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Inside: **2** Anti corruption civil society organizations alliance initiative **5** Street children search for their identity **8** A perspective on the expectations for the new tax laws

Yemenia Air crash investigations underway

By: Salma Ismail

SANA'A, July 1 — Amid Yemenia Air's compensation efforts and European Union threats to blacklist the national carrier, investigators continue to search for the cause of Tuesday's devastating crash that left a sole survivor.

Flight IY626, which was an Airbus A310-300 crashed early Tuesday into the Indian Ocean as it approached the Comoros islands, killing 153 people, including French nationals, Comorans, a Canadian and a Palestinian.. The 11-member crew included six Yemenis, one Ethiopian, one Indonesian, one Filipino and two Moroccans.

"The crash is the first in Yemenia Air's 50 year history," said Fahd Al-Ariki Director of Yemenia Air in Sana'a.

Yemenia Airways chairman Abdul-Khalek Al-Qadhi announced at a press conference that each of the affected families would be paid 20,000 euros, about USD 28,000. Al-Qadhi said the compensation was an advance on the insurance money the families could expect to receive, and not an admission of fault on the airline's part.

"Our passengers' safety is our top priority," Al-Ariki adds. "We are extremely sorry for the loss, and our condolences go out to the families. We will compensate them."

Yemenia is 51 percent owned by the Yemeni government and 49 percent owned by the Saudi Arabian government. Its fleet includes two Airbus 330-200s, four Airbus 310-300s and four Boeing 737-800s, according to the

company website.

Yemeni civil aviation Deputy Chief Mohammed Abdul Qader said it was too early to speculate on the cause of the crash and that the flight data recorder had not been found. The circumstances of the crash may become clearer once investigators find the plane's black box.

But, he added, that the plane landed in the middle of the night in 40mph winds. It had accumulated around 51,900 flight hours in some 17,300 flights.

The original flight left Paris on Monday for Marseille, and then Sana'a, where passengers switched to the older Airbus jet to continue to Djibouti and then onto Moroni, the capital of the Comoros Islands.

Yemen's transport minister said the doomed plane had passed an inspection in May, supervised by Airbus engineers, and it met international standards.

European Union Transport Commissioner Antonio Tajani said the airline had previously met EU safety checks, but would now face a full investigation amid questions as to why passengers switched planes in Sana'a.

Miracle a sea

It appears that the sole survivor is Bakari Baya, a 14-year-old girl of Comoran descent who was traveling with her mother. She was found floating 10 miles away from the islands almost 13 hours after the crash.

"I heard people talking around me in the darkness," she said. "And after a while I didn't hear any talking any



Families of the 153 victims of the Yemenia crash mourn while the sole survivor, 14-year-old Bakari (right most) Baya is reunited with her family.

more. I just hung on."

Her name in English means hope.

Nations to the rescue

French President Nicolas Sarkozy has asked the French military to help with the search operation. The French military has also sent medical teams and divers to search for bodies and wreckage of the jet.

The vice president of Comoros criticized French officials for not telling his nation about any suspected problems. "We wish the French could have informed us of any irregularity or any problems with that plane," Idi Nadhoim said Wednesday on French television.

"Most if not all of the planes of Yemenia are Airbus," he said. "They are supposed to be serviced by Airbus. We trust the civil aviation authorities of the countries we are working with," he

added. Sixty-six French nationals were onboard the jetliner, French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner said in a statement Tuesday.

Three bodies were found last night, but harsh sea conditions made the search difficult.

"Yemenia Air, along with a number of concerned agencies has sent investigative teams to the site," Al-Ariki said. A massive rescue effort is underway, which is being coordinated between the French Navy and an assortment of humanitarian organizations.

Blacklisting Yemenia

Last night, as the EU said they would consider blacklisting Yemenia, the state airline of Yemen. Angry Comorans in France accused the carrier of treating



Families of the 153 victims of the Yemenia crash mourn while the sole survivor, 14-year-old Bakari (right most) Baya is reunited with her family.

passengers like cattle. And they said their warnings about the airline's safety had been ignored.

