always been a popular destination with Australians, and our partnership with Qantas has made it even more accessible. Between the two airlines



The Dubai-based Ornina Dance Troupe entertaining guests on the first day of the Melbourne Cup Carnival in Emirates' Dubai-themed marquee.



a week from Australia to Dubai, and onwards to 136 destinations around the globe. "Our marquee brings to life so many aspects of the city, including little facets that may not be that well-known.

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We're hoping that this will inspire people to experience or re-experience Dubai for themselves. The marquee also helps us showcase Dubai as we support the campaign to bring the World Expo to the city in 2020."

The menu, inspired by the diverse flavours of the Emirati culture, took guests on a culinary journey of Dubai combining the international flavour of the city's cuisine with classic Middle Eastern dishes.

Carefully developed by Epicure catering in conjunction with Emirates' own Dubai-based Arabic cuisine expert, Nasser Iskeirjah, dishes included yellow fin tuna kibbeh nayeh, Middle Eastern mezze, traditional prawn machboos and slow roasted Gippsland beef short rib. Dubai based dance group, Ornina Theatrical Dance, entertained guests throughout the day with three colourful Arabic dancing performances while some guests opted for life in the slow line, taking some time out for a hand or foot massage in the One & Only Spa.

Desert Rose, Citrus Spring and Dubai Dream cocktails were flowing in the "Diyafa" bar (hospitality in Arabic); the "Karam" restaurant (generosity in Arabic) offered a luxurious place to rest and refuel; and the "Raha" beach club pavilion provided the perfect platform to view the track.

Former Olympian swimmer. **Michael Klim and fashionista wife** Lindy Klim with the Emirates **Melbourne Cup Trophy in Emirates' Dubai-themed marquee on the** first day of the Melbourne Cup Carnival.



Barry Brown, Emirates' Divisional Senior Vice President, Commercial Operations East with Leigh Clifford, Chairman of **Qantas in Emirates' Dubai-themed** marquee on the first day of the Melbourne Cup Carnival.

Report



High hopes placed on Yemen's gifted youth

New school for gifted students aims to help Yemen as much as the students

Story and photo by Samar Al-Ariqi

amza Abdulla Al-Qadi is a tenth grader at Jamal Abdulnasser Secondary School, the first government-run high school for intellectually gifted students in Yemen. The brand new facility opened in September in time for the 2013-2014 school year and was created to provide Yemeni youth an opportunity to demonstrate their skills and to learn from their peers.

Supporters say the state's investment in the school is also an investment in Yemen's future.

Al-Qadi was admitted to the boys' school after he applied online. With a score at 95 from his old school, he exceeded the school's minimum grade requirement of 85. But to be qualified for admission, he was also required to take an entrance exam in Math, Science, Arabic and English.

"I received an 80 percent on the entrance exam," said Al-Qadi. "I am very happy to be a student at this school."

More than 600 students applied to the school this year, only 276 were offered admission, including Al-Qadi. The school says students with distinguished capabilities and talents need to be nurtured, and taught at their level.

The school's model is education as development, and the plan is to accept remarkably capable youth in hopes that they will one day move the Yemeni economy forward and contribute to the development of their country, school officials say.

Saleh Alwi Al-Daheri, the teachers to utilize school's principal, said that only tenth grade students are presently enrolled in the school. When the tenth graders become 11th graders, the class will admit a new tenth grade class. And finally, once the current class enters their final and senior year, the school will have three grades.

The reasoning, Al-Daheri said, is because they want students who have only attended Abdulnasser School for their entire secondary careers. We prefer to have students who have only followed this curriculum, the principal said.

"We aim to build highly qualified students," Al-Daheri added.

Abdulnasser School has distinguished itself with a specialized staff with broad knowledge in electronic education, enriched curriculum, modern lab management, TOEFL courses, computer literacy and technology.

Al-Daheri told the Yemen Times that teachers must meet certain criteria to be hired.

"Teachers who pass the entrance exams have to undergo interviews, which are sat in by university professors," Al-Daheri said. "The prospective teachers are also required to teach courses in the presence of colleagues and mentors for evaluation."

While public school students are accustomed to classes of 100 students or more, each course at Abdulnasser School is capped at 27 students.

"The gifted students have talents that can't be nurtured within a traditional educational system," he said, adding that capping the number of students in classes allows

different methods and to focus more on each individual student. The school's focal point is on the sciences, and it also has physics,

biology chemistry, and computer labs where students can test practically what they are being taught in theory. Salah Al-Deen Al-

Joma'i, professor of sociology and social studies at Sana'a and Amran Universities, praised the Education Ministry's establishment of a school that raises standards.

However, he criticized the school's current curriculum which, he said, it is more focused on sciences and ignores other fields of studies such as literature. This doesn't allow for much creativity, Al-Joma'i argues. Altaf Al-Ashwal, the

enrichment activities advisor at the school, defended the school's

focus on sciences, saying that the curriculum provides students skills they will need post graduation. The school has also come under

criticism for its lack of housing, making it inaccessible to many of Yemen's talented youth who don't reside in Sana'a and for its non-

BRUSSELS

admittance of female students. Al-Joma'i warns against marginalizing gifted, female students and depriving them of the right to equal education.

"We tried to have two separate buildings for male and female students but came across technical difficulties. So, the school is only for men," Al-Daheri said. Public

education all across Yemen is typically segregated by gender. Al-Daheri says he is currently in talks with the Ministry of Education to establish a separate building for female students.

While Al-Daheri works on creating more equal opportunities, teachers at the school are nonethe-less excited about the facility's

potential.

"We have smart students and don't have any difficulties adding more subjects to the curricula and teaching additional lessons," said Majid Mohammed Al-Rashidi, a teacher. "Students receive several privileges after graduation, including scholarships to study the subject they want."





