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As stats on war-related devastation are released,

Gov't committee resumes Sa'ada field visit to complete assessment

By: Yemen Times Staff

SA'ADA, Aug. 6 — A government committee authorized by President Ali Abdullah Saleh to assess damage from the Sa'ada fighting resumed its field visit to the war-torn governorate on Sunday to complete its assessment, a government source told various media outlets on condition of anonymity.

Local Administration Ministry Undersecretary Akram Al-Sheikh stated to the Yemeni army-affiliated 26September.net that the committee will continue its assessment in Sa'ada according to a previously specified schedule of priorities.

He expects the assessment of war damage in Bani Hushaish area, situated east of Sana'a, to begin once the committee completes its findings in Sa'ada. At its weekly meeting on Tuesday, the Yemeni Cabinet directed the committee to immediately assess damage in Sa'ada governorate and Bani Hushaish area in Sana'a governorate and then forward complete reports to it in order to approve any required compensation and resume reconstruction.

Cabinet ministers reviewed an initial progress report on the damage assessment resulting from the four-year fighting between the Yemeni army and Houthi supporters in Sa'ada and other areas in various development and service spheres. Local Administration Minister Abdulgader Hilal presented the

Stats on war-related devastation

According to the report, the fighting damaged as many as 4,141 homes, 64 fruit and vegetable farms and 24 poultry farms in several Sa'ada areas. The report adds that some 201 public facilities and installations also were partially or completely destroyed in the fighting.

Education topped the list of public facilities affected by the war, which damaged 116 primary and secondary schools. The health sector came in second with 36 facilities damaged, while the endowment and religious guidance sector came in third with 26 facilities and mosques either partially or completely destroyed.

A field subcommittee, which is part of the larger government committee, decided at a meeting late last month to form field teams at the governorate and district levels to contribute to the damage assessment process.

Sa'ada war included in study center

The Yemeni Center for Strategic Studies

last week launched its annual report for 2007, which included issues such as public protests, the war in Sa'ada and dialogue between the various political parties on forming an elections committee and election amendments, among other issues, NewsYemen.net reported.

It pointed out that the report significantly dealt with the Sa'ada conflict and reflections upon it, as well as both domestic and foreign powers' stance toward the conflict.

Fighting between Houthi loyalists, who are members of the Shi'ite Muslim Zaidi sect led by Abdulmalik Al-Houthi, and Yemeni government forces flared following previous attempts to end hostilities in the northern governorate of Sa'ada, including a 2007 Qatari mediation that was revived this

Continued on page 2

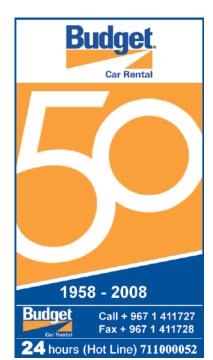


An official report revealed that the Sa'ada war left more than 4,000 homes damaged and more than 200 public facilities partially or completely destroyed.

Jury declares Yemeni inmate "guilty" in first Gitmo war-crimes trial

By: Sarah Wolff

GUANTANAMO BAY, Aug. 6 -Yemeni national Salim Ahmed Hamdan, Osama Bin Laden's former driver, was declared guilty on five out of eight counts of providing material support to terrorists and conspiracy yesterday by a six-member military jury in the first war crimes trial to be held by the United







States since World War II.

However, the jury was split when it came to convicting Hamdan of conspiracy and found him not guilty of two of the weightier conspiracy charges. Though he evaded the two strongest charges, Hamdan could still be sentenced to life in prison in the U.S. when the trial resumes. The defendant reportedly cried shortly after the verdict was announced.

The jury entered deliberations on Monday at the United States naval base at Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, where the trial took place. Sentencing was scheduled for yesterday afternoon, past presstime in Sana'a.

The defense team previously voiced their fears publicly that the military commission trial would produce a rubber-stamped guilty verdict for their client. A Pentagon spokesperson also announced Tuesday that Hamdan might remain in detention even if he was found not guilty, a fact that throws the reasons for conducting trials at all into question.

"Even if he is acquitted of the charges before him, he'd still be considered an enemy combatant and therefore, would continue to be subject to...detention," Pentagon spokesperson Geoff Morrell said at a Defense Department press conference Tuesday. "In the near term, at least, we'd consider him an enemy combatant and still a danger and likely still would detain him for some period of time thereafter," Morrell added.

Born in Hadramout in 1970, Hamdan worked for Bin Laden during the Al-Qaeda attacks on both the USS Cole destroyer in Aden in 2000 and the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks on U.S. soil. When U.S. forces captured Hamdan during

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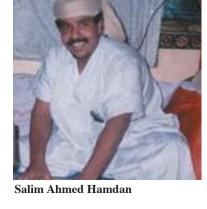
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their invasion of Afghanistan in November of 2001, he was caught by members of the Afghani Northern Alliance with two surface-to-air missiles in the trunk of his vehicle and turned over to the U.S.