Airline crashes in 2004 and 2005 that killed hundreds of Europeans prompted the EU to seek a uniform approach to airline safety through a common blacklist. The list is updated four times a year and is based on deficiencies found during checks at airports, antiquated aircraft and shortcomings spotted by non-EU airline regulators.

The next update of the list is due in about two weeks.

Indonesia, Democratic Republic of Congo and Swaziland are among more than 20 countries that don't meet the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration's safety standards. Those countries also have airlines on the EU's banned list, created in 2006 with more than 90

carriers. Airbus said the plane that crashed went into service 19 years ago and had been operated by Yemenia since 1999.

Although airlines in developing nations are considered the most risky by regulators, some of the deadliest crashes happen with first-world carriers. The Air France crash on June 1 that killed all 228 people onboard involved a larger Airbus model, an A330-200.

Airbus planes are under intense scrutiny. Last week the National Safety Transportation Board said it was investigating two reports of Airbus A330 planes experiencing airspeed and altitude malfunctions.

Yemenia met safety program standards of the International Air Transport Association trade group, and was added to its registry in May 2007.

Kidnappings cause decline in international tourism to Yemen

By: Khaled Al-Hilaly

SANA'A, July 1 — The tourism sector has recorded a decline in tourists to Yemen, following the kidnapping of nine foreigners in Sa'ada this June and the death of at least three of them.

Tourism was directly affected by the recent kidnapping. Many tourists have canceled their bookings, according to Deputy Minister of Tourism Abduljabar Saeed, and 53,000 tourists fewer tourists are expected in Yemen this year compared to last.

"The estimated damages in tourism are estimated at around 200 million dollars," he said. "Already, the number of employees in tourist businesses has declined, and they are on the brink of closing down."

Yahya Mohammed Abdullah Saleh, head of the Association of Yemen for Tourism and Travel Agencies called on all tourism agencies and Yemenis to help state security arrest and bring the perpetrators of last June's killings and kidnapping to justice.

"Kidnappers do not target a specific group or the political system, but the

stability of Yemen," he said.

He pointed out that kidnappings affect businesses in tourism and affect Yemenis' jobs in hotels, restaurants, travel agencies, transport and shops.

"About 2 million Yemeni citizens working in the tourism sector, including hotels and travel agencies, have been affected by the kidnapping," said Saleh. "An estimated 300,000 Yemeni families have lost their source of income and been severely affected by the decline in tourism revenues."

Hundreds of protesters, including employees in the tourism sector and members of civil society organizations, demonstrated on Monday against the kidnapping. The Association of Yemen for Tourism and Travel Agencies organized the protest.

Protesters marched in Sana'a from Al-Saba'een square to the German Embassy, carrying banners in Arabic, English and German holding banners reading "Our religion forbids the murder of innocents" and "No to killing".

Following the kidnapping on June



Hundreds of protesters, including employees in the tourism sector and members of civil society organizations, demonstrated on Monday against the kidnapping.

12, the bodies of two German nurses and a South Korean teacher were found in one of the valleys outside the town of Sa'ada. The fate of the others, a German family consisting of five members and a British engineer, is still unknown.

As a result of increased kidnapping incidents, the Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Tourism will soon provide all tourist vehicles with GPS tracking devices. An operating room is devoted to being in communication with vehicle drivers.

About 400,000 tourists and 690,000 Yemenis living abroad visited Yemen in 2008, a year when tourism revenues reached USD 460 million. During the same year, up to 3,654 tourist groups were escorted by state security, according to the Ministry of Interior.

During the first two months of this year, state security escorted up to 221 tourist groups traveling around Yemen.

The Yemen Tourism Promotion Board is about to launch a campaign in European countries like Germany, Italy, UK and France to promote tourism in Yemen and counter the country's bad reputation for kidnapping and terrorism.

