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Inside:  **5** Debates on new right to information bill indicate discrepancies between state and parliament

 **12** International Water Expert Dr. Samir Hijazin Speaks with Yemen Times

 **14** How do we bring Japan to Yemen?

Yemeni weapons markets flourish in Sa'ada war

By: Saddam Al-Ashmouri
For the Yemen Times

SANA'A, Oct. 18 — Although the government has so far taken several steps to eliminate arms trade and control the use of personal weapons in Sana'a and the capitals of governorates, arms trading is still big business.

Some of the arms' markets, once closed by government orders, were reopened when the government began fighting with Houthi rebels again in the northern province of Sa'ada.

Abdurrah Abu Qutaina said that arms market is still active and the turnout for buying weapons has increased despite the fact that weapons' prices increased threefold.

Working as a bodyguard, Qutaina said that he had four weapons of differ-

ent kinds and, bought another recently. "Tribesmen can't dispense with arms," he said, adding that arms prices skyrocketed due to the growing demand for purchasing them. "Some groups bought large quantities of arms from local markets before the current round of clashes between the army and Houthis broke out."

The state is unable to restrict arms trade, which is related to deep-rooted habits and traditions among Yemenis, according to Abdullah Shamlan, who is a member of a tribe known for its large possession of arms.

"I buy arms to protect myself not to point them at the state," he said.

"The state must support tribesmen in

purchasing arms, that will help the state maintain security and stability," he said. Tribal forces are currently supporting the government in its fight against rebels in Sa'ada.

During a meeting last week, more than 20 members of Yemeni Parliament summoned Defense Minister Gen. Mohammed Nasser Mohammed to respond to their inquiries concerning a Chinese arms ship caught in a Hodeida port, which entered with fraudulent documents in the name of Yemen's Defense Ministry.

This came after the government circulated blacklisted arms traders, topped by Faris Manaa, who was once head of the Mediation Committee, mandated by President Ali Abdullah Saleh, to reconcile between the government and the Houthis.

The government said it foiled a Chinese arms deal to rebels, who attempted to get them into Yemen by fraudulent documents. It pointed out



Tribal forces are currently supporting the government in its fight against rebels in Sa'ada.

that it informed Chinese companies and agencies importing arms to authenticate all documents.

Since 2007, Yemen's Interior Ministry has closed arms markets in all

the Yemeni governorates. Eighteen governorates of Beidha, Shabwa, Mareb, Dhamar, Amran, Sana'a and Sa'ada.

Continued on page 2

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New technique for alternative energy in rural areas

By: Ali Saeed

SANA'A, Oct. 18 – The Ministry of Agriculture will start implementing a bio-gas production technique from animal waste in many governorates, said Dr. Mansoor Al-Aqel, General Director of Agricultural Guidance and Training at the Ministry in a statement to Al-Thawra, state-run daily newspaper.

The program will be carried out in the governorates of Lahj, Hadramout, Al-Mahra, Sana'a, Thamar, Al-Mahwit, and Taiz in the coming days until the end of the current year.

"The bio-gas production program aims to secure rural area families' needs for energy from the bio-gas in house consumption," Al-Aqel said.

Electricity power currently covers most of the people in Yemeni cities. But 75 percent of Yemenis dwell in the countryside, and only 8 percent get electricity, according to the reports of the Ministry of Electricity.

"We are preparing now to build around 12 bio-gas units in the targeted governorates and the program will cost around YR eight million (USD 40,000)," he said.

The program will be implemented by Agricultural Guidance Departments at the Offices of the Ministry in those governorates and it is funded by the Agriculture-Fisheries Production Encouragement Fund.

"In addition to creating and operating bio-gas units in the targeted governorates for rural families, the program also will train a cadre on how to design and operate such units," said the director.

"During the implementation of

the program, guidance activities on the bio-gas production technique, how to design, operate and benefit economically from this method will be presented to the heads of rural area families," explained the director.

"The technique of producing bio-gas from animal waste also has side-benefits since the waste decomposes into an organic fertilizer that is free of insect borne diseases and useful to the soil," the director pointed out.

"More than one neighboring houses family can share creating one bio-gas unit that costs between YR 200,000 and YR 250,000 (USD 1,000) the unit can last to 30 years."

"This method is important since it provides an alternative power to rural families who are deprived from electricity and gas cylinders are difficult, and they are too expensive for mountainous areas," he said adding that the fuel is economical.

"We have a bio-gas production unit next to our house and our kitchen is being operated by the gas that comes out from the unit," said Abdo Ibraheem, head of a family in Mahwit who has his own a bio-gas production unit.

"It is an economical technique in providing cooking gas, as it costs us only the animal waste that we use it later as natural fertilizer to the soil," he added.

The technique of producing gas from animal waste is a modern method that has been developed to accommodate the country's needs by agricultural research authorities in Yemen. It was found to be useful in Yemeni rural areas because bio-gas can be used for cooking and lighting.

Report reveals torture, weak regulations in prisons

By: Amel Al-Ariqi

SANA'A, Oct. 17 - Adel Saleh Azzani, was arrested in the Abeen governorate and was held at the criminal investigation department for more than five days. He was interrogated on charges of stealing a house. His family was prevented from visiting him. In May 2008, his family was informed that he had committed suicide.

The family believed that their son was tortured. He was found in the bathroom of the prison, with his feet and hands tied to his back, and belt tied around his neck. The medical report pointed to the presence of burns on his body.

Abdulhul Omar Ben Abdat, 15, was arrested in Hadramout, without accusation. After an investigation he was released due to the absence of evidence. His father said that his son was in arrested in cage with 45 degrees Celsius. He is now suffering a serious mental condition. He cannot communicate properly with people, and has amnesia.

Azzani and Abdat are two of 12 other cases were mentioned on the shadow report issued on Oct. 12 by civil society organizations to comment on a state report, which was submitted in June 2008 to the UN, to highlight Yemen's implement of the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

The shadow report criticized the state report, saying that it avoided providing information on cases of torture.

The shadow report cited cases where citizens, including children, were arrested and mistreated in prisons.



The victims of torture in Yemeni prisons often don't report, and offenders are rarely punished. This photo was taken in 2007.

Some of them died due to the torture, while others have spent long time at the prison without charges.

The report, which was conducted by Sisters Arabic Forum for Human Rights (SAF) which is a NGO, said that due to weak laws, and the absence of cooperation from the security or any involved body like the Attorney General, the victims of torture rarely report, and offenders are rarely punished.

The only torture case that was mentioned on the state report was about Kawkabani, a man who was tortured to death in the Mahweet governorate in 1999, said the shadow report.

"This affirms that official bodies

have not achieved any progress on the practical side, but that the events of the past six years show the increasing failures and breaches in the field of torture, and other issues," said the shadow report.

The shadow report said that state report was focused only on the legal system in theory, without linking them to articles of the Convention.

The shadow report also noted that these breaches have been increased due to the unrest the country is witnessing. The conflicts between the government and rebels in the north, and continued protests carried out by The southern movement in the south lead to greater

restrictions on public freedoms, where many journalists, activists and citizens have faced arbitrary imprisonment, kidnappings, threats, trials, the closure of newspapers, suspension of newspapers and blocking of websites.

"The report did not give serious consideration to the problem of torture and inhuman transactions...instead it made perfect pictures in regards to the law despite the weakness of its application" added the shadow report. It also reviews Yemeni regulations on criminal sanctions, which may be in breach of the Convention such as establishing special courts or Specialized Penal Court.

The shadow report also expresses concern about the lack of a comprehensive definition of torture in the domestic law. Yemeni law does not consider the psychological impact of the mistreatment that detainees were subjected to as a torture, cruel or inhuman.

In addition the state failed to provide detailed information relating to compensation and rehabilitation for victims of ill-treated by the state.

It also reports of the frequent practice of incommunicado (solitary) detention, poor sanitation, and floggings by Political Security officers.

It also emphasizes the states failure to enable detained people to obtain access to a lawyer, a doctor of their choice or relatives.

It also says that the state failed to investigate promptly, impartially and fully the numerous allegations of torture and breaches of the Convention and to prosecute alleged offenders.

Gulf countries to extend railway to Yemen

By: Khaled Al-Hilaly

SANA'A, Oct. 18 – The Gulf Countries have agreed, in principle, to extend their railway line to reach Yemen from Oman, while the Yemeni government has invited bids for consultancy on the country's first railway.

The Gulf rail network, planned by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the UAE, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman will stretch 1,940 km. Each Gulf state plans to contribute capital to the project, which will cost USD 20 to 25 billion.

But Yemen has asked Gulf countries to extend the railway line beyond its borders with Oman.

Last week, Yemeni Ministry of Transport told qualified consulting firms to prepare bidding documents, contracts and other documents needed to negotiate the establishment of a rail network.

The GCC has agreed to include Yemen in a draft study of the establishment of the railway, after a delegation from the organization visited Yemen. In their visit they conducted studies on the country's minerals, fisheries and industries.

Minister of Transport, Khalid Al-Wazeer told Saba news agency that his ministry "will choose advisors to prepare the tender and contracts for the project as well as taking part in negotiation and supervision of implementation."

Currently, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for

Western Asia (ESCWA) is conducting three feasible studies on the project. One is the coastal railway starting from Al-Tawal at the northwestern Yemeni-Saudi borders stretching along the coastal line of Red sea and Arabian Sea to Shahan at the eastern Yemeni-Omani borders.

One of the other potential railways is along the minerals wealth areas through Jawf, Mareb and Shabwa. The other would connect populated areas with the port cities. It would go from Sana'a to Hodaidah and from Sana'a to Taiz to Aden.

The feasibility studies for the three railway project in Yemen are expected to be finalized by the end of 2009.

Transportation is the main barrier for exporting Yemen mineral products, according to a source in the Ministry of Transport, so the priority is for the minerals wealth areas railway.

Whichever line is built, the government plans to connect it with a 1,500 km regional freight rail network that is scheduled to be completed by 2017.

With population of 23 million people that is likely to double by 2035, Yemen is one of the most heavily populated countries in the Arabian Peninsula. The government expects this project would bring significant economic development in mining, fisheries, agriculture as well as providing job opportunities.

Widespread use of drugs in universities and schools, official says

By: Ramlah Merchant
For the Yemen Times

SANA'A, Oct. 18 - "Eighth and Ninth graders are taking drug pills," said the head of a school, according to Col. Mus'ab Ali Sa'eed Al-Soufi, Deputy General Director of the Anti-Narcotics Department at the Ministry of Interior, at a lecture at the Sheba Center for Strategic Studies. Drugs, he said, are widespread among the youth in Yemen.

According to Al-Soufi, in an unspecified institute, one pupil was caught selling drugs. There is also widespread use of drugs in universities. Even people who have university degrees have been known to turn to drugs.

Some people have great pride in their children and they refuse to believe that their children are involved in drugs. However, sometimes these parents are wrong, according to Al-Soufi, a man who had utmost faith in his son and provided his son with everything he could have wanted.

However, when the police came to search his house, his son was caught with drugs. "Look for abnormal behavior because it is a reason to be concerned," advised Al-Soufi.

One of the crimes linked with drugs is older people recruiting young, naïve people who have problems at home. They sexually abuse children and even videotape them, threatening to tell their parents. Hence, children are afraid to tell the truth, according to Al-Soufi. There



Although sophisticated drug abuse of the more expensive kinds such as marijuana and heroine are not yet popular in Yemen, other less costly substances such as addictions to Hashish and prescription pills are increasing every day.

aren't currently any laws specifically designed to protect children from the drug trade in Yemen, according to Al-Soufi. "We would like to try to adopt legal measures for minors," he said.

Al-Soufi also emphasized the role of educational institutions. Schools are an agent of socialization that can positively influence children.

"If we all put in efforts from all sides, we can combat this problem," he said. "Even school books are inadequately equipped with material to educate students about the impact of drugs. Academic awareness has to be strengthened."

Yemeni officials agreed that drug trafficking and trade continues to be a

problem. Yemen is vulnerable to the drug trade due to its vast coastline and its unique geographic location, overlooking the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean.

"The problem of drugs is a matter of growing concern in Yemen, as it is becoming more of a market than a transit point for drugs," said Al-Soufi.

The problem of drugs also needs to be analyzed from different aspects, including the relationship between drugs and crime.

"Personally I do not like mathematics and numbers, but it is very important to analyze the statistics," said Al-Soufi. Five tons of hashish was seized in 2007. In 2008, 26.4 tons of hashish

was confiscated. This was the largest amount of drugs seized ever.

Last week, in just two days, 300 kilograms of hashish was seized. Overall, there were about 37.9 tons of drugs seized.

There are also narcotic drugs on the market called captagon pills, which are mainly from Syria. However, the main market for these pills is Saudi Arabia and other Gulf countries. In 2008, 13.4 pills were seized. Over the years there has been an increase in the seizure of pills.

According to Al-Soufi, the main source of drugs in Yemen is Pakistan, which transports drugs into the coastline of Yemen, 2,500 kilometers long. Another source of drugs is the north of Yemen and East Africa which transports drugs through Somalia. There is also drug trade between Saudi Arabia and Yemen.

Between 2005 and 2008, the number of drug related arrests more than tripled. The number of people who took drugs in Yemen in 2005 was 75, and in 2008 there were 239.

There has been a steady increase in the number of drug users every year. Foreign involvement is also on the rise.

"What concerns me the most is the number of foreigners involved," said Al-Soufi. He also said that three drug dealers were executed and that there have been nine instances in which offenders were subjected to capital punishment in Yemen, not specifying any details.

Continued from page 1

Sa'ada war reopens weapon markets in Yemen

The Juhana Arms Market, about 70 km east of Sana'a, is the biggest, followed by Al-Talh Market in volatile Saada. Different types of weapons including pistols, machineguns, Kalashnikovs, grenades and missiles, plus ammunition of tanks and mortars are available in these markets.

According to non-official estimates, there are between 50 and 60 million weapons in Yemen, making it the country with the most small arms in the Middle East, and most largest in the world after the U.S. The Yemeni government said that such figures are exaggerated.

Government faces difficulty controlling spread of small arms

A recent study on arms trade by researcher Ayish Ali Awad of the Saba Studies Center argued that the government issued an order on June 17, 2007 to close up arm shops and restrict movement of arms dealers to keep Houthis from purchasing weapons.

The study added that as many as 250 to 300 arm shops were shut down and 148 people were arrested during the anti-arm campaign that ended in late 2008.