The school has been criticized for only teaching male students. The school says it in talks with the Ministry of Education to establish a separate building for female students.

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12 Health



Dental clinics lacking sterilization equipment operate outside government oversight Burden to ensure safety standards falls on patients

Story and photo by Ali Abulohoom

emen is not well-known for its dental care. According to estimates previously calculated for the Yemen Times by Mohsen Al-Hamzei, a professor at the College of Dentistry at Dhamar University, only five to 10 percent of Yemenis go for periodical check-ups on their teeth. But according to experts and health officials, those that are going for anything from check-ups to operations may be putting themselves at risk for infection and disease at clinics across Sana'a, as standard sterilization practices, including the use of an autoclave, are falling by the wavside.

An autoclave is a device used in dental clinics all over the world. The equipment sterilizes medical instruments by means of high pressure saturated steam at 121 degrees Celsius.

There are close to 350 dental clinics in Sana'a that are licensed by the city's heath office, but their performance and adherence to health standards are not scrutinized, said Abdulamalek Al-Mashreqi the director of health facilities in the Sana'a health office. Al-Mashreqi says this is largely due to fiscal restraints.

"We do not grant a license unless the clinic is well-equipped and includes an autoclave, yet we cannot monitor their performance as there is no specific budget allocated for observation" Al-Mashreqi added.

He says the licensed clinics may start with standard and required equipment like autoclaves, but over time, as they break down, they are



Following the 2011 uprising, the government's capacity to monitor products and services has been greatly affected. Abdulamalek Al-Mashreqi, the director of health services at the Sana'a health office, said that unlicensed dental clinics have been popping up since the uprising.

often not replaced and clinics can neglect even the smallest procedures, like hand washing. Since the breakout of Yemen's popular uprising in 2011 and the breakdown of security, Al-Mashreqi says more dental clinics have popped up without any sort of licensing, putting

patients at further risk.

Dr. Ayman Al-Haj, a dentist with his own dental clinic in the Shumaila neighborhood, said the maintenance of an autoclave requires a special technician. He says the price of purchase and maintenance is more than many clinics can afford so they rely on dated sterilization techniques like dipping instruments into boiling water. Al-Haj purchased his autoclave for \$2,000, about YR430,000.

Many dentists in the city rely on a dental heating oven for sterilizing their instruments, which globally is not advised as temperatures cannot get as high as autoclaves.

Somaia Al-Amrani has been a nurse at a dental clinic in the Madbah neighborhood for three years. When Al-Amrani first began working at the clinic, there was an autoclave in operation. It broke down a year ago. Now the clinic soaks its dental instruments in boiling water, a practice Al-Haj calls very dangerous. Al-Amrani says her boss says it's too expensive to replace the autoclave.

Noora Ahmed is another assistant who works at a dental clinic in the Al-Hasaba district. There they sterilize instruments with heat ovens.

"These methods are not safe enough as viruses and parasites are not removed properly," Al-Haj said.

Al-Haj says at his clinic he prioritizes health and sterilization. He says that for a brief period his autoclave broke down and that he stopped receiving patients until it was fixed.

It is not uncommon in Yemen, where government oversight can be very low, for the burden of confirming a facility's health standards to fall on, even though they may have little knowledge of hygienic procedures.

Mohammed Al-Maori, a farmer from Rad'a district, Dhamar governorate, recently came to Sana'a for a tooth extraction. When asked if he was going to check for proper sterilization practices at the clinic he was going to before receiving treatment, he said it never occurred to him to do so. Al-Maori said he was unaware of the dangers associated with poor hygiene at clinics.

For Al-Haj, he doesn't think the government will be able to standardize sterilization techniques anytime soon. In the meantime it has to come down to medical professionals to put their patients first and to ensure their safety, he says and that means securing proper equipment.

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Chess



White plays and wins in the 4th move

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Yemen's Nobel Peace laureate donates prize money to revolutionary fund

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he families of those who were

injured and killed in Yemen's

2011 uprising praised No-

bel Peace laureate Tawakul Karman for donating her

prize money to the 2011 Revolutionary

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In a ceremony held Thursday at the Cultural Center in Sana'a, Karman signed a symbolic check that signified the transfer of \$500,000 to the fund established early last month per a decree from President Abdu Rabu Mansour Hadi

Talal Rizq's brother died while protesting in Yemen's 2011 uprising. He said Karman's action is a positive step towards fulfilling the organization's mandate of assisting those injured in the 2011, as well as supporting the families of the dead, currently being cared by the Wafa Foundation.

"We hope the fund will utilize this money and provide service-related projects for the injured," Rizq said.

"I waited two years to see Karman's promise fulfilled," he added. "This is a new revolutionary victory."

Karman told the Yemen Times that she waited two years to donate her prize money because an organization that could effectively distribute it did not yet exist. She added that "this amount does not even form one percent of the youth sacrifices made in 2011. Those who sacrifice themselves for the sake of this nation deserve more than this."

The 2011 Revolutionary Victims Fund is an independent charity but reports directly to the government's Cabinet. It will provide families of victims of the uprising with monthly salaries

of YR35,000 (\$163) according to Sara Hassan, the head of the fund who received Karman's check.

Hassan says the fund will be financially supported by the state, as well as international organizations. For now the fund only has Karman's donation, which Hassan called "a great boost" for the fund's goals.

She added that the fund is currently

and killed in the revolution, and that in the coming months, significant effort will be made to invite them, and their families, into its scope through media campaigns.

According to the Wafa Foundation, approximately 29,000 people were injured and about 1,440 killed in the 2011 uprising.



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Tawakul Karman (left) was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2011, about \$1.4 million, for her "non-violent struggle for the safety of women and for women's rights to full participation in peace-building work.

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