Its marketing strategy will include visiting folklore bands and craftsmen to these countries to promote Yemen as an attractive cultural destination, and advertisements on the major Arab and international satellite channels.

Since 1999 when kidnapping became punishable by death, only three incidents out of 240, including last June's, have ended in fatalities.

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Their News

Inauguration of three Japanese Funded Grass-roots Projects in Ibb Governorate

The Embassy of Japan in Sana'a and the Health Office in AL-Odyin District, the Local councils in Hubaish and Sebra Districts, Ibb Governorate, held inauguration ceremonies on 27th and 28th June, 2009 for Japanese funded Grass-root projects, in the presence of Mr. Matahiro Yamaguchi, the Counselor /Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy of Japan in Yemen and other senior government officials from the local authorities concerned.

The Government of Japan extended three grants to fund the projects of improving health facilities and services in Hubaish and Al-Odyn Districts in 2006 and 2007 and the water supply system in Sebra District in 2008 with a total amount of US\$ 258,554.

Thousands of inhabitants benefit from these grants which aim at promoting health facilities and services and improving living standard in general.

During the Japanese fiscal year (April 2008 -March 2009), Japan funded 16 Grass-root projects in Yemen, totaling up to more than US\$1.2million. The Government of Japan extends several grants annually, to numerous NGOs in the Republic of Yemen under a Japanese scheme called "Grant Assistance for Grass-roots Human Security Projects", which aims at supporting small scale community based projects in the areas of basic human needs, such as primary health care, basic education, rural water supply and environment, in the developing countries.

UNHCR sponsors Islamic influence on international refugee law study

A new study published by UNHCR in cooperation with Naif Arab University and the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) says Islam's 1,400-year-old tradition of generosity toward people fleeing persecution has had more influence on modernday international refugee law than any other historical source.

The comparative study, commissioned by UN High Commissioner for Refugees Antonio Guterres and contained in a book by Cairo University Law Professor and Dean of the Law Faculty, Ahmed Abu Al-Wafa, is sched-

uled for release on Tuesday at Naif Arab University in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Presiding over the launch will be Prince Naif bin Abdul Aziz, Second Deputy Premier, Minister of Interior and head of Naif Arab University's Supreme Council, together with the High Commissioner, the president of the university and a representative of the OIC.

In his foreword to "The Right to Asylum Between Islamic Shari'ah and International Refugee Law: A Comparative Study," Guterres says the book shows that more than any other historical source, Islamic law and tradition underpin the modern-day legal framework upon which UNHCR bases its global activities on behalf of tens of millions of uprooted people. This includes the right of everyone to seek and enjoy asylum from persecution as well as prohibitions against sending those in need of protection back into danger.

"Even though many of those values were a part of Arab tradition and culture even before Islam, this fact is not always acknowledged today," Guterres writes. "The international community should value this 14-century-old tradition of generosity and hospitality and recognize its contributions to modern law."

In his study, Professor Abu Al-Wafa describes how Islamic law and tradition respect refugees, including non-Muslims; forbids forcing them to change their beliefs; avoids compromising their rights; seeks to reunite families; and guarantees the protection of their lives and property.

"Today, the majority of refugees worldwide are Muslims," Guterres writes. "This fact occurs at a time when the level of extremism -- ethnic and religious -- is on the rise around the globe, even in the world's most developed societies. Racism, xenophobia and populist fear-mongering manipulate public opinion and confuse refugees with illegal migrants and even terrorists."

"These attitudes have also contributed to misperceptions about Islam, and Muslim refugees have paid a heavy price. Let us be clear: refugees are not terrorists. They are first and foremost the victims of terrorism. This book reminds us of our duty to counter such attitudes."

The book also reflects UNHCR's

close association with the member states of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), which itself adopted in 1990 a Declaration on Human Rights in Islam stipulating that every human being fleeing persecution has the right to seek asylum and receive protection in another country.