The researcher blamed the easy availability of arms on the various civil wars that broke out in Yemen between 1962 and 1994, as well as the fifth Sa'ada war. "The new arms control law was opposed by MPs many of who are

tribal leaders because they believe the law will reduce their influence and risk their interests," Awad said.

Other MPs considered the law a good step towards restricting the influence of tribes in the state and facilitating the role of the government to defend the homeland and maintain its security and stability aside.

Although about YR 10 billion was allocated for purchasing personal arms and closing weapons markets, the arms trade has not been stopped due to lack of competent judicial system, according to Awad. He added that citizens resort to possessing arms to protect themselves amid the absent role of security authorities and revenge killings.

"After the government shut down our shops and provided no alternatives

as income sources for us, we sold weapons from our homes in a secret way," said Al-Amrani, an arms trader. "Selling arms doesn't require licenses."

Another arms trader, who asked to remain anonymous, said that arms are easily available in Yemen and traders work in well-known markets or in their homes and have mechanisms for selling weapons in other governorates.

"Arms trade is a pressing problem and can not be easily eliminated," he said. "Those steps and procedures taken by the government are not feasible due to some influential leaders who facilitate arms trafficking."

Traders attribute skyrocketing arms prices to the government's purchasing of small arms from individual owners. According to an arms trader from

Amran, officials allocated billions of riyals over the past two years to ensure the success of the anti-arms campaign, particularly in tribal areas of Mareb, Al-Jawf, Shabwa and Amran that host oil installations and foreign investment facilities.

He said that smuggling arms from military units, particularly since renewed clashes in Sa'ada began make weapons easily available.

"Critical issue"

Almost all Yemeni houses have weapons. Arms possession is part of the tribal culture in Yemen, and many communities consider arms one of the basic necessities in life.

Another study on small arms in Yemen, conducted by Abdussalam Al-Hakimi, a Sociology Professor at

Taiz University, stressed the necessity of carrying out massive national campaigns to increase people's awareness about the risks of owning weapons, as well as risks of firing guns at weddings and other occasions. It said that the easy availability of arms is a critical issue in Yemen and that personal weapons are more widely spread in rural areas than cities.

The study also warned against misuse of arms by children and blamed the easy availability of arms for 95 percent of land plundering and 78.1 percent of highway robberies. Markets provide 73.6 percent of personal weapons and traffickers provide 23.6 percent of them.

The remaining 1.2 percent of armed Yemenis get weapons from their military and security institutions.

In Brief

SANA'A
Industry ministry launches Yemen Trade Point website

Ministry of Industry and Trade launched on Friday a special website of Yemen i trade Point after it signed agreement of access into World Trade Point Federation (WTPF) which includes 125 trade points of 93 countries across the world.

In his statement to Saba, the Minister of Industry and Trade Yahya al-Mutawakel called on Yemeni commercial, services and industrial facilities to subscribe in the point which would be a commercial guideline to promote their products and services.

The subscription is free, al-Mutawakel said.

He added that the website would include all databases and other trade information as well as a page of promotion for the trade and investment activities in the country.

Last week, Yemen signed the agreement with the WTPF in Geneva. The website is <http://yementp.moit.gov.ye>.

The WTPF, an international non-governmental organization established in 2000, grew out of an innovative program of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

Through a network of more than 100 trade information and facilitation centers, known as Trade Points, the WTPF assists small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in over 70 countries worldwide to trade internationally through the use of electronic commerce technologies.

Capitalizing on over a decade of Trade Point market presence, the Federation constantly seeks strategic partners for the development of new value-added services to enable it to better serve its clients.

Child trafficker arrest in Sana'a as Haradh police thwart smuggling attempt

The police in Sana'a captured on Thursday a suspect, Al-Shomari, they charge with trafficking Yemeni children into neighboring states.

A spokesman for the Criminal Investigation Department said the arrest came as a result of information over the suspect's involvement in child smuggling.

He has been turned over for interrogators, the spokesman said.

On the other hand, the security forces in Haradh on the border with Saudi Arabia foiled an attempt to smuggle six Yemeni children and teenagers, aged 12-15, into Saudi Arabia.

A suspect in the attempted trafficking was arrested as well and he is to be interrogated.

The children and teens, brought from the Qara district,Hajjah, were put in the Child Protection Center in the province.

Moreover, the security forces in Haradh said they were handed five Yemeni teens by the Saudi authorities, aged 14-15, who were arrested after they illegally entered the Saudi territory.

They were also put in the Child Protection Center.

In recent years, trafficking children through crossings on the border with the kingdom has reduced, with the authorities reporting few cases and thwarting few smuggling attempts.

Yemen and Saudi Arabia have tightened their control over the border to prevent illegal migrants and traffickers from infiltrating into the Saudi territory.

The two countries also strengthened coordination, taking necessary joint measures to crack down on organized crime.

Yemen working on promising railway project

Yemen said on Friday it intends to announce an international tender for a railway project that will link its 21 provinces and the country with the Arabian Gulf states with the BOT System.

The project would be set up in association with the international private sector, minister of Transport said.

Khalid Ibrahim al-Wazeer also said that his ministry will choose advisors to prepare the tender and contracts for the project as well as taking part in negotiations over and supervision of its implementation.

Yemen pins hopes on the project as there would be many investments on the railways that could revive its economy.

The railways are planned to connect minerals areas with the international railway and ports, heavy-populated areas with ports, and agricultural and fish production ports with export and consumer terminals.

The ministry has recently called on international competent consultation companies interested in offering their services for the project to apply, setting 12th of December as a deadline for application, he said.

The first phase of consultation services including preparing the tender and contract documents according to commercially acknowledged standards worldwide will take two months starting from the date of signing a contract.

The second phase will include weighing offers and afterward negotiations with the winner until finalizing a contract as well as supervising the project implementation.

Three feasible studies on the project are currently underway by the ESCWA, including one on the coastal railway on the Yemeni-Saudi-Omani borders, another on

the land railway for minerals wealth areas Jawf-Mareb-Shabwa, and one on the railway to connect populated areas with the port cities, al-Wazeer said.

The studies would be completed by the end of this year, he said, adding after the studies are readied the government will announce an international tender for the project expected in the second half of 2010.

The authorities will also finalize studying the comprehensive chart on the railway network and the allocation of land for the project that would be identified by the feasible studies as well as finalizing necessary procedures to put the railways within the expansion and organizational transport schemes in the country.

MAREB

12 people killed in car accident

At least 12 Yemenis were killed and six others were injured in car overturn accident in Mareb province last Wednesday, Interior Ministry has reported.

The injured people were rushed to hospital.

Police said in Mareb that the accident happened due to excessive speed.

At the same day, about 35 traffic accidents took place throughout the country, killing 13 and wounding 47 others.

In September, Interior Ministry has registered about 101 traffic accidents claiming the lives of nine people in addition injuries of 91 others only in Aden province.

The Deputy Director of Traffic Administration Abdul-Gabar Shahman said that the traffic accidents resulted in YR 18 million losses

SHABWA

Condition of Yemen LNG workers discussed

Shabwa governor Ali al-Hamadi discussed with administration of Yemen Liquefied Natural Gas company LNG on Wednesday condition of local and foreign workers in the company.

They agreed on importance of specifying tasks of the company and the governor toward issues related to the workers in the company.

The governor highlighted level of the coordination between the company and the governorate to bring different stages of the work in the company.

The head of administration department in the company affirmed concern of the company to have good relationship with the leadership of the governorate

BALHAF

Yemen LNG starts production of LNG project

Yemen LNG Company started on Thursday the production of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) from its liquefaction terminal in Balhaf of the Gulf of Aden, eastern Yemen.

Oil and Minerals Minister and Yemen LNG Board Chairman Amir al-Aidarous said that the start of LNG production from the LNG terminal in Balhaf is a major milestone achievement and is the outcome of a strong and successful partnership between the Yemeni government and the project international shareholders, enjoying the full and direct support of the political leadership of Yemen for such a major strategic project which we consider a success story ought to be followed.

In a press release, the company said that the Yemen LNG project is the largest and

most important investment ever made in Yemen with an investment of around US\$ 4.5 billion.

It consists of supplying gas from Block 18, located in the Marib region in central Yemen, through a 320 kilometres dedicated pipeline to the LNG plant located at the port of Balhaf on the southern coast of the country.

The plant started production with the first train while the construction of the second train is being completed. The total production capacity will reach 6.7 million tonnes of LNG per year.

Launched in August 2005, the project shareholders are TOTAL (Project Leader) (39.62%), Yemen Gas Company (16.73%), Hunt Oil Company (17.22%), SK Energy Co., Ltd. (9.55%), Korea Gas Corporation - KOGAS (6.00%), the General Authority for Social Security and Pensions of Yemen (5.00%) and Hyundai Corporation (5.88%).

Yemen LNG has committed the guaranteed Plant capacity under three 20-year Sales and Purchase Agreements with three main buyers; Total Gas and Power and GDF Suez for the North American Market; and KOGAS of South Korea.

During plant construction, Yemen LNG supported the local economy by sourcing several thousands jobs amongst the local population.

This involved over 10,000 people in Balhaf, Shabwa governorate, and almost another 2,000 along the 320-km pipeline. Yemen LNG selected and trained the local technical and administrative teams in charge of managing Yemen LNG.

Through a three year specific training programme at both Sana'a and Balhaf, skills were being transferred to Yemeni employees.

Their News

Germany and Yemen sign Agreement on Development Assistance for 2009-2010

On 17 October Germany and Yemen have signed bilateral agreements on technical and financial cooperation for the years 2009-10. The total sum is 79 Million Euros (110 Million USD).

Yemeni-German development cooperation is aimed at providing direct assistance to the poor in Yemen. German support focuses on water and education, with the goal of bringing about tangible improvements in people's living conditions.

Ambassador Michael Klor-Berchtold's comment on the water situation in Yemen:

"Yemen is one of most water-poor countries of the world. The overuse of water is a major challenge to Yemen's government. Germany supports Yemen to implement its water strategy."

Education is a priority in fighting poverty. Germany therefore supports the Yemeni government to improve primary school enrolment and the quality of education. This includes, in particular, efforts to empower women in Yemen's society by means of broadening primary and secondary education for girls. "Yemen cannot afford to abandon the knowledge and workforce of half of its population", underlined Ambassador Michael Klor-Berchtold.

In addition, Germany has committed 1.5 Million Euros to mitigate the effects of the armed conflict in Sa'ada on the civilian population.

HRH Prince El Hassan outlines a vision for redefining education in the 21st Century

HRH Prince El Hassan bin Talal of Jordan said on Thursday (15 October 2009) while addressing students at the College of William and Mary in Virginia, that educating for the 21st century entails that we invite students to be a partners in their own educational development.

As part of a 10 day visit to the United States HRH delivered an uplifting address to a packed auditorium on the importance of progressive education practices. HRH Princess Sarvath El Hassan was among the attendees.

"Education does not take place in a vacuum. It takes place in the social, economic, cultural and religious contexts of communities. We must train not only for employment, or for skills, but also for citizenship," HRH said.

"It is high time that we re-examine our traditional teaching techniques and develop new methods. We need to revolutionize the role of the educator, and move away from the idea that the teacher has a monopoly of knowledge and wisdom," The Prince added.

HRH stressed the commonalities of

all peoples by emphasizing the universality of the "golden rule" of reciprocity and reiterated that it is time for regional commons, in West Asia and North Africa, to meet global commons. Such a meeting, the Prince noted, needs a comprehensive process to uplift human dignity and securing a safe future for the coming generations.

The Prince also underlined the need for supra-national strategies to create an atmosphere of peace and stability in the region through the conservation of natural and human resources; stressing the importance of investing in human security and dignity.

Prince El Hassan also addressed a group of Middle East experts and scholars at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington. During the lively discussion, HRH stressed the need to build a concept of peace, and to develop a regional vision in the Middle East for a genuine policy.

HRH said that in order to face the at-

tempts to politicize religions, we must return to the common standards of humanity; stressing the need to give civil society a mainstream role in key social issues, in order to stop the divisions along ethnic, religious, sectarian, and other lines.

The Prince also called on communities to create "a meritocracy in the region to maintain our human fortune of talents, and to preserve human capital which is the basis for progress."

HRH added that regional consultations to develop programs that promote human security, and secure individuals against the "gatherings of fear" and hatred industries, are an urgent strategic need in the region

Research Fellowships in Palestinian Studies: 2010 - 2011

The Palestinian American Research Center (PARC) announces its 11th annual round of awards for post-doctoral and doctoral research fellowships in Palestinian Studies for 2010 - 2011.

PARC is an independent, non-profit organization dedicated to promoting pioneering research in Palestinian Studies by established scholars and young scholars engaged in research for their doctoral dissertations.

To be eligible for research fellowships, the following criteria must be met:

- The research project must make a contribution to Palestinian Studies. The research can be in any area of Palestinian Studies, including the humanities, social sciences, economics, law, health and science. Purely scientific research, however, is not eligible for this fellowship.
- The research must take place in Palestine, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon or Syria.
- The research must take into account that the fellowship is for one year only.
- Applicants must be post-doctoral scholars, established researchers, or full-time doctoral students enrolled in a recognized degree program.
- Doctoral students must have fulfilled all preliminary requirements for the doctorate degree except the dissertation by the time research commences. The fellowship does not cover tuition fees.
- Senior researchers without doctorates but with a record of academic publication are also eligible. Applicants with a master's degree may only apply for a joint project with a post-doctoral scholar.
- Individual and joint research is eligible i.e. research can be done by a group of researchers.
- Women applicants are especially encouraged.
- PARC fellows who received grants in the last three years are not eligible to apply.

Interested candidates should send a brief pre-proposal via email to PARC Palestine by 23 October 2009. Pre-proposals may be either in English or Arabic; pre-proposals in Arabic should be accompanied by a paragraph summary in English.

Website: <http://www.parc-us-pal.org>

For the first time in Yemen Al Rowaishan Investment & Development Co. gives a prize to client to try BMW car in Austria



ARIDCO the sole agent for BMW, Rand Rover car brands in Yemen held a special celebration recently for one of its clients who was given the prize to travel to Austria to experience the BMW X3m and X1m the strongest four wheel cars in the world.

Mr. Omar Mahfooz Bashamakh won a free trip to Austria through a draw for ARIDCO clients. Assistant General Manager of After Sales Services Mr. Adel Sabri said that this is the first time such an event takes place in Yemen and it is a gesture from the company towards her loyal clients. The draw took place in presence of most clients whether old or new.

Mr. Muhamad Al-Ziyoud Marketing and Sales Manager said that all what clients needed to do to enter this draw is buy a BMW car from the ARIDCO. By keeping in touch with clients through the after sales services the clients were notified of the draw and the celebration in which the lucky winner was selected.

"This is an exceptional step by the company which's considered a leading company in this regard, and the future is yet to hold many new surprises," said Al-Ziyoud.

The lucky winner Mr. Omar Bashamakh was thrilled at the prize and said it is his first time on such a trip and thanked the company for its excellent services.

FlyNet takes off again: Lufthansa relaunches inflight Internet New partner Panasonic provides most powerful on-board hotspot worldwide

From the middle of next year, Lufthansa's customers will once again enjoy the full freedom to communicate via the Internet above the clouds as the airline relaunches FlyNet, its on-board broadband Internet service. In addition, the new service will permit inflight data transfer over standard GSM/GPRS mobile networks. Thanks to FlyNet, Lufthansa passengers will soon not only have WLAN Internet access but will also be able to send SMS messages by mobile phone and transfer data via smartphones such as PDA, iPhone or BlackBerry devices. Together with its new business partner Panasonic, Lufthansa aims to equip a major part of its long-



range fleet with FlyNet within the first year of operation.

With the relaunch of FlyNet, Lufthansa will again become the world leader in inflight connectivity. "In terms of communications, Lufthansa customers can look forward to a top-tier inflight service," said Lufthansa CEO and Chairman Wolfgang Mayrhuber. "On long-haul routes, we offer business travellers, in particular, a range of communications options on a par with those available at powerful hotspots or upmarket hotels." FlyNet thus completes the standardised communications products for Lufthansa passengers throughout the entire travel chain.

passenger connectivity makes them the ideal launch customer for the eXConnect service. Lufthansa was a true pioneer with their FlyNet branded service. We are proud to bring FlyNet back to their passengers."

Lufthansa is deliberately focusing on high bandwidth as the main requirement for the unrestricted use of such services as web surfing, email/file transfer including attachments and the Virtual Private Network (VPN). In addition, only wide bandwidth will enable potential future operational applications such as telemedicine for the transmission of a patient's vital parameters to a ground station.

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EMBASSY OF INDIA, SANA'A

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Embassy of India invites applications from eligible candidates interested to work as local staff of the Embassy. Candidates should be fluent in English & Arabic with excellent translation/interpretation skills. They should also be well conversant with use of computers. Remuneration is negotiable depending upon the Qualifications, Experience and the caliber of the candidates. Send application with CV, full contact details and a copy of latest photograph on or before 26th October, 2009 to the Embassy of India, 12 Djibouti Street, Sana'a. (Tel: 441251/2; Fax: 441257; email: indcom@y.net.ye)



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Debates on new right to information bill indicate discrepancies between state and parliament

By: Nadia Al-Sakkaf

The third draft of a law concerning access to information did not receive full support from any government representatives during the recent conference last week with parliamentarians about access to information, which was organized by the Organization for the Defense of Rights and Freedoms- known as HOOD as well as the Article 19, the international organization concerned with free expression.

"First of all, there is a problem with the name. It should not be called the law concerning information because this could mean anything, even preventing information. It should be clearly specified in the law's title that it is a law to support access to information," said Sejal Parmer, senior legal officer of Article 19 in her comments on the draft law during the conference. This draft was proposed by the Media and Culture Committee of the Yemeni Parliament this month.

This is the third draft of its kind since the one proposed by Yemeni Journalists Against Corruption which was known as "Ashaal's draft". This was in reference to the member of parliament on the Freedoms Committee who proposed this law to the parliament in 2007, and the one proposed by the Yemeni government through the National Information Center at the end of 2008.

"Article 19 welcomes the continuous efforts of the Yemeni Parliament to adopt a freedom of information law...this draft law represents a very progressive piece of legislation that is based on international standards on freedom of information and comparative practice... At the same time, the law can still be further improved..." read the introduction of Article 19's comment on the draft law, before listing 13 detailed critiques on the 68-article draft law.

When MP Ali Ashaal proposed a draft



Journalists are denied information by the state under the pretext that they are not capable of handling of information and would pose as a threat to the national security and the welfare of the country. With the new draft law, journalists not only will have the right to information, but those who withhold it unreasonably should be punished.

law concerning access to information in 2007 to the parliament, the parliament referred it to the media committee which took around one and a half years before coming up with feedback.

Abdulmoez Dabwan, a member of the parliament and member of the Media and Culture Committee which proposed the law, spoke on behalf of the committee about the process through which it came about.

"Just before forwarding our feedback on Ashaal's draft to the parliament for discussion, the government came up with a new draft, as if it was creating ways to stall our progress. The parliament then forwarded both the previous draft along with the government's law to the

Media Committee again for review and consolidation. Now that we have the final draft, which is our comments on both laws and what we think the final bill should look like, we are proposing this to the parliament for discussion," said Dabwan.

He gave a brief description of the final draft and argued that some of the comments by Article 19 were not accurate. "In our draft we gave the right to foreigners to demand legitimate information. Even the title has changed to 'The Right to Information', not 'The Law Concerning Information'. Perhaps the law reviewed by the organization [Article 19] was not our latest draft," he argued.

He concluded his talk by recommending that an acceptance for this law be lobbied for before the momentum is lost and the process on the right to information is stalled again.

Whose draft law is better?

Not only does this draft law stipulate what information should be available and who can demand it, it also includes articles on the time frame through which information should be granted and what penalties should be imposed on those who unjustly withhold information. Priority of access to information in this draft is given to journalists, and those whose need for the information

is urgent. Moreover, the cost which the party demanding information should pay is limited by this law to stationary or photocopying expenses. This clause is aimed at preventing employees who have the information from extorting money from people requesting it.

The law stipulates two cases in which any government party can refuse to give information: if the party does not have the information, or if it is considered classified and falls within any of the categories specified in article 27 of the draft concerning exceptions for when information should be withheld. These exceptions include military information, and classified information between Yemen and any other country which could cause significant harm or hinder justice.

"We need the media and the civil society community in Yemen to put pressure on the government and parliament to put the law's discussion into the agenda so that we can put it forward, especially since there is a clear indication that the passing of this law may be stopped," he said.

"I hope that Yemen becomes the second Arab country to adopt such a law, following the Jordanian experience. Although there is room for improvement, we should push for adopting this law as soon as possible because it has great importance in fighting corruption, increasing society participation in national debates and economic development," says Yahia Shukkeir, media law expert and Jordanian editor who has been training Yemeni journalists about investigative journalism. He indicated that for good investigative journalism to occur, access to information is vital.

There was some criticism that the private sector is not involved with the issue of access to information. However, Ali Al-Azki, executive manager of the Yemeni Businessmen's Club, refuted this claim. "Aren't I here?" He said, before adding that having a transparent culture and access to information is always in the best interest of the business sector.

Nashwan Al-Mujahed, head of the Legal Affairs department at the National Information Center commented that the way the law was presented to the parliament was confusing, because it included the two drafts from Ashaal and the government which was actually created by the center, and that of the media committee in the parliament.

"The center gave its feedback on the committee's draft with a 63-page narration justifying the government's draft and discussing some of the exceptions and other articles in the latest draft. This draft is an attempt to hinder the procedures in place for organizing access to information, and creates new governmental bodies such as the general commissioner, which is duplicating our role at the National Information Center... We at the center trust that members of parliament during their discussion would reach an adequate law dealing with information issues and its management in Yemen so that it helps provide the information to the people," said Al-Mujahed.

However, Mohammed Naji Allow, former Member of Parliament and director of HOOD, explained that the parliament received the final draft of the law which is a consolidation of the first two drafts along with comments from the media committee. "This is the only draft now being discussed," he said.

Aidradoos Al-Naqib, head of the Yemeni Socialist Party block at the parliament and also a member of the Media Committee, said that there is no need to argue about whose draft is best and there is no duplication between the role of the National Information Center and the proposed General Commissioner who would be the party refuting any disputes regarding individual claims to information, whereas the center is the national body hosting and organizing information in Yemen.

Dabwan was hopeful that there would be a better chance for this final draft if the media and civil society pushes for it to be discussed in the parliament and only then will such disputes be cleared and in the open.

JUST ANOTHER DAY IN THE CAPITAL (1)

Giving birth in the world's oldest city

By: Judith Spiegel
For the Yemen Times

This is the first of a weekly series in which the author observes an every day situation of life in Sana'a. For a city that may be the oldest inhabited city in the world, nothing seems more appropriate than to start at the very beginning of life. Therefore, this week a look behind the scenes of the delivery room at the Old City branch of Thawra-hospital.

It was an easy delivery. One hour after Fatima walked in, her little daughter is born. While Fatima is still panting from labour, Doctor Ghada shows her firstborn, neatly wrapped in a green sheet and healthily screaming. Fatima tries to smile and kisses the little girl. Fatima is 21 years old. "A good age to have your first baby" says Dr. Ghada, who meanwhile starts stitching the patient. "She can go home in two hours."

Ghada is one of the many female doctors at the Thawra, a public hospital. A colleague of hers, adjunct director Dr. Amal Al-Assouli admits that in a private hospital she could make more money. "But for the female patients among the poor people it is good to have female doctors. It is still not uncommon for women to die in labour because husbands do not let them go to male doctors."

With an average of seven children per Yemeni family, one should think that a maternity clinic does not need to fear a lack of patients. "It is true that here is no proper education about family planning," said Al-Assouli. "For example, many women think that lactation will prevent them from getting pregnant. Sometimes this is true, but you cannot rely on it. We see women who are pregnant again forty days after delivery."

Nevertheless, it is not particularly crowded this morning at the maternity ward of the Old City's branch of Thawra



hospital. Some of the rooms in the ward are empty, or only two of the four beds are occupied by women who suffer (ante or post) natal complications. In the children's ward only three tiny babies are being treated. A lonely picture of Pokémon gives some colour to the sober surroundings.

Deliveries like Fatima's only take place here 15 or 16 times a month. Giving birth in hospitals is not widespread in Yemen. According to the latest published survey of the Ministry of Public Health (2006) only 20 percent of births take place in hospital. In urban areas such as Sana'a this percentage is likely to be higher.

Dr. Leila Ahmed thinks it is not merely a matter of money. Fatima only paid YR 2000 in administration fees. "It is more often a matter of tradition and fear. For example, women are afraid of an 'episotomy.' However, when this is not professionally done in a hospital, many women come back later with complications. These women relied on midwives, and not all of them are good."

"Another obstacle of giving birth in a delivery room in a hospital is often the mothers-in-law," Ahmed continued.

They sometimes even keep it a secret if the daughter-in-law is giving birth in hospital since it is believed to be bad sign to give birth in a delivery room."

This corresponds with the survey of the Ministry of Public Health, where about 50 percent of the women simply stated that "home is better" when asked why they did not go to hospital. Another important factor - in rural areas - was the distance to a hospital.

Outside the delivery room, Fatima's mother and sisters are waiting. They seem a bit nervous, having heard the cries of Fatima and now the cries of the baby. When shown pictures of their granddaughter and little niece, their eyes radiate.

The father of the little girl does not know about the birth of his daughter yet.

"Sometimes they are waiting outside," Ghada said, referring to the husbands. But Fatima said that her husband is not here.

"He is a soldier, he serves in the army near Bab al Mandab and cannot come."

Maybe next time? The doctor agreed that this will probably not be Fatima's only child.

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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT



The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) invites *Yemeni Nationals* to apply for the following position with its Project "Post-Flood Livelihood Recovery"

1- Post Title: Administrative/Finance Assistant

Duration: one year renewable

Duty Station: Sana'a

Responsibilities:

- Provides general office assistance and handles routine administrative tasks,
- Assist in all financial and procurement aspects of running the Project including managing and organizing accounts, petty cash, follow up of procurement, field visits, travel arrangements and correspondence.
- Ensure that documents of finance and procurement are appropriately recorded and stored.
- Schedule appointments and coordinate for meetings. As well as recording meetings by taking notes, preparing minutes and recording decision points generated.
- Assist in maintaining and in preparation of budget revisions;
- Prepare notes, letters, background information and hand-outs.
- Translate small documents between Arabic and English and arrange for larger documents.
- Liaise with the project team based in Seiyun to ensure timely submission of reports, plans and relevant documents to the Project.
- Assist in following-up for Finance, procurement and human resource requirements and ensuring proper reporting to the UNDP CO.
- Liaise with the Country Office to ensure timely submission of requests of advances and direct payment.
- Other duties deemed necessary.

Qualification:

- First University degree in Business Administration, social science or related discipline.
- At least 5 years of relevant experience in office management.
- Previous working experience with a UN agency is an asset.

2- Post Title: Finance Associate

Duration: one year renewable

Duty Station: Seiyun, Hadramout

Responsibilities:

- Maintain detailed and comprehensive record of income and expenditures;
- Maintain and update the project budget (assist in the preparation of budget revisions);
- Monitor project expenditures, prepare and maintain necessary financial control reports;
- Prepare and follow-up on payments and other expenses;
- Compile financial statement for contributions received;
- Prepare necessary requests with required supporting documents and other documents.
- Maintain proper records on contributions and monitor deadlines and expenditures and inform PM regularly.
- Familiarize him/herself with various contracting modalities and pertinent entitlements;
- Process entitlements (daily subsistence allowance, remuneration) and follow-up on contracts of the project staff and national/international consultants (extensions, renewals etc), and maintain various personnel records and files;
- Perform the tasks of office supplies requisition including the preparation of equipment specifications, collection of bids and preparation of purchase orders;
- Prepare correspondence and offer documents as required on general administrative or specialized tasks, maintain a log on incoming/outgoing correspondence;
- Assist in assembling briefing material, documentation and correspondence for the use in official meetings or missions;
- Undertake other office duties which may be requested by the project coordinator or UNDP Programme Officer.

Qualification:

- University degree in accounting, financial management, business administration or other relevant areas;
- Good Knowledge of accounting and budget handling;
- At least 7 years of work experiences in related field

3- Post Title: Information Management Officer

Duration: one year renewable

Duty Station: Seiyun, Hadramout

Responsibilities:

- Provide support to the PM to establish governorate level early recovery common data and information system.
- Provide support in the collection of data, analysis, and reporting as needed and ensures the availa-

bility of necessary supplies and materials. Ensure that the required datasets are incorporated in to the system.