In his foreword to the book, OIC Secretary-General Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu notes that the book "demonstrates the equitable and tolerant rules Islamic Shari'ah applies to refugees and how it is keenly concerned with their welfare and interests, while confirming human integrity and man's right to a free, decent life."

Naif Arab University's president, Professor Abdul-Aziz bin Saqr al-Ghamedi, said the theme of the study "gains importance in the light of the increase in recent years in the numbers of refugees in Arab and Islamic countries."

Prof. Ahmad At-Tayyib, president of al-Azhar University in Cairo, noted that the Arab concept of asylum or "ijarah" pre-dated Islam and was endorsed by Islamic Shari'ah "because it was one of the established good practices in their traditions and customs, involving noble manners and ethical values such as rescue of people in distress and protection of the oppressed."

Global groups make an urgent call to end deforestation

A coalition of youth, environmental groups, NGOs, Indigenous Peoples organizations and women's groups delivered a plea to negotiators asking them to ensure a strong climate deal and warning them that they will put our survival at risk if they do not act immediately to halt deforestation and the industrial logging of the world's primary forests (forest degradation).

"Survival is not negotiable. The climate deal signed in Copenhagen needs to ensure the survival of all countries and people. The immediate protection of the world's forests is no longer just an option, it is essential to ensure a safe climate for us and our kids," stated youth spokesperson Gemma Tillack.

The coalitions' plea asks delegates to ensure that any climate deal:

--Immediately ends deforestation, industrial scale logging in primary forests and the conversion of forests to

monoculture tree crops, plantations; --Protects the world's biodiverse forests including primary forests in developed countries (e.g. Australia, Canada and Russia) and tropical forests in developing countries;

--Respects the rights of women, Indigenous peoples and local communities and allow them to lead healthy and sustainable lives whilst stopping deforestation and industrial logging of primary forests in their country; and

--Does not allow developed countries to use forest protection and the avoiding deforestation and industrial scale logging of primary forests in other countries as an offset mechanism for their own emissions.

"The forest is our life, without the forests we would not exist. Avoiding deforestation and stopping industrial logging will allow Indigenous peoples to live and will secure our future," said Adolphine Muley, of the Union pour l'Emancipation de la Femme Autochtone in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

"We need to ensure that climate change mitigation plans do not drive the establishment of monoculture tree plantations. The rapid ongoing direct and indirect replacement of forests by plantations is a significant cause of social and environmental harm and contributes significantly to climate change," said Diego Cardona from Friends of the Earth -Colombia and the Global Forest

Coalition.

National Humanities Center Fellowships 2010-2011

The National Humanities Center offers 40 residential fellowships for advanced study in the humanities during the academic year, September 2010 through May 2011. Applicants must hold doctorate or equivalent scholarly credentials. Young scholars as well as senior scholars are encouraged to apply, but they must have a record of publication, and new Ph.D.s should be aware that the Center does not support the revision of a doctoral dissertation. In addition to scholars from all fields of the humanities, the Center accepts individuals from the natural and social sciences, the arts, the professions, and public life who are engaged in humanistic projects. The Center is also international and gladly accepts applications from scholars outside the United States.

Most of the Center's fellowships are unrestricted. Several, however, are designated for particular areas of research. These include environmental studies and history; English literature; art history; French history, literature, or culture; Asian Studies; and theology.

Fellowships are individually determined, the amount depending upon the needs of the Fellow and the Center's ability to meet them. The Center seeks to provide at least half salary and also covers travel expenses to and from

North Carolina for Fellows and their dependents.

Facilities and Services. Located in the Research Triangle Park of North Carolina, near Chapel Hill, Durham, and Raleigh, the Center provides an environment for individual research and the exchange of ideas. Its building includes private studies for Fellows, conference rooms, a central commons for dining, lounges, reading areas, a reference library, and a Fellows' workroom. The Center's noted library service delivers books and research materials to Fellows, and support for information technology and editorial assistance are also provided. The Center locates housing for Fellows in the neighboring communities.