- Provide support to PM decision making by processing and analyzing data and information and presenting it in the format most useful for analysis.
- Select appropriate data collection tools and methods for field staff to collect and analyze data to measure performance towards outputs, effective asset utilization and capture important lessons learned.
- Develop training material and user manuals, and train governorate level GIS staff in the use of information management tools including record and archives systems
- Serves as technical expert on all processes associated with data management and processing, including database design, data entry and cleaning, archiving and retrieval.
- Serve as focal point within the early recovery stakeholders for GIS information exchange and support the promotion of data and information sharing protocols.
- Collect geographic data, evaluation and dissemination, and production of larger scale operation maps as required.
- Monitor and ensure the delivery of end user data requirements, in an appropriate format and provide GIS and mapping support to early recovery stakeholders.
- Develop and maintain close relationships with key data providers to ensure delivery/availability of data relating to indicators of recovery and strengthened local government information flows.
- Develop and maintain a client-oriented approach with all relevant stakeholders to help identify their information requirements to ensure that the information needed to support early recovery programme planning and management.
- Supervise Information Assistant in the development of databases and GIS to support the collection and processing of context specific data (e.g: flood affected population, displaced populations, demographic and vulnerability data, results of common rapid needs assessment etc.).
- Provide guidance to Information Assistant to undertake data cleaning and data

Qualification:

- Advanced university degree preferably in information management, database administration or other relevant field
- At least 7 years of professional experiences in relevant field.

4- Post Title: Agriculture Officer

Duration: one year renewable

Duty Station: Seiyun, Hadramout

Responsibilities:

- Responsible for the overall planning, coordination, management & implementation of the agriculture component of Early Recovery Programme.
- Ensure agriculture programme activities are implemented according to the annual work plan whilst maintaining the flexibility to shift priorities according to the changing context.
- Analyze requests for recovery assistance to the agricultural sector.
- Estimate cost of agricultural inputs as per annual work plan and specify quantities and determine technical specifications of those inputs to be provided for recovery assistance as well as timing.
- Supervise monitor agriculture and livestock recovery interventions as per the annual work plan and provide technical assistance as required.
- Monitor in regular basis the status of flood affected communities and their access to agriculture services.
- Prepare agriculture sector progress reports with major achievements, challenges and recommendations and other related documents and attend agriculture sector coordination meetings at local level.
- In line with Early recovery Project, incumbent will formulate implementing program guidelines to NGO's vocational training and other agriculture related services for micro-enterprises development.
- Maintain and develop effective and insightful monitoring procedures and build the capacity of the local authorities in agriculture sector recovery development and monitoring.
- Identify the implementing partners, their capacity building and training needs, particularly as they relate to agriculture sector recovery and development.

Qualification:

- An advanced degree in agriculture science or equivalent experiences
- At least 10 years of professional experiences in relevant field.

5- Post Title: Micro Finance Officer

Duration: one year renewable

Duty Station: Seiyun, Hadramout

Responsibilities:

- Responsible for the overall coordination, management & implementation of the micro-finance and cooperative development component of Early Recovery Programme.
- Ensure cooperative development and other micro-finance programme activities are implemented according to the annual work plan whilst maintaining the flexibility to shift priorities according to the changing context.
- Monitor in regular basis the status of flood affected communities and their access to revolving fund, micro loan from their cooperatives.
- Assess the cooperative capacity in planning, management and implementation of recovery programmes and provide technical support towards improvement in organizational development.
- In line with Early recovery Programme the incumbent will formulate implementing program guidelines to NGO's and cooperatives which are providing microfinance loans, vocational training and other related services to micro-enterprises development.
- Maintain and develop effective and insightful monitoring procedures and build the capacity of the local authorities in micro-finance and cooperative development and monitoring.
- Identify the implementing partners, their capacity building and training needs, particularly as they relate to micro-finance and cooperative development.
- Provide regular narrative reports to the Project Manager with major achievements, challenges and recommendations.
- Ensure that the project maintains the emphasis on empowerment of flood affected communities and their cooperatives.
- Ensure key lessons and best practices from the project are shared with all key stakeholders.

Qualification:

- An advanced degree in accounting, business management, development studies or equivalent
- At least 7 years of professional experience in relevant field

6- Post Title: Fishery Expert

Duration: one year renewable

Duty Station: Mukala, Seiyun, Hadramout

Responsibilities:

- Responsible for the overall coordination, management & implementation of the fishery sector component of Early Recovery Project.
- Ensure fishery sector recovery project activities are implemented according to the annual work plan whilst maintaining the flexibility to shift priorities according to the changing context.
- Develop detailed recovery action plan of fishery sector to assist the flood affected fishing communities to restart restoration of fishery related livelihood activities.
- Provide support and guidance to maintenance & operation of damaged fishing craft, gear and other equipment.
- Conduct detailed feasibility study of brackish water aquaculture development, and the small scale shrimp hatchery establishment in coastal area.
- Develop and implement disaster management activities in fishery sector.
- Provide technical support to promote sustainable aquaculture practices and strengthen local capacity and capabilities to natural resource management and conservation.
- Provide technical support to establish micro-enterprises on fish products and facilitate market access in corporation with livelihood/SME officer and Marketing officer.
- Monitor on regular basis the status of flood affected communities and their access to revolving fund, micro loan from their fishery cooperatives.
- Assess the fishery cooperatives' capacity in planning, management and implementation of recovery and provide technical support towards improvement in organizational development.
- In line with early recovery project, the incumbent will formulate implementation guidelines to NGO's and fishery cooperatives which are providing microfinance loans, vocational training and other fishery related services to micro-enterprises development.

Qualification:

- An advanced degree in fishery or agriculture with specialization on fishery or equivalent experiences
- At least 5 years of professional experience in relevant field.

7- Post Title: Livelihood Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Officer

Duration: one year renewable

Duty Station: Seiyun, Hadramout

Responsibilities:

- Responsible for the overall coordination, management & implementation of the livelihood/SME component of Early Recovery Programme.
- Ensure livelihood activities are implemented according to the annual work plan whilst maintaining the flexibility to shift priorities according to the changing context.
- Based on the needs assessment due to the flood damages such as loss of agriculture land, house, livestock, bee hives and fishing boats and equipments and implement interventions packages to restore their lost livelihoods.
- Assess and identify the status of flood affected communities and their access to cooperatives, involvement in microenterprises, agriculture and other livelihood activities.
- Assess the institutional capacity of the community institutions such as cooperatives in planning, management and implementation of livelihood/SME and related projects and provide technical support towards improvement in organizational development.
- Design and conduct training in the related field and train the trainers for the sustainability of the livelihood and SME capacities.
- In coordination with Micro-Finance officer and Agricultural Marketing Office, provide technical expertise in the area of small and medium enterprise for recovery and sustainable development of the flood affected communities.
- Maintain and develop effective and insightful monitoring procedures and build the capacity of the local authorities in livelihood development and monitoring.
- Provide regular narrative reports to the Project Manager with major achievements, challenges and recommendations.
- Ensure that the project maintains the emphasis on empowerment of flood affected communities.

Qualification:

- An advance degree in agriculture, business management, development Studies or equivalent experiences
- At least 10 years of professional experience in relevant field.

8- Post Title: Social-Inclusion Officer

Duration: one year renewable

Duty Station: Seiyun, Hadramout

Responsibilities:

- Responsible for the overall coordination, management & implementation of social inclusion and gender issues in Early Recovery Project.
- Facilitate to mainstream vulnerable people especially flood affected people issues in local level recovery agenda by involving them as main partners of early recovery programme.
- Design and implement confidence building activities between vulnerable groups and communities.
- Collect information on concerns and needs of vulnerable groups and receiving communities.
- Design and provide training courses or establish effective scheme for empowerment of vulnerable groups
- Design and conduct necessary awareness raising activities, and develop integrative activities for inclusion of vulnerable groups participated by vulnerable groups and other community members;
- Facilitate to establish partnerships with early recovery stakeholders to address urgent recovery needs in the flood affected people.
- Facilitate participation of the flood affected and vulnerable groups in agro-based and non agro-based vocational skills training.
- Provide technical guidance gender mainstreaming into all Early Recovery Programme level activities by analyzing of the socio-economic and political structure in the programme area from a gender perspective.
- Support the planning, implementation monitoring and evaluation of recovery programme activities to ensure the participation of women, men, boys and girls.

Qualification:

- An advanced degree in social science, gender study, social welfare, development studies or equivalent experiences
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Words of Wisdom



In the final analysis, it is in the hands of the people in charge of this country to make our transformation towards democracy real and meaningful. It would be unfortunate if the change in Yemen remains merely a show or something superficial. Our politicians need to believe in preparing for the 21st century. To do that, they have to internalize some new values.

Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, (1951 - 1999)
Founder of Yemen Times

What to do to push further business relations between Turkey and Yemen?

Dr. Davut ATEŞ
Commercial Counsellor
Turkish Embassy in Sana'a



Turkish and Yemeni peoples share a long common history and many cultural characteristics. Their common historical background is based on a strong feeling of brotherhood and friendship sometimes accompanied by close family relations as well. This is a very critical and solid framework to develop cooperation between Turkish and Yemeni business circles. Within current situation it is very difficult to say that their economic relations reflects potentials of both countries. Trade volume at the end of 2008 is about three hundred and fifty million dollar. Amount of Turkish direct investments in Yemen is just a few million dolar. There are only two important Turkish contracting companies working on infrastructure and industrial projects in Yemen. Level of tourism relations is almost ignorable. These figures of economic relations are very much far from the point they should be, although both governments try to enhance it.

Both countries are in a process of economic development and diversifying commercial transactions both at regional and global scale. Turkey, according to the figures of the first half of 2009, is 15th biggest economy in the world. It continues accession negotiations with EU and plays active diplomatic roles within the region. Its level of industrial and social development now is very close to Europe. As a part of Customs Union with EU Turkish manufacturing sectors are able to produce goods at European quality and standards. Yemen is strongly advancing in the path of economic development too. Increasing trade relations with many countries and initialization of many development projects are indicators showing Yemen has been concretely stepping toward economic development. Moreover, Yemen is currently represented in many bodies of Gulf Cooperation Council and is a part of Arab preferential trade system. Soon it is going to be a member of World Trade Organization as well. When we look at the business orientation adopted by both countries, we see that they are very similar to each other. But it is a very critical question why private sectors in these two brother countries do not give adequate level of attention to their bilateral business relations, while they are trying to develop those kind of relations with other regional and global partners. In this short article, I will refer to the main aspects that could create a convenient environment to achieve higher level of economic and commercial cooperation between the two countries. In my opinion the most important thing that we should do first is to create an attraction between them. This clearly implies that our Yemeni brothers should be aware of Turkey and Turkish business circles should be aware of Yemen. This awareness will contribute to exploration of many fields of cooperation. As I have said at the beginning, common historical and cultural ties provide the first tool for the creation of this mutual attraction.

Secondly, geographical proximity and strategic locations should be focused on. Yemen is situated in a

strategic hub between Africa and Middle East, and between Mediterranean and the Indian Ocean. Turkey is taking place in a strategic location as well between Europe and Middle East, and between Euroasia and Africa. Strategic locations of both countries constitute the second solid base for economic cooperation. Within a globalized commercial and economic web of relations, each company takes into account the strategic position of the country that they target.

This is so simply because companies try to reach other markets through the country in which they start business. So geographical locations of both countries is an important tool that might contribute to the creation of mutual attraction.

Thirdly, I would like to point out some aspects of infrastructure necessary for business relations. In this regard, presence of direct flights of Turkish Airlines between Sana'a and Istanbul is highly critical. Moreover, existence of commercial representation within the Turkish Embassy should be considered as a part of this infrastructure. Our commercial office is able to give lots of information related to business and trade to Yemeni businessmen. Our office is in a position to organize some joint business delegations. On this occasion I would like to appreciate cooperative efforts of Federation of Yemeni Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Sana'a Chamber of Commerce, other chambers throughout the country, Ministry of Industry and Trade and other Yemeni public and private sector organizations. We always witnessed friendly attitudes of those organizations toward Turkey in our each contact with them. This infrastructure might be well used for the creation of mutual attraction.

Fourthly, tourism is another aspect of attraction building process. It is very clear that Yemen has so many historical wealth coming from ancient civilizations. I am sure that authenticity of Yemen has a great potential to attract many tourists from Turkey. Equally Turkey provides a wide range of preferences for Arab tourists. Tourism potentials of both countries could be highlighted through advertisements, business delegations of the sector and agency relations between Turkish and Yemeni tourism companies. Why I am stressing so much on tourism is because of that tourism is an important tool to discover business potentials of the countries. Increase in mutual tourist visits will definitely push commercial, economic and investment relations between the companies. For that reason, I say that tourism is a significant source of mutual attraction.

In conclusion, Turkish and Yemeni people share a common history and culture; both countries have geographical advantages; infrastructure for business transactions are ready; and tourism might be used to put forward economic relations. As you see, all of these aspects are conducive to create mutual attraction between Turkey and Yemen. If mutual attraction is created, this means that economic and business relations between these two countries might rapidly increase. Increasing economic relations, I am sure, will serve both to the interests of Turkish and Yemeni people. I know that there are some other issues that we should focus on. But as I have said, the urgent one is to create mutual attraction, and here I have tried to outline main aspects of this goal.

COMMON SENSE

For the Arabs, it is the backseat

One is not baffled anymore by the mediocrity of Arab politics and the ungodliness of most of the leadership in the Arab World, with the word being used here more as a symbolic contempt rather than a real feeling of desire to be subordinate to most of the clowns that make up the roster of Arab leaders.

Yes, contempt would be an even kind reaction to the pitiful displays of Arab political and diplomatic maneuverings in a complex and intertwining world that our mostly aged leaderships have yet to even understand, let alone be able to wiggle through.

Thank goodness the Lord Al-Mighty made Islam a global affiliation and never guaranteed that the Arabs (at least in the Arab World) should be at its spearhead. For all the means and resources at their disposal, the Arabs have proven that they are the world's sloppiest and most narrow minded administrators of the bounties God has bestowed upon them.

Having said that, one cannot help but be reassured that the Lord Al-Mighty has bestowed alternative Moslems with intellect and culture to take on the banner and uphold the causes of the Moslem World. Yes, this is indeed reassured by the latest developments one is seeing in many a Moslem country, the leadership of which has learned that to go about life the Arab way is a freeway to failure and very likely doom.

Just by seeing the big concerns that bother the Arab leaders, the observer is agast that the Arabs, for example can view Iran as a worse threat to them than Israel! But if one sees the current Arab media, one cannot help but notice the fallibility of our own emotions.

Israel has literally forced itself in the heart of the Arab World at the cost of an entire indigenous population of their very own loosing their homeland and becoming chronic victims of the most unholy occupation in history, while our Arab leaders have no qualms whatsoever about the Zionist menace and suffice by lip service treatment of the Palestine issue, while not finding any fault with Israel's doings.

It is really appalling that we only find great relief from fellow Moslems in Turkey, Malaysia and Iran who vehemently speak out against the Zionist menace and its evil doings in the Holy Land. On the contrary, quite a few Arab leaders look forward to the day when Israeli and American jets mount their blitzkrieg on Iran. Ask any Arab citizen about President Hugo Chavez, and they will come back with "God bless him".

But if you mention any of the Arab diehards, who like to call themselves leaders, who are constantly spoon fed by their overpaid media to their people, and all you hear is "May they burn in hell!" Mind you, this observer has no personal grudges against any of our great leaders, as the Lord Al-Mighty has spared me the agony of their wrath and the dubious nature of their displays of gratuity.

However, one cannot help but realize the overwhelming disapproval of the Arab leaders among their constituencies in particular or their nation as a whole. Better yet, all one has to do is ask these leaders why they do not put the love of their people for them to the test by instituting real and free elections and see how much favor they have amongst their constituencies? Then at least they will have some gauge to evaluate the lying cheaply bought pens and propaganda machines they have set up to keep their public image shining.

Of all the Arab leaders that strike most of the Arab citizens as deplorable, those who have a knack for keeping their countries in an unrelenting aura of war and violence are bound to be given First Prize for Horrendous Leadership.

In fact these leaders would not be able to shut their eyes at night if sound barrier breaking jet fighters do not continuously break the silence of the night or if the sounds of ambulances sirens do not scream as they try to break through the congested pot holed streets to take the dead and wounded to the nearest hospitals or to the Martyrs' Cemetery, where they would be honored with the whole slate of the national leadership, who would never dare to send their very own sons to do battle with their ever changing enemies.

May God bless Recep Tayyip Erdogan, Mahathir Mohammed, and yes Ahmednjad for reminding us how true Moistsens should act and rule.

The Sa'ada War Must End!

If there is any hope for Yemen and its Government getting back its sanity, this would only come if the bloody madness in Sa'ada comes to an end immediately. This is a war without purpose; a war without mercy; a war that will lead to the total deterioration of what ever is left of national pride as Yemenis and as Arabs.

One should also not forget to express one's appreciation for the remarkable mission from Egypt that came and went empty handed, but did not forget to cash in on some of the war funding being administered by outside watchers. The mission truly showed us how much the Arab World is now lacking in leadership. But then Amro Moussa has never been a favorite among news audiences from the Atlantic to the Gulf anyway.

Hassan Al-Haifi has been a Yemeni political economist and journalist for more than 20 years. He may be blogged at:
<http://com-senfromyem.blogspot.com/>



By: Hassan Al-Haifi

OUR OPINION

Stand up, take action, end poverty now!

"Allah Yelaien quloobahum," was what the old lady, Um Ahmed said, while sitting behind me at the campaign to end poverty event organized by the Civil Society Organizations network in collaboration with the United Nations Country Team two days ago.

What this old woman meant was, "May Allah soften their hearts towards us." She said this in response to the statement by the event coordinator who announced that "leaders of the great countries of the world promised to do more in order to ease the suffering of poor people in the developing countries."

Um Ahmed confessed that she can't read or write, and did not understand the mechanisms of international pledges and how they would or would not trickle down to helping the poor of Yemen. Yet, she tied her hopes to the pledges thrown into the air by some great countries' leaders during their important meetings.

Sitting in the middle rows towards the back of a local event in Sana'a, Um Ahmed really believed that her fate, her fortune is in the hands of some far off western leaders, and prayed that God - Allah- to soften their hearts towards poor people like her. She hoped that those people at an act of mercy will decide that they should dedicate more money to end poverty.

She stood among 500 people in the event in Sana'a and cried out "La ilhlaqir!" - No to poverty - three times so loudly and so passionately as if her words would travel across the world to the great leaders. As if they would feel the anguish in her words and see her worn out black sharshaf (Yemeni traditional attire worn by women when going outside) and read the stories told by the wrinkles around her eyes that were barely visible through the veil she wore tightly on her tired face.

Um Ahmed was one of many women who had come to the event in response to an invitation from their local charity. As the women entered the open air arena they were handed caps and T-Shirts on which "Stand Up and Take Action against poverty and inequality" was written. She held the cap reluctantly - but then everyone around her had one on - so she put hers on as well.

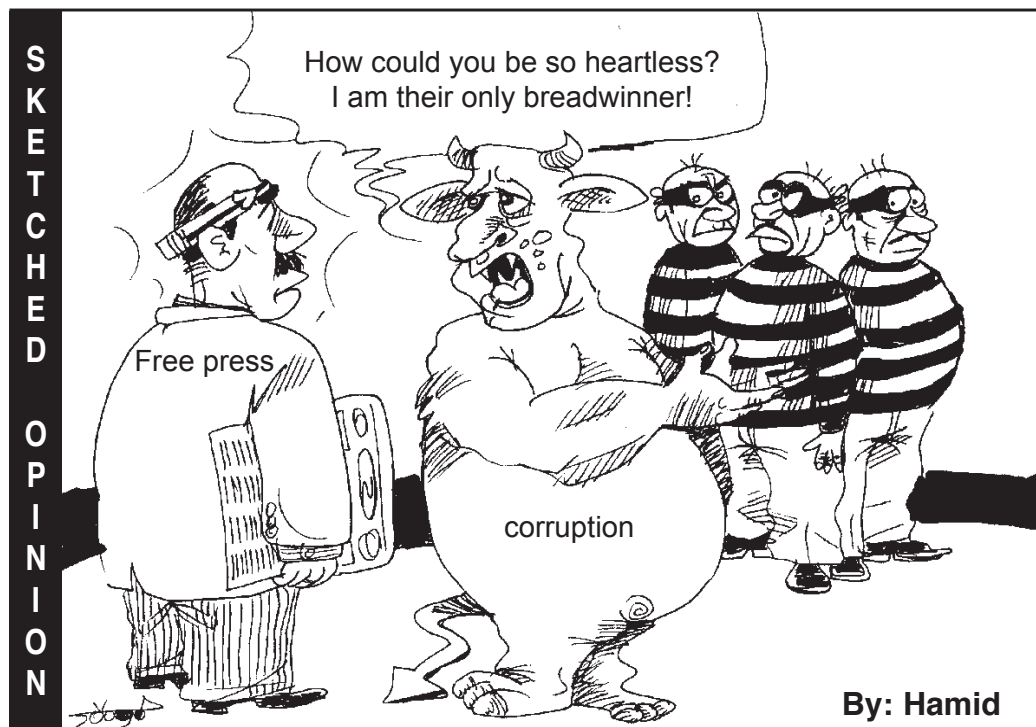
She did not understand much of the speeches by the organizers who talked about a global campaign to end poverty, the statistics, the programs or even the people who were mentioned. She only understood that at some remote place in the world, sits a number of important people, whom in her mind she visualized as well-dressed sophisticated men.

She probably imagined the faces of some western leaders she remembered from TV and believed that these men were discussing her fate, among others around the world.

She believed that her presence would reach them somehow, and that they would know that Um Ahmed came on Saturday, Oct. 17 to the End Poverty Campaign event in Sana'a-Yemen, sat in the crowd wearing a white baseball cap with a yellow brim, listened to speeches and shouted "No to poverty!" three times. And most of all, prayed with all her heart that the ones who had the money, and ability to make the decisions would live up to their pledges to ease poverty around the world.

I could not help but smile at Um Ahmed, I even took a picture of her wearing the cap and she gestured that I should take one of her friend too, which I did. I said my goodbyes and she muttered something that I did not hear. And as I returned to my office, I vowed to tell the story of Um Ahmed, perhaps the great leaders of the world might actually know that she was there, and this is what she prayed for.

Nadia Al-Sakkaf



By: Hamid

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Yemen Press Review

إيلاف

Elaph Independent Political Weekly
Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2009

Main Headlines

- Army order Saada civilians to evict their homes to launch airstrikes
- JMP Leader: I told Houthis cooperation is needed to enhance power of the state

Chairman of Joint Meeting Parties (JMP) Higher Council Hasan Zaid said the Yemeni people should not remain silent without any reaction to bloodshed and killing of innocent civilians in Saada that have been on the increase since the sixth bout of clashes between the government troops and Houthi gunmen broke out on August 12, the weekly reported.

"I asked Houthis being Yemeni citizens to cooperate in order to strengthen status of the state irrespective of who rules or doesn't rule," Zaid said, pointing out that the state is in need of moral victory in order to maintain its status and power and it is "impossible for it to stop the war unless this victory is achieved."

He added, "As citizens we can't live in peace, nor may we desert our homes. It is impossible for us to have our souls and property safe and ensured amid absence of Status of the state. Consequently, cooperation is required to strengthen this status."

According to the weekly, Zaid revealed that he met President Ali Abdullah Saleh to let the latter know about his thoughts and viewpoints, but obligations of the latter and his engagements didn't help him review all his viewpoints. "But I found Mr. President convinced that the problem, which is an extension of the 2004 war, should be solved," he noted.

He maintained that Houthis, along with their children, animals and properties, are prone to killing and devastation

because they fight the army from their homes. "Consequently, it isn't in their favor to continue the war. The authority, from its side, has realized that it isn't possible for it to score victory in Saada and end the war."

He concluded that both warring parties have a joint desire to end the war, but lack trust in each other for doing so.

Julia

Al-Nass Independent Political Weekly
Monday, Oct. 12, 2009

Main Headlines

- Abdulmalik Al-Houthi praises National Rescue Vision
- For the third time, MPs withdraw immunity of Yahya Al-Houthi

Parliament decided for the third time to withdraw immunity of its member Yahya al-Houthi, currently residing in Germany, in three years, the weekly reported, adding that Al-Houthi is the ruling party's representative in constituency 269 of Saqain district in the volatile Saada governorate.

Some opposition MPs accused the authority and its ruling party of being unserious to rescind al-Houthi's immunity.

The weekly reported that German authorities have prevented Al-Houthi from practicing any hostile activity against Yemen or any other country otherwise his political asylum will be reviewed.

According to the weekly, the Arab-American News Magazine quoted a Yemeni official in Germany as saying Germany has asked Yahya Al-Houthi to stop any hostile activity against any country and not to violate the asylum law in Germany.

Al-Houthi appeared many times on different TVs to make statements against the government that is fighting Houthis in Sa'ada under the command

of his brother Abdulmalik al-Houthi.

The German authorities provided Yahya al-Houthi a political asylum in 2008 during the fifth war between the army and Houthi followers.

The Yemeni army announced in a statement that it made progress in different areas of Sa'ada and completely controlled al-Maqash area, adding that many rebels were killed and others arrested in both Sa'ada and Amran. The statement said that a weapons cache of rebels was also bombed.

Eyewitnesses said the army launched heavy aerial shelling on different areas in Sa'ada over the past two days after Houthi gunmen blocked a highway to prevent supplies to the army.

التكمير

26 September weekly, Mouthpiece of Yemeni Army
Thursday, Oct. 15, 2009

Main Headlines

- Official source: Outlaws in Abyan cut off a telecommunication network wires
- Victory over insurgents coming soon, Saleh confirms

President Ali Abdullah Saleh confirmed Wednesday that victory over insurgents in Saada and Amran governorates is coming soon, pointing out that the armed and security forces have been achieving great triumphs over rebels, the weekly reported.

During his speech on the 46th Anniversary of the 1963 October 14 Revolution against British Occupation, president Saleh said, "We have received more than 120 thousand displaced persons, spent tens of billions riyals and hundreds of millions dollars are supposed to be spent on all citizens."

Saleh continued, "The war was imposed on the country after the rebels attacked the districts and checkpoints, and blocked roads, killed elders and displaced women in Sa'ada governorate."

The Yemeni leader expressed surprise over how Houthis defend themselves off, saying, "Are roads or hospitals or universities or electricity their enemies." He wondered how they retaliate against citizens.

Absolutely, they are backwardness's powers as they forgot the past where there were no schools, hospital, electricity or anything required by the everyday life of people, Saleh said.

According to the weekly, Saleh highlighted the achievements of the two revolutions September and October in fields of development and services, and highlighted the historic achievement of reunification on May 22, 1990.

He continued, "We have adopted a local governance with full authorization and decentralization," adding that Yemen will witness a constitutional amendment where all citizens should hold the responsibility toward building the country and its safety and stability.

الثقالي

Al-Ahale Independent Political Weekly
Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2009

Main Headlines

- Southern movement members disagree over how to receive the 14 October Revolution Day
- Yemen's Security vital for the United States

Assistant of the US Secretary of State for Middle East commented on Iran's alleged support for Houthi supporters in the northern volatile governorate of Saada, saying "We most of the time hear that Iran has a hand in supporting Houthi fighters during their fight with the government," the weekly reported.

It quoted Javier Feldman as saying that the US takes the issue with high seriousness. Feldman added that his government hopes that no regional or international forces intervene in the

ongoing war in North Yemen, urging both conflicting sides to stop the war and bring a prompt solution to the conflict.

Such a position seems to be in line with a letter sent by US President Barack Obama to his Yemeni counterpart Saleh informing him that "Yemen's security is vital for the U.S. and the whole region."

In the same context, Yemeni

Parliament decided on Oct. 11 to summon Minister of Defense Gen. Mohammed Nasser Ahmad next week to ask him for clarification about the Chinese ship filled with weapons that was anchoring in the Hodeida Port. The decision to summon the Minister of Defense was taken upon the request of 20 Parliament members, the weekly went on to say.