Fellowships are supported by the Center's own endowment, private foundation grants, alumni contributions, and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Applicants submit the Center's form, supported by a curriculum vitae, a 1000-word project proposal, and three letters of recommendation. You may request application material from Fellowship Program, National Humanities Center, Post Office Box 12256, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27709-2256, or obtain the form and instructions from the Center's website. Applications and letters of recommendation must be postmarked by October 15, 2009.

MTN community service campaign concluded


Raed Ahmed MTN executive manager in Yemen encouraged the private sector companies to stand together and shoulder their responsibility towards the community similarly to what MTN is doing in Yemen. He said this at the conclusion of a 21 day community service campaign the company carries out as an annual tradition for the third time. "This campaign comes as a part of MTN's international strategy to include private sector in developing and serving the local communities and contributing to the state's efforts in infrastructure, solid development projects and long term sustainable development," he said.



This year the campaign included governorates outside Sana'a and included many activities such environment protection, awareness raising, volunteer and charity work. Noor Baabad deputy minister of social affairs commended MTN's social participation saying that private sector's involvement in charity and development activities would contribute to reducing corruption and bad practices. During the 21 day campaign, 800 MTN staff members worked on a greenery project whereby they planted trees, cleaned parks and evened

playground areas. The campaign included sports activities and maintenance of sport stadiums. They also cleaned mosques, and historical places around the country. Traffic awareness sessions and education on malaria and how to combat it as well as painting some schools. Throughout the campaign a total of 30 projects were carried out and medical equipment were dedicated to some of the state hospitals including a dialysis unit for Thawara Hospital in Sana'a. a bus for local transportation was also donated from the company for Al-Rahama Orphanage for girls.





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<p>Physician</p> <p>Qualifications:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Medical doctor, practical experience in public health is an asset. 2. Ability and experience in monitoring and leading medical team. 3. Previous experience in school health is an asset. 4. Experience in first aid and health education is an asset. 5. Previous work experience in a humanitarian context is mandatory 6. Experience in assessment of a medical needs. 7. Arabic, English is compulsory, French is an asset. 8. Ability to write assessment, monitoring reports. 9. Diplomatic, able to communicate with a variety of people. 10. Flexible attitude, to adjust to a different culture. 11. Good sense of organization is essential. 	<p>Laboratory Technicien</p> <p>Qualifications:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Diploma in laboratory science. 2. At least 7 years of practical experience in laboratory work especially microbiology. 3. Previous training to conduct Kato Katz stool test is an asset. 4. Previous experience in school health is an asset. 5. Training in safety measures during laboratory work is mandatory. 6. Previous work experience in a humanitarian context is mandatory. 7. Ability to work with team spirit. 8. Experience in writing laboratory reports. 9. Arabic, English is compulsory, French is an asset. 10. Diplomatic, able to communicate with a variety of people. 11. Flexible attitude, to adjust to a different culture, medical context. 12. Good sense of organization is essential.

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Lufthansa's Top Performance Awards