JOB VACANCY

Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), is an International Humanitarian Organization providing medical aid to populations in distress, victims of natural and man made disasters and victims of armed conflict, regardless of race, religion and political beliefs. In 1999 MSF was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in recognition of its work. Currently MSF works in more than 70 countries, including the Palestinian Territories and Somalia. For more information, visit our Arabic website, www.msfae.org

MSF-France is looking for a Yemeni national to be recruited to work in Saada governorate for the following positions:

Surgeon

Job Duties and Responsibilities:

- Work on general surgery, orthopaedics, and gynaecological and obstetric surgery
- Supervise the Operative Theatre
- Collaborate in the training of the medical staff
- Communicate with the medical team in each department to improve patients care

Qualification and Skill Requirements:

- At least Masters certificate in General Surgery
- At least 5 years of working experience
- Fluent in English language
- Capacity to work under tense situation
- Computer skills, particularly Word, Excel

Anaesthetist

Job Duties and Responsibilities:

- Work in Operative Theatre and Anaesthesia
- Work on the surgical statistics
- Supervise the anaesthesia team
- Collaborate in the training of the medical staff
- Communicate with the medical team in each department to improve patients care
- Responsible for reanimation of severe acute malnutrition cases

Qualification and Skill Requirements:

- Certificate in Anaesthesia speciality
- At least 3 years of working experience
- Fluent in English language preferred
- Capacity to work under tense situation
- Computer skills, particularly Word, Excel

Applications must be in English language. Candidates should submit a Cover Letter, CV, copies of diplomas, copies of relevant training and work certificates (originals will be asked during interview), and any recommendations from previous employers.

Deadline for application: October 31st 2009 to be sent to:

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A success story**Abdul Salam Ghaleb "I made 40 tanks to heat water with solar energy."**

An active man, Ghaleb never yields to any challenge that confronts him. Rather, he overcomes all obstacles with brilliance. Without much formal education, Abdul Salam Ghaleb has used initiative and wit to realize lofty goals throughout his adulthood. Adel Al-Saqqaf interviewed him as follows.

Q: Could you introduce yourself?

Ghaleb: My name is Abdul Salam Ghaleb. I am 66 years old. I have three sons and four daughters.

Q: Could you summarize your educational history for us?

Ghaleb: I studied in an old traditional school for reading and writing. Then I started working at a restaurant in Aden. After that, I worked in shipment loading and unloading. I was also a diver. When the Suez Canal was closed, I came back to the village and worked in exploding rocks (mining?) and digging dams.

Q: Where did you gain all this experience?

Ghaleb: I gained my experience out of my curiosity to learn, watching TV and discussions with more educated people.

Q: One of your remarkable deeds that attracted people's attention was

the story of the rock that threatened the leaning tower and (electrical power for the area). Can you brief us on this experience?

Ghaleb: I learned that a rock was close to falling on the electrical lines which extended on a leaning tower, the second leaning tower in the Middle East, in Al-Madahij area. The rock weighed about two-thousand tons. A Military Engineering Unit entrusted me to work and solve the problem after they learned about my experience destroying? rocks. I agreed to solve the problem and the cost of the project was YR 5,3 million.

I folded steel around the rock before exploding it. Had we exploded the rock directly, it would have fallen on the electrical lines and destroyed the leaning tower. I used chemical substances to crumble the rocks gradually lest fragments fall on the lines. I also used gun powder because it is cheaper than other chemical



Abdul Salam Ghaleb

substances. I succeeded and removed the rock. People came every day to see the progress of our work because they realized how dangerous the rock was both to the electrical lines and villages down in the area.

After that, the head of Al-Shamayatain district Sheikh Shayef Al-Dukam and head of Al-Maqatera district Sheikh Qassem Taresh came and told me that another big rock was threatening a water reservoir and the villages in the area. I dealt with that rock similarly to how I dealt with the first one and succeeded.

Q: At your kitchen, we saw fire that wasn't produced from a pipe of gas cylinder. Rather, it was coming from a tightened pipe extending to the outside of your house. The gas was coming from a hole closed shut with animal dung. Where did you learn this idea from and what did you add to it?

Ghaleb: Twenty years ago, an Indian man came to fix laundry machines. He told me that it was possible to produce gas from animal dung. He told me how they do that in India. I tried to produce gas in this way but I failed because I used tanks to reduce the cost of digging on the rock but I didn't succeed. The Indian man didn't stay for a long time in my village to tell me about more details.

However, six years ago, I saw on TV another way of producing gas from animal dung, although I was not watching that program from its beginning. I started digging under the rock and covered the hole with cement. After two months, gas appeared after the animal dung dissolved completely. The hole is 2.3 meters deep and two meters wide. The dung enters from the (animals'?) stable to the bottom of the hole through a pipe. Another pipe extends from the bottom upwards lifting the dung to send out waste substances. This waste is used as natural fertilizer, which prevents accumulation of animal dung that produces insects and causes epidemics.

Q: Can you tell us about your attempts to use solar energy?

Ghaleb: Once at a shop that sells water heaters in Taiz I saw glass covered pipes holding water. The shop's owner exaggerated about the difficulty of manufacturing such heaters. I saw a different heater in Al-Madahij area. It was fixed on a glass plate furnished with sawdust. I developed what I saw in that heater by using glass fibers, two pieces of glass, mirrors and asphalt for insulation. I succeeded in this experiment and made a reservoir that heats water through solar energy. Environmental health officials came to visit me after one of my relatives told them what I did while at a regional conference about gas projects and solar system. German experts visited me and were impressed by my work. They asked me to make such reservoirs for residents of the area at the expense of the German embassy and I made forty reservoirs.

Q: You have experience in making clothes. Can you tell us about that?

Ghaleb: When I was in Aden during my childhood, I tried to buy a machine that forms wool. The Indian seller was surprised that I bought the machine because he thought dealing with it was difficult and required a high level of

training. However, I bought the machine and tried many times until I produced an overcoat. Then I produced many local overcoats which were better than the ones imported from other countries. In my village, production of such overcoats increased. We also covered Taiz city and (the) Al-Turba area. I planned to continue producing these overcoats but stopped for certain reasons.

Q: How did you produce ferrocement and how did you benefit from it on the ground?

Ghaleb: Experts came to the Ministry of Public Works and produced ferrocement at a high cost. I attained a piece of ferrocement while I was making a water reservoir. That piece was a fifty-centimeter board of net and cement. An expert promised to tell me about the ingredients used to make ferrocement but then he travelled to Sana'a. I made a square tank without using steel. I also made small and big tanks without using steel. I made a big jar as a fine art model. It is a water reservoir. I also made reservoirs for mosques and round roofs of houses including domes using ferrocement instead of wooden plates.

After that, a German expert from the GTZ and other development experts came to Yemen and decided to conduct training on ferrocement. One of my relatives told them that I had used this substance. They asked me to attend the training. They presented their ideas and I presented mine. Yemeni experts were impressed by my presentation, particularly with regards to forms of water reservoirs. My son makes water reservoirs based on my designs. We can also make reservoirs next to houses to harvest rain water that falls on roofs.

Q: What did you do in the agricultural field?

Ghaleb: As you know, old trees are not grafted. However, I was able to graft a local peach tree. Early in the 1980s, I cut its branches and grafted it with a



Water tank made of fibercement and iron.

foreign peach and local almond tree. People were surprised that I was able to do that with old trees.

Q: What is the lightening device that you made on the reservoir at Sabran Mountain?

Ghaleb: Water is pumped from a distant location to the reservoir of Sabran Mountain. People need to know if the reservoir is full or not (so that they can empty it for water). Sometimes, water would splash from the top of the reservoir. I made a lightening sign that looks like an apple during the daytime and lights up at night. The sign is lit by water pressure. There is a battery on the reservoir to complete the cycle. When the battery gives a sign that the reservoir is full, the sign turns on a red light that can be seen from a long distance. The person who is operating the water pump can stop it upon seeing the red light at night.

Abu Salam Ghaleb used his innovation to provide vital needs for Yemeni communities, without spending a great deal of money. The Yemeni father of seven has a great deal to teach governments and international development organizations around the world.



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- Directs the purchasing function of the department which is responsible for the purchase of more than USD 10MM per year worth of materials and supplies in support of the company's operations in Yemen.
- Directs the transportation and customs clearance activities for all materials imported to and exported from the R.O.Y. in support of the company's operation.
- Directs the warehousing and materials disbursement function for USD 10MM per year worth of materials and supplies from the major warehouses supporting the operations of the production facilities, related pipelines, and drilling activity.
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- Ensuring contracts with suppliers and vendors are consistent with corporate policies, guidelines, and objectives.
- Development and implementation of strategic procurement plans for risk mitigation, improved ong-term competitive positioning and minimize exposure to escalation of cost drivers.
- Develops the purchasing and materials program in conjunction with operating management in order to meet future requirements while reducing investment costs and improving methods of utilization, acquisition and disposal.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

Experience:

10 years minimum experience in purchasing with continuously increasing responsibilities

Education/Skills:

- Bachelor's degree, preferably Engineering, Accounting or Business, or suitable.
- Experience in the energy industry a must.
- Ability to write, read, understand, and negotiate purchasing contracts
- Excellent analytical, organizational, communication, and negotiating skills
- Must be a results oriented "self-starter" with a strong desire to succeed
- Must be well organized and detail oriented
- Strong Computer Skills in Microsoft Applications specially MS Access, Word, Excel

IF YOU MEET THE ABOVE REQUIREMENTS PLEASE E-MAIL YOUR CV. TO THE FOLLOWING E-MAIL ADDRESS. PLEASE NOTE WE WILL ONLY ACCEPT CV'S THROUGH E-MAIL SUBMISSION:

jannahrecruiter@jhocyemen.com

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Job Vacancy

We are working actively for petroleum exploration business in Yemen. Currently we are seeking to hire highly motivated and qualified candidates for the following vacant post.

Administration Assistant

Basic function: Provides combined Administration & HR management service for employees in Sana'a and Field in support of Admin Manager and HR Supervisor. Performs general Admin & HR management in accordance with Policies. Carries out various Admin & HR information and data management in regular period.

Job responsibility

- Provides information on the matters relating to HR management in the office, and the fields for Team Manager & HR Supervisor.
- Monitors, maintains, records general data related to HR management including employee education plan & Yemenization Plan and report the result to Team Manager & HR Supervisor periodically.
- Performs salary calculation for Expatriate employees and manages HR management system for Yemeni and Expatriate employees
- Revises, updates periodically regulations, policies and makes it public to all employees.
- Performs general procedure of recruiting new employees and renewal of existing contracts with the guide of HR supervisor and Team Manager.
- Maintains personnel data of KNOCYL employees.
- Does other miscellaneous administration tasks with orders of Administration Team Manager.
- Maintains confidential and private information data of Administration Team.
- Works and cooperates with other team members in team work oriented, harmonious manner.

Requirements

- University degree in Art and Human Science will be preferred.
- Minimum 2 years of related job experience.
- Verbal and written language fluency in both Arabic and English.
- Good computer skill especially on MS office.(Critical requirement)
- Negotiation skill.
- Ability to work with cooperative manners with other workers.
- Must be acquired with nationality of Republic of Yemen.

Please submit application letters with C.V, recent passport size Photograph, related certificates through contact number presented below no later than **Oct 25, 2009**. Prospective candidates will be contacted for an interview.

Fax: +967-1-429-321

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT



The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) invites *Yemeni Nationals* to apply for the following position with its *Project "Post-Flood Livelihood Recovery"*

I- Post Title: Two Drivers

Duration: one year renewable

Duty Station: Sayoun, Hadramout

Responsibilities:

- Drive the project vehicles for the transportation of authorized personnel (project staff, missions, consultants, UNDP staff etc);
- Use project vehicles for the purpose of project implementation only and not for other personal purposes;
- Responsible for the day-to-day maintenance of the assigned vehicles (safety functions, engine oil, water, battery, brakes, tires etc);
- Perform minor repairs and arrange for other repairs when necessary and ensures that the vehicle is kept functional and safe;
- Maintain vehicles clean;
- Ensure that passengers wear seatbelts;
- Meeting official personnel and visitors at the airport including airport security and other formalities arrangement when required;
- Ensures availability of all the required documents/supplies including vehicle insurance, vehicle registration, vehicle logs, office directory, map of the city/country, first aid kit, and necessary spare parts, tools and equipment in the assigned vehicle;
- Assists office staff in filing, photocopying and maintaining stores when required and assists in the mailing and distribution of documents and publications and arranges to pay office telephone and other bills, as required;
- Assist project staff for banking, hotel booking and other field travel;
- Maintain logs on official trips, daily mileage, gas consumption, oil change, greasing etc;
- Report accidents immediately to IPC as well as UNDP General service and Programme Officer, and provide as detailed information as possible, which should be documented and submitted to UNDP;
- Collects and delivers mails or documents;
- Ensures that the steps required by rules and regulations are taken in case of involvement in an accident;
- Performs any other duties as required.

Qualification:

- At least primary education, driver's license, knowledge of driving rules and regulations and chauffeur courtesies, skills in minor vehicle repair;
- Experience: Four years work experience as a driver; safe driving record;
- Language Requirements: Arabic, and basic English.
- Strong work ethics
- punctual

Interested candidates are requested to submit their applications indicating the title of the post applied for by mail to Human Resources Unit and response will only be made to short listed candidates.

UNDP, P.O.Box 551 Sana'a/E-mail: hr.ye@undp.org

The deadline for receiving applications is Saturday, 31 October 2009

UNDP is an equal opportunity organization and qualified female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.

Request for Expression of Interest

Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MOHESR)
Project Management Unit (PMU)
Higher Education Development Project II (HEDP II) (P110733)
PHRD Grant No. TF 093102 & PPF Advance No. Q-682-0

Technical Assistance (TA) for Prepare The Project Operation Manual For HEDP II

The objective of the consultancy is to design and produce a detailed Operations Manual (OM) for the implementation of HEP II. The OM will serve as the main reference for project staff and other stakeholders on project-related management, implementation, procurement and financial administration. Specifically, the OM will describe the system and procedures for project planning, implementation, supervision of activities, financial and administrative management and evaluation of impact at both at the Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE) and University levels.

The Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MOHESR), Republic of Yemen has received a PPF advance from the International Development Association (IDA) and a PHRD grant from the government of Japan and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this to payments under the contract for the above –consulting service.

The Project Management Unit now invites qualified individual consultants to indicate their interest in providing the service for **Prepare The Project Operation Manual For HEDP II**. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the service, description of similar assignments, experience in similar assignment, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills, etc.