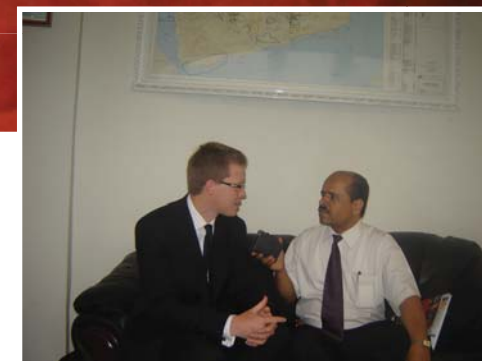
The celebration was well attended by agents, clients and friends of Lufthansa as well as representatives of the press and social figures. Because of the clients interest in Lufthansa as a preferred carrier in the Yemeni market, the airline is increasing its flights from Sana'a to Frankfurt to a four times a week service connecting Yemen to Germany and onwards to a total of 107 destinations in Europe and 23 cities in the US, a route network matched by none other airline in the market. The state-of-the-art aircraft operated is the Airbus A330-300 as well as the A340-300 with a three class onboard product: First, Business, & Economy Class. After successfully installing a new In-flight Entertainment System (IFE) on all A330 & A340-600 aircraft, Lufthansa's A340-300 is well underway with the fitting of: Impressive ergonomic economy class seats guaranteeing great seat comfort and more legroom, complemented with a highly varied IFE system and international music ensuring top entertainment. The rest of the fleet will be ready by the beginning of 2010. "Despite the global financial situation, the demand for air traffic in the region is strong. Being recognized as one of the leading international carriers for the corporate travelers, we see a lot of market potential and opportunities for us, which will further strengthen our market position. Having witnessed the success of the previous year we now took the next step to further enhance our schedule for the benefit of our customers," said Hedley. Lufthansa's best intercontinental product is the attractive Super Special offers of YER 99,999 to Europe and YER 199,999 to North America available for customers throughout the year. The incentive products for loyal customers has been strengthened including the Frequent Flier program - Miles & More, Jet Friends for our frequent Young Junior fliers. For the corporate segment - Partner Plus Benefit for Small & Medium Enterprises, Corporate Incentive Program for the larger companies, & Oil & Energy Club for the Oil & Energy worker. Hedley emphasized that for Lufthansa, excellent service on ground is equally important as on board, which is reflected in the ongoing investment of the airline in its lounges and terminal facilities which speaks for itself. By 2013, Lufthansa will have invested around 150 million Euros in the renovation and improvement of its lounges across the globe. Lufthansa offers its customers a lounge portfolio which covers 65 lounges worldwide plus 660 lounges operated by our Star Alliance partners. And since January it opened a Welcome Lounge at Frankfurt Airport. The first lounge of its kind in Lufthansa's worldwide network. The lounge concept is geared to the needs of passengers arriving on long-haul Lufthansa flights and can be used exclusively by First and Business Class passengers as well as by status customers. A state of the art 1200 Square meter lounge which provides our arriving passengers in Frankfurt, a perfect start to their day: They can relax, recharge their batteries and freshen up in the new Welcome lounge.

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Ministry of Oil, BMT - Safir Services sign treaty to protect environment



By: Mahmoud Assamiee

Sana'a, June 29- Yemeni Ministry of Oil and Minerals and British BMT Cordah Limited signed on Monday a treaty for protecting environment in Yemen.

The treaty, which was signed by Minister of Oil and Minerals Emir al-Aidrous and BMT's Principal Consultant Stuart Hume, stipulates on preparing policies and regulations to study and evaluate environmental effect in all productive sectors in Yemen.

The treaty includes frameworks, legal and technical legislations and general policy concerning contamination resulted by oil and gas exploration. It stipulates on preparing controlling by-law and national strategy of complete management,

having database over wastes and chemicals as well as curing waters. The treaty also includes evaluating current environment effects emanated from oil and gas industry, surveying and categorizing and managing accompanied chemicals and wastes to keep pace with clean product principles and industrial ecology as well as preparing and carrying out training and qualification programs in field job security and safety.

Following signing the treaty, Minister al-Aidrous stated that the treaty aims at creating complete national system to manage chemical and wastes resulted during oil and gas exploration and production and providing services consulting services in regard to carrying out environmental and social effect offshore and onshore. Preparing national strategy concerning this issues also

included.

He added that the treaty is in line with president's directions concerning protecting environment in areas of oil and gas exploration and working on carrying out projects contribute in improving and developing local societies.

"We are her to assist the ministry of oil in preparing environment policies and standards to management of oil and gas industry in Yemen across the whole country. For example looking to way to manage chemical mismanage and waste mismanage so that the potential of soil contamination," BMT's Representative Stuart

What is important, he said, is any country has a national framework in environmental regulation, very clear, very concise and very effective which allow to international companies to look at that country

for investment.