The selection of the Consultants will in accordance with the procedure set out in the World Bank's Guidelines: "Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers, May 2004 and revised in October 2006". Interested consultants may obtain further information during working days Sat. –Wed. From 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the address below to which the expression of interest must be delivered not later than November 4, 2009.

Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MOHESR)
Higher Education Development Project II
Alriadh St., next to Alroni Building
TEL: 00967-1-471196 - 468466, FAX: 00967-1- 471195 or to
Email: The Project Manager: mohammed_srh@yahoo.com

International Water Expert Dr. Samir Hijazin Speaks with Yemen Times:

“Without changes in water management, the country’s future growth and development will be constrained.”

Dr. Eng. Samir Y. Hijazin has been working in the water sector in Yemen since 2003. He had been to almost every governorate in the country and identified the water concerns and potentials through joint projects with the Yemeni ministries of Agriculture and Water. Today he is the team leader for the Hydrogeological study of Sana'a Basin in addition to Director to the office of Hydrosult (Canadian) firm in Sana'a.

Before coming to Yemen Dr. Hijazin had worked on many projects as international expert, in Senegal, The Gambia, Sudan, Jordan and others. He has experience as a water resources expert in Jordan for over 32 years. He participated in the water and security committee from the Jordanian side, for the peace treaty with Israel. Dr. Hijazin has a doctorate degree in Engineering from the Institut National Polytechnique de Lorraine, Nancy, France, a degree in Water Resources Engineering from the Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Géologie, Nancy, France and a B.Sc. in Geology and Chemistry from Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt.



Experts have speculated that Yemen is on the verge of a formidable drought, and that many urban areas, including Sana'a, have less than ten years of underground water reserves. What kind of situation is Yemen truly facing?

As it is well known, Yemen is very poor in terms of its surface water resources (rivers and fresh water lakes) so most of the water used in daily life is groundwater. Groundwater is recharged by rain water, but approximately 90 percent of this rain water goes back into the atmosphere in the form of evaporation. Only about 5 percent of the rain water recharges the groundwater aquifers.

The balance of water resources depends on the difference between recharging water supplies and discharging water via daily usage. Currently, the high levels of discharge for the public are negatively affecting this balance.

What are the factors contributing to the overconsumption?

Irrigated agriculture plays the main role in causing current deterioration. Without swift action from the highest echelons of the Goy, consequences will become increasingly severe and have the potential to negatively impact social and economic development in Yemen. Frankly, without changes in water management, the country's future growth and development will be constrained. However, wise management and a change in water use habits offer a solution that could ameliorate our current water problems.

Why is desalination still a farfetched solution to Yemen's water problems, despite the fact that technology is

gradually becoming cheaper every year?

The use of new technology will help in solving the water shortage problem, but this will be reflected in the water bill. Desalination is coming, there is no doubt in that. But before going to sea water for desalination, the country has to desalinate groundwater since the cost is lower than sea water desalination. Also, desalination of sea water may be accepted for coastal regions, but for inland areas such as Sana'a desalination of sea water is next to impossible due to the high cost of pumping and water transportation. I had worked in a Hydro geological Study for Wadi Hadramout, through a British firm for the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, and another for the seven cities (Mabar, Thamar, Al-Baida, Atak, Al-Ghaida, Ma'reb and Al-Jouf. I was the team leader supervising the drilling for three deep (1000m) boreholes, in Bani - Mattar and I can tell you that there is great potential in volcanic water and it should be sought first before looking into desalinating sea water.

Many of our current problems seem to stem from water scarcity and inefficient resource management. Why are rainwater harvest or watershed management not popular concepts in Yemen?

This issue rests in the hands of the Ministry of Water and Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation. Rainwater harvesting is a viable method for minimizing the use of groundwater in irrigated agriculture. Before progress can be made, however, there must be a clear policy at the Ministry of Water and Environment.

What role does global warming play on Yemen and the current water issues? For example, the flooding in Hadramout and the changing monsoon season seem to indicate environmental changes. What is the relationship between Yemen and climate change?

It is too early to talk about climate changes in Yemen and elsewhere, however there are indications of global warming, which directly affect climate changes. Today, conferences are held throughout the world that seek to define locations to be used as monitoring points for this phenomenon. What happened in Al-Ghaida/Hadramout was significant.

There seems to be a notion that simply moving population hubs, such as relocating the capital to Aden, could improve current water problems. Is population relocation a viable solution to the current crisis?

I do not agree with shifting people from one area to another, but I do believe in wise management for the whole water resources throughout the country. That means implementing laws and reforms everywhere. Shifting people from place to another only creates endless social problems.

The majority of water experts in Yemen are in fact non-Yemenis. Is this because of lack of qualified local cadre?

The presence of non-Yemeni water experts does not reflect the lack of Yemeni experts. Most water sector projects in Yemen are financed by foreign funds, such as the World Bank and the Arab Fund. One of the requirements

MDG 7: Ensure environmental sustainability

Yemen is confronting a severe environmental crisis – it has one of the lowest rates of per capita water availability in the world – about 2% of the world average and declining 14. The Sana'a water basin is being used up about 10 times faster than it is naturally being replaced. Almost 90% of water is used for agriculture, depleting the water tables at an unsustainable rate 15. According to the Government of Yemen, only 56% of the urban population has access to network water supply and only 31% to sewerage. In rural areas, about 45% of the population has access to safe water and 21% to adequate sanitation 16. In 2008 DFID agreed a partnership with the Islamic Development Bank on water and sanitation in Al-Howta City. In 2008/09 work on the drilling of 10 wells was completed and the project will ultimately provide clean water and sanitation for 36,000 people (by 2011). This is the first DFID partnership with the IDB. The initiative complements wider work with the World Bank, Germans and Dutch to help the GoY update their National Water Policy and design a new sector wide program.



Al-Qatab rainwater harvesting project in Sa'adah

The 1,000 or so people living in the village of Al-Qatab in Haidan district long relied on traditional harvesting of rainwater. But the village is located at the top of mountains and deprived from any source of water – except for small clusters of Al-mawagel (small cisterns) that dry up for much of the year. Consequently, villagers had to fetch water from the next village, which has natural wells but was two-hours by foot. Making matters worse, each cubic meter of water brought from the centre of the district by truck cost at least 2,000 rials (\$10). The Social

Fund for Development rainwater-harvesting project provided a new, 4,300 cubic meter capacity cistern. This also included a hand-pump, precipitation tank and a separate basin for watering animals, plus a fence to protect the cistern. The project has made fetching water much easier. And because the chore fell to children and women, school enrolments are up and the area's hygienic and environmental situation is much improved..

Global Arab Network
Department for International
Development, UK: Annual Report
2009



Woman fetching water from a local water reservoir in the old city of Sana'a. Photo.net image titled: Precious water in Yemen by Maurizio Blasetti.

of such assistance is that the country utilizes international consultants, and this is the main reason that you find foreign involvement in Yemen's water issues. That being said, foreigners work jointly with local experts. From my own experiences here in Yemen, I have met many highly qualified local experts.

What is the environmental sustainability of water treatment in Yemen?

Treated wastewater is considered as an important source for restricted irrigation and domestic use. Other countries, Japan for example, have had success with this

these types of treatment. However in Yemen, most treatment plants operate over their normal capacities due to poor planning and insufficient maintenance. Every location has the capability for wastewater treatment, but treatment is unsuitable if there is insufficient maintenance, which then transforms the treatment plant into an environmental burden.

Although Jordan has a more critical water problem than Yemen, Yemenis appear to suffer more from water insecurity. What are the lessons that Yemen can learn from Jordan in this

regard?

Although Jordan has good reputation in this field, still it needs to pay more attention to it.

As for Yemen and Yemeni authorities, we will need to increase attention on the water sector.

A national monitoring network should be established to evaluate and track progress in water level fluctuations, quality changes, and private and public sector usage.

By creating a comprehensive network Yemen will also be able to increase public awareness and present unified plans for reform.

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Education: Bachelor's degree is desirable, preferably in English as a Second Language (ESL) or Linguistics.

Experience: A minimum of two years experience in teaching ESL is preferred.

Ability: Demonstrated ability to teach in a student-centered manner using the Communicative Approach and to establish a positive learning environment.

English Proficiency: A high level of English proficiency in all language skills is required.

Knowledge: Strong knowledge of English language teaching methodologies and techniques.

Job Duties and Responsibilities

Teach English as a Second Language using communicative teaching methods.

Provide language reinforcement activities creatively and productively and establish high-level student rapport and motivation.

Prepare lessons, assign and correct homework, and administer and grade quizzes and exams.

Select and develop supplementary activities to enhance the quality of learning.

Evaluate student progress in all language skills and work individually with students as needed, providing counseling and advice in support of the program goals.

Actively participate in workshops and staff meetings.

Eligible candidates are asked to submit a cover letter and CV to Exceed, off Algiers Street near Sixty-Meter Road, or by e-mail to contact@exceededucation.org. For further information and background, please consult the Exceed website: www.exceededucation.org.

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How do we bring Japan to Yemen?

Abdo Lotf Abdullah, Vice General Manager of Programs and Activities for the Ministry of Tourism, has just been to Japan on an official visit. Reflecting on his visit, he is calling to attract Japanese tourists to Yemen, as this will contribute to a 15% annual growth in the Yemeni tourism market. "Yemen needs to obtain a share of this strong market," said Abdullah. The Japanese market is ranked as a high priority source market, according to The Yemeni Tourism Board (YTBP) Marketing strategy for 2009 to 2015. It is ranked number ten, following Saudi Arabia, UAE, Oman, Turkey Germany, France, Italy, UK, Austria, and Switzerland as potential sources of tourism revenue.

However, in 2008 Yemen received only 1,814 Japanese visitors.

"[This is a] very low portion," commented Abdullah, adding that most Japanese people do not know anything about Yemen and where it is located. "Lack of security, inconvenient airline accessibility, a huge technical gap between Yemen and Japan, Yemen's primitive tourism development, weakness in marketing communication,



Abdo Lotf Abdullah

lack of informational guidebook maps, or websites in the Japanese language etc.," were reasons he provided for this lapse.

In his plan entitled, "Marketing plan for targeting Japanese tourists to Yemen", Abdullah referred to the current tourism situation in Yemen, saying there is weakness in the Yemen tourism sector, and a low grade of services in

the different infrastructures, because in the past the sector was not given governmental support. Moreover, Yemen suffers from a negative political image in addition to the issues associated with the Middle East crises.

"However, the Ministry of Tourism was established in 2005, and this reflects the government's commitment towards the achievement of tourism's sustainable development," Abdullah said.

"Currently, the Tourism Ministry endeavors to have an effective share in the international tourism trend, and The Tourism Board (YTBP) has started to become active in promoting for Yemeni tourism abroad, but is still restricted in what it can achieve because of the limited budget", he said.

Abdullah emphasized the essential requirements for fixing the tourism problem, such as creating awareness among the local communities about the importance of tourism, "to educate people about the benefit of tourism, particularly the people in the rural areas". Involving the local community in tourism and its benefits, and enhancing the Image of Yemen abroad.

Attracting the Japanese Market

According to the researcher who is calling for this effort, there are many destinations besides the traditional ones which already monopolize Japanese tourists, such as China, Guam, Korea, The United States, France, Taiwan, Australia, Hawaii, Hong Kong, and Thailand. "For this purpose [Yemen] and others are exerting all their efforts to achieve this market, which of course is open to any destination," Abdullah said. The key to success is understanding the taste, behavior, and pattern of Japanese customers; their needs and their requirements. Not only this, but also knowledge of the Japanese marketing mechanism and structure," he added, confirming that such a Yemen contains what Japanese tourists looking for. "They look for remarkable experiences whilst traveling, rather than just having fun or relaxing", he noted.

Abdullah has been participating in a course, which is taking place in Tokyo, that was designed for trainee nominees representing 17 countries. Each one presented his country's tourism development model.

Abdullah claims that Yemen has a variety of natural and cultural attractions which are admired by Japanese visitors. Yemen is a beautiful, diverse, and ancient area of Arabia and it enjoys a plethora of natural and cultural components which are not found anywhere else.

"But those tourism resources are not capable of attracting tourists by themselves, and to do so they should be transformed into a tourism product by making a combination of them, and adding other values so as to be matched to the different preferences and needs of Japanese tourists. For example: Nature plus eco tour programs accompanied by an interpreter. Or Historical monuments with accessible information on site, local food served in hotels and restaurants, beaches and islands with resorts and dive centers, Mountains with organized treks and climbing activities."

He also suggested that product combination can be utilized in order to motivate Japanese people to visit Yemen. This country boasts a range of ancient relics resulting from the progress of previous civilizations, such as mud-brick houses, walled towns, ancient dams, attractive handicrafts, interesting cuisine, arts, crafts, local music, dancing, and nature.

"We should advertise our unique position. We should know which destinations are often compared with us before travelers decide on visiting our destination. Jordan and Egypt, for example. And the destinations that offer tourist opportunities and beauty which are similar to what we offer, such as Oman, Libya, and Morocco. not only this, but we should try to be as much as possible, the only competitor in the regional market."

Abdullah mentioned that Yemen has many attractions that are completely unique to this country. For example: ancient trade routes plus camels plus



Japanese tourists wearing Yemeni traditional clothes in a café in Sana'a.

a caravan itinerary in the desert of the Empty Quarter could make for an interesting package. The mild climate Yemen enjoys, plus festivals, plus weekly markets are also positives for travelers, as is the diversified architecture. The traditional Suqs of Sana'a and the unspoiled natural beauty of Socotra island.

Abdullah sees that they need to formulate a successful strategy to effectively activate the role of YTBP, utilizing Wholesalers, travel agencies, consumers, and the media. "Taking into consideration the understanding of the Japanese mentality, the tourism industry, and how travel agents perform in Japan in order to propel tourism promotion in the Japanese market."

He also stressed the importance of providing informational materials in Japanese, and establishing closer relations with Japanese travel agencies, tour operator media, and to negotiate with Airline companies so that Japanese people can benefit from price reduction.

"Be aware that contact one or twice a year at workshop seminars and travel shows is not enough, so we need to concentrate on maintaining regular contacts through establishing a P.R rep-

resentative in Japan," he noted, adding that the tourism ministry should utilize, and communicate a clear message about the destination over and over through various sources such as: the media, promoting "Travel trade" by inviting Travel trade to Yemen, exhibiting in trade shows, organizing destination seminars, joint promotion campaigns with travel companies, and supported tour arrangements. "We should have a strategy to address wholesalers, tour operators, travel agencies responsible for package tour development, sale, and operation. This requires a distribution strategy and consumers and how to influence them on a direct level."

The Plan hasn't officially been approved yet, and has an implementation period of five years (2011 -2015), including two years for an awareness campaign, and three years for a marketing and promotion campaign.

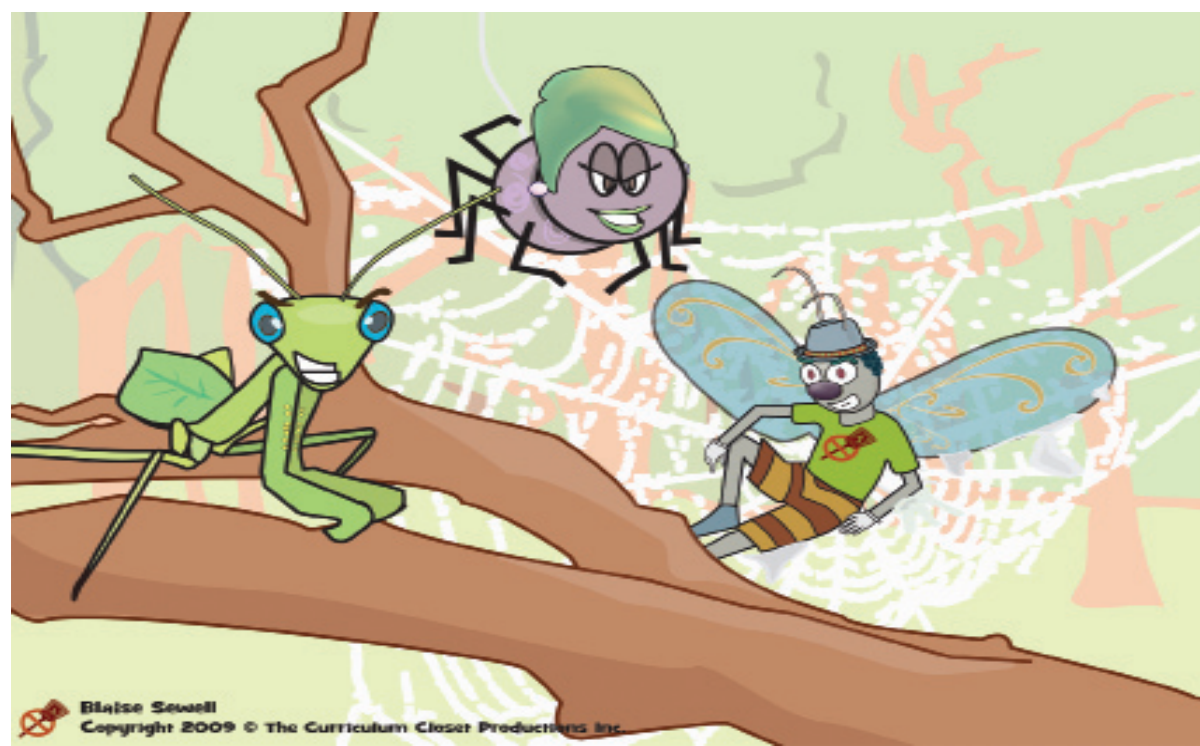
According to the researcher, financial resources may come from:

the government budget of the Ministry of Tourism, fees of Airline tickets collected by YTBP, sponsorship by patrons and advertisements, aide from donor agencies, and activating the role of stakeholders in the public and private sector.



President Saleh gifts former Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi a Yemeni dagger in 2005 appreciation for Japan's support and good relations with Yemen.

Fly on the Wall (José – Fly Reporter) part 1



By: Cathy Sewell
Illustrated by Blaise Sewell
Donated by The Curriculum Closet
(www.curriculumcloset.com)

Chapter One – Loud Noise in the Park
José had just dozed off on the leafy peak of the tallest tree when "KABOOM!" The sound echoed through City Park. The vibration from the explosion started the fly bouncing from one leaf to another, down, down, down the tree. "What..." José asked, thumping from leaf to leaf. "Was..." this time landing on his back, "that?" he finished plunging toward the ground.

José found himself stuck in the middle of a large spider web. He turned his head to look around while trying not to make the web move at all. Then José realized this was his friend Cindy's web. He knew that any

minute now she would come running from her hiding place to see what delicious meal had dropped into her stringy trap.

José and Cindy have been friends forever. In fact, Cindy is much older than José. She knew José's father, grandfather and great-grandfather. So on a regular basis José makes fun of Cindy's age by calling her names like "Grandma Cindy" or "Grannie" for short. And Cindy responds with her

own nicknames for José, such as "Junior" or "Little José."

"What wonderful treat has arrived?" Cindy came skipping across the web. José envied her ability to glide across her web, without getting stuck.

"Hey Cindygrams, it's just me," José announced, quite proud of his newest name for her.

"Oh José, when are you going to learn to stay out of my web?" Cindy teased. "It's a good thing we're both

insect buddies, or who knows what might have happened!"

"Uh, yeah Cindy... that's right... insect buddies. That's what we both are." José said nervously. Of course, every insect in City Park knows that spiders aren't insects, but José decided long ago that he didn't want to ruin the deal they had together. Cindy doesn't eat him whenever he gets stuck in her web. In return, José tells Cindy about the discoveries he finds from his adventures around the park.

"Hey Cindy, did you hear that loud noise?" Matty yelled from another branch. Matty always sneaks up on all of the other insects, in a way that only a praying mantis can. He blends in with the green parts of the tree and most of the time nobody can see him.

"Who said that?" José asked, just as Matty jumped to a closer branch. He had a big, creepy grin, which wasn't at all friendly but was usually the only way José could spot him! José suddenly felt a little vulnerable laying flat on his back in the sticky web.

"Hey José, what's up?" Matty asked. "Or should I say, 'What's down,' besides you?" Matty leaned his crooked green arm against the tree and threw his head back as he laughed at his own joke.

"You're so funny," José replied, even though he really didn't think Matty was funny at all. "Actually, I was just getting ready to go investigate the noise, but I decided to drop in and visit my old friend Cindy."

"I think the noise was probably a tree falling over," Matty guessed, slowly creeping toward the web.

"It sounded more like an explosion to me," Cindy offered, helping José get loose from her trap. She could tell that Matty was looking to pick a fight, and battles with a Mantis don't usually end well for the other insect.

"Remember those trucks we saw at the edge of the park yesterday?" José asked. "Maybe it has something to do with those." He tried to sound calm as

he watched Matty inch his way right up to the edge of Cindy's web.

"Oh, you might be right," Cindy said, suddenly very interested. "OK, now you're free Junior. Go find out what's going on!"

José jumped in the air to fly away just as he realized that his wings were still a little sticky, and he again tumbled toward the ground.

Insect world:

Research to find out the lifecycle of a fly compared to that of a spider.

Newspaper Connection:

Pretend that you already know what made the loud noise.

Write a short news story about what happened. Use your own local newspaper for examples of how to write a news story. Be sure to answer: Who, What, Why, Where, When and How.

Section I. Invitation for Bids Tender Advertisement no. (18) 2009of [Year] (One Envelope System - Technical + Financial)

The [Yemen Gulf of Aden Ports Corporation – Port of Aden] here announces its desire to invite bidders to Tender no. (18) for supplying [sheets of iron to manufacture mooring buoys] which will be financed from the following sources:

1-Government sources.

2-Self financing

Bidders who are willing to participate in this Tender have to submit written applications to [Tender committee Secretary] to receive Bidding Documents for an amount [20,000 Y.R.] non-refundable. Bidders have to apply during the official working hours at [Yemen Gulf of Aden Ports Corporation – Port of Aden- Tawahi

Tel : 00 967 02 200168

Fax : 00 967 02 201541

YGAPCplanning@y.net.ye

The deadline for selling BDs will be on [15. NOV. 2009].

Bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes addressed to the following (Yemen Gulf of Aden Ports Corporation – Port of Aden- Tawahi)

mentioning the project name, Tender number and name of bidder procurement department. The following documents must be contained in the bid:

- 1- A Bank Guarantee for a lump sum (6,000 \$) of (Six Thousand American Dollars.) Bank guarantee has to be valid for not less than (90 days) from date of Bid Opening. Bank guarantee may be substituted with a payable cheque.
- 2- Valid tax certificate (A foreign bidder who is not already doing business in Yemen may provide a copy of the appropriate VAT registration document from his home country.)
- 3- Valid Insurance Certificate. (Insurance certificate is required only from firms with employees in Yemen who are entitled to benefits from the Public Enterprise for Social Security in Yemen)
- 4- Valid registration and classification certificate. (In the event of an award of contract if the successful firm is not already registered it will be required to evidence registration with the concerned Entity in Yemen as a requirement for contract effectiveness.)
- 5- Samples (if required)
- 6- valid zakat card
- 7- valid soles tax certificate

A foreign bidder may provide the equivalent documents indicated in 2, 3 and 4 from its country of registration as appropriate.

The Dead line for submission and bids opening will be (Wednesday) [11:00 Am] on [18 .NOV. 2009]. Bids received after this deadline will be returned unopened.

Bid Opening will take place at [the hall of the Marketing Department] and at the same time mentioned above, in presence of bidders or their authorized representatives.

Potential bidders may inspect BDs before purchasing during working hours for a period (33 day) starting from advertisement.

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Extraordinary beauty of Al Mukalla

Al Mukalla is a beautiful city by the sea. Local and foreign tourists usually head to the city of Mukalla: Al-Ghuwizi palace, famous white houses, Al-Khour, the beaches, diving, sailboat and Al-Baldah festival starting every year around July 15.

By: Mohammed Gaoth
Yemenia magazine

Due to its status as a port city now and in the past, a blend of Arab, African and Indian heritage can be seen in the faces of the people of AlMukalla. The architecture of the city reflects its seaside character. For example, the minarets of many AlMukalla mosques resemble lighthouses and most of the buildings are white, very different from other places in Yemen. Another unique thing about Al Mukalla is the abundance of small carts selling sambosasa and other fried treats, delicious and cheap at only five to ten rials apiece. Also not to be missed is the fantastic seafood.

Some excellent activities in AlMukalla include a visit to the old city followed by strolling the seafont promenade.

The river area in the center of the city close to the sea. It is especially nice to visit at night when the city lights are reflecting off water. The best thing to do in this area during the evening is to sit in a café, eat dinner, smoke sheesha, and just enjoy the scenery and balmy evening weather.



After dinner you can walk across the pedestrian bridge and have some vanilla soft serve ice cream.

AlMukalla is worth visiting if for no other reason than its beaches. A series of public and private beaches are accessible in addition to a number of small islands reached by a negotiated price with fisherman.

Many visitors enjoy paying entrance

at the Hadhramaut hotel overlooking nice coast in order to take advantage of its excellent pool, beach and sports facilities and Yemeni and foreign food.

Another alternative is spending time at its neighbor, the dolphin of coast which boasts its private beach along with excellent food and sheesha served seaside. If you have some extra time in AlMukalla, you can make trip by Boat to a nice place to visit is the Qana

tourist complex Bir Ali, one and half hour west of AlMukalla by car. In Bir Ali, the beach is so beautiful it seems unreal. Attracting visitors from all over the globe who are keen on the superb diving, optional snorkeling and water skiing in the warm and clear water of the Foa coast, as well as sailing around a unique and spectacular landscape of volcanoes with multicolor lava flows it is one of the best spots of the Mukalla coast to combine best sailing with spectacular climbing, interesting snorkeling, swimming and unexplored emotional diving.

With their own distinctive climatic, environmental, geographical and natural characteristics, these if you are interested in diving you can enjoy the play out with dolphins in the soft sands and you can even see the movement of the sharks through the clean and clear water of the AlMukalla

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coast.

Diving in this coast is a magnificent sport and it is a good chance for investor to start projects of diving that would in return revive the tourist movement in the region. While AlMukalla is an excellent vacation or honeymoon destination, the summer months can be quite intense in this hot and humid port town beginning in May, temperatures start to rise and finally taper off in the

along the coasts of Mukalla and the neighboring coastal cities like Shaheer, Hami and Broom. The people of Hadhramout have their own system for diving up the year.

The year is divided into 28 stars. Each star lasts 13 days, except the last star of the year, which lasts 14 days. Al-Hagah, Hanaah, Baldah are names of some of the stars. It is a convention for the people of Mukalla to retire to

the seashore before the sunrise. Men, women, children all come together to get relief from the cold water of the sea.

They usually bring dates and coffee and Bathing in the sea during Al Baldah makes the old woman young. They also say that, a bath in the sea equals a yearly bloodletting.

The people of Mukalla have been bathing in the sea at same time every year for centuries. They believe that such baths treat diabetes, high blood pressure, and dermatitis such as heat rash caused by the hot summer weather. Bathing in the sea the Arabian Sea can be dangerous however and bathers are warned not to go into the sea during high tide. Many people were washed away last year because they took their baths in dangerous places.

Even though people were

late summer months . November and December are delightful times to visit. Al Baldah Festival. Starting every year around July 15, the coast of Mukalla becomes unusually cold during the otherwise hottest days of summer, and lasts for 13 days, or what is called here (Al Baldah Stare). During this time, the scorching temperature falls to 14degreeC and the sea becomes extremely cold. The cold-snap chills the city's humid weather and lures thousands of people from outside the city is packed with tourists. The local people have been looking forward to the strange and wonderful days of Baldah for months. They have had enough of the boiling days of summer and can't vacation outside the city because they don't afford it.

The last two weeks of July are probably the best time to be in Mukalla. It is a unique phenomenon to have a place of low temperature in a tropical area. But by beginning of July, the weather of Mukalla changes completely. This takes place only

advised to wash only during the early hours of the day and avoid washing in the afternoon, two people died last week and a third came perilously close to death. The ocean is also treacherous for fishermen who may get lost in the foggy weather. During this time, people mainly prefer to stay at home. Meteorologists and astronomers claim that the cold temperature of the sea along the coast of Hadhramout is a meeting point of different winds blowing from different directions. The winds push the cold deep water to the surface, but the west temperature is not as low as that along Hadhramout's coast. The local authority initiated an annual festival celebrating Al Baldah days five years ago aiming to attract more tourists.

The festival also aims to attract economic activity to the governorate. The first activity of the festival starts by bathing in the sea. From the early hours of the day, hundreds of families throng to the magical coast of the Arabian Sea.



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