"The most exiting thing today, is the fact our company will start a long process. The treaty is the first in Yemen, and I hope this will be the start of a long relationship between BMT and the ministry of oil in Yemen," he said.

He further said, the treaty is going to prevent allot of pollution from occurring and is going to prepare a framework so that all oil companies can operate within the country to a high standards, international standards like those applied in GCC's countries.

"The treaty is the first types of treaties have ever been signed in the country. I talked with many people about this. We will spent along time in the future in this building across the next 6-7 months," he concluded.

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VT photo by Amira Al-Sharif



American Ambassador Steven Seche with the members of Dar Al-Salam organization

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US Ambassador visits Dar Al-Salam

By: Amira Al-Sharif
For the Yemen Times

SANA'A, July 1 – US Ambassador to Yemen, Steven Seche, was impressed when he paid a visit to Dar Al-Salam Organization yesterday, where he was exposed to many successful programs implemented by the organization.

Dar Al-Salam members said the visit will help them carry out their future goals in Yemen and gulf countries, as well as cement the infrastructure of the organization.

victims of armed conflict.

"The organization has lost 30 of its members in the line of service and several have been injured while performing humanitarian duties. Their sacrifice has earned them respect and the trust of local and international communities," Al-Marwani said. "The general aim of the organization is to combat armed violence and put an end to the growing culture of religious extremism brought to the community."

Through field work and education, Dar Al-Salam aims help communities

It also encourages the community leaders and women to participate in various activities. It also targets mosques, schools, common facilities and tries to bring a new message into every house in Yemen. It connects the educational effort with public rallies, which demand national laws to put an end to problems," Al-Marwani said.

"The organization planned 22 public rallies against arms violence and extremism in several governorates, representing a shift in the community to supporting the organization's message," Al-Marwani added.

"The general strategy consists of 29 programs to be implemented during the coming five years to limit and minimize the flow of weapons, violence and extremism in tribal society and to enhance the national policy which aims to minimize their impacts from 2009 to 2013," he added.

"Regarding existence of weapons, although there are no national or international studies but we estimate that the number weapons in hands of civilian people in Yemen are 60 million," Al-Marwani concluded.

"Other studies cite between 15 and 18 million weapons in hands of civilians. Despite the exaggerations, we should admit the extent of the problem," he said.

The organization selected the governorate with the most weapons, which is Dhamar. There they further narrowed their study to three districts Al-Hada, Anis, and Wesab.

From the results of the study comparisons and recommendation will be made that can further address the issue.



Members of Dar Al-Salam showcase the tribal agreement which is signed by 260 tribes and promises not to shoot firearms during the different social occasions.

"We in the American Embassy appreciate the efforts of Dar Salam," Seche said. "We are also impressed with their dialogue on religious tolerance and combating illegal weaponry."

He examined the Yemeni Consensus Document Against Violence which the organization convinced 260 tribes to sign.

"They have already collected the signatures, but are still waiting for implementation," Abdul Rahman Al-Marwani, the chairman of Dar Al-Salam Organization said.

The goals of the agreement include combating violence, bringing murderers to justice, and reducing the incidence of gunfire. They hope to be achieved through cooperation with sheiks, local government and educated elites in five governorates. The agreement is expected to be expanded throughout Yemen.

Dar Al-Salam, which means the House of Peace, was founded in 1997 and recognized officially by the government in 2002. By 2009, the organization had 3400 members.

The organization was founded in order to address five major issues. They include mediation to solve tribal armed conflicts, and combating kidnapping crimes, religious extremism, the spread of small arms among civilians and supporting

channel their resources towards development instead of buying arms.

It also aims to usher the community into a new era free of hostility, revenge, bigotry, fears and promote tolerance, trust and social partnership

"The organization encourages local, regional and international donors to support the projects and the programs.

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