Hamdan's case centered on the level of his involvement in Al-Qaeda, not whether or not he was a member of Al-Oaeda, since he had admitted to working for Bin Laden and swearing an oath of allegiance to him.

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Al-Qaeda's war in Yemen

fierce clashes as relations cool between Yemen and U.S.

By: Ageel Al-Halali For The Yemen Times

SANA'A, Aug. 6 - A leading Al-Qaeda figure in Yemen has threatened to execute armed attacks "at larger scales" if the Yemeni government doesn't release his detained colleagues from prison.

This comes a day after a government announcement that it is interrogating suspects in the July 25th suicide bombing that targeted a camp in Hadramout governorate's Sayoun city, 794 kilometers east of Sana'a.

In a taped recording, Yemeni Al-Qaeda leader Hamza Al-Quaity stated, "Your worries are our worries, your sorrows are ours and your grief is our grief. We'll never forget you, Allah willing. As for you, oh [Ariel] Sharon of Yemen, [Political Security director] Ghalib Ba Gumesh, you'll see how our colleagues will be freed from your prisons, Allah willing."

Local and Arab media broadcast part

Al-Qaeda has called on its support-

Threats of large-scale attack and ers to attack American facilities and direct heavy and damaging attacks upon foreign facilities, but to avoid attacking the Yemeni Army and police.

Security forces have been chasing the 38-year-old Al-Quaity, who was

born in Hadramout, for the past two and a half years since he and 22 other Al-Qaeda members escaped from Sana'a's Political Security Prison in Sana'a in early 2006.

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TIMES

Hereditary diseases are threatening in-bred families, warn doctors

By: Saddam Al-Ashmori For the Yemen Times

SANA'A, Aug. 6 — Yemeni doctors warn that hereditary diseases caused by "getting married into relatives" represent a major danger to Yemeni society. Though many Yemenis prefer marry into same family with their relatives for considerations related to tribal and social heritage, doctors said that the practice should be discontinued, following reports about a family of 200 people all carrying the same hereditary disease.

Saba News Agency reported last week that a "family living in a difficult situation" in the Bait Murad region of Hajja governorate, is suffering due to a disease that caused the death of 25 of its members in addition to permanently debilitating another 12 family members. The report said that this hereditary disease is also threatening the rest of the family's members.

The disease, which was unknown at the time of publication, began appearing in the family in 1932. This find attracted the attention of a group of doctors who said that the disease is a "dominant inheritance" that increased due to marriage between family members

The occurrences have dramatically increased among the third generation of the family's members.

A dominant hereditary disease is one in which the infection of males and females, as well as children and adults, are similar. According to doctors, the family's disease may be "hereditary cerebella-spinal dystrophy," which

infects the cerebellum in the brain and leads to the inability to move or talk. It also affects the spinal cord and causes atrophy in the limbs of sufferers.

Doctors said that in the case of dominant hereditary diseases, "solutions are complicated and difficult," pointing out that the treatment process may take dozens of years. They confirmed that the only solution to such health problems is through a "commitment to premarriage DNA testing for the expected couple." They suggested that alreadymarried couples should conduct test on their fetus during the first months of the woman's pregnancy to make sure the child will not be harmed.

Mohammed Murad, 24, the only person in the family to hold a high school certificate, said that the first infection in the family was reported about 70 years ago and that the disease originally only affected family members who were over 40 years old. However, during the last 10 years, many of the occurrences of the disease were reported among children.

Hereditary diseases spreading in Vemen

Although there are no statistics regarding hereditary diseases in Yemen, Dr. Najib Ghanim, the Chairman of Health and Population Committee in Parliament, said that hereditary diseases of various forms spread in Yemen among people who get married to their relatives, something commonly acknowledged throughout the world. The most common hereditary diseases in Yemen are Thalassemia and Sickle Cell Anemia, which both affect the

production of blood cells.

"As a result of the risks of hereditary diseases, the Safe Motherhood Project adopted health in Parliament in cooperation with the Ministry of Health tried to oblige both people in the expected couple to get premarital tests before making the marriage contract to ensure they are disease free," said Ghanim, adding that the project wasn't approved by the Parliament "as some members objected some terms in the law that contain sanctions."

He stressed that Yemeni society should be educated and made aware of the dangers of hereditary diseases as well as the importance of pre-marital testing in order to prevent the expected couple from passing on any potential hereditary diseases to their children. "If the tests prove the couple carries a hereditary disease, they shouldn't get married to each other as the risk of potential infection will be more than 50 percent," He further pointed out that Yemen's Thalassemia Association registered 850 affected families in Sana'a alone.

Dr. Ali Al-Meeri, the Vice-dean of Sana'a University's Faculty of Medicine, said that the university has specialized centers to study such phenomena and to document all cases in the country.

He added that other countries have hereditary diseases, but Yemen still suffers from a lack of social awareness about these issues.

Al-Meeri confirmed that an education campaign should be launched in order to inform people about hereditary diseases and their risks.

Imams should educate on population growth and economic development, says Sana'a U. professor

SANA'A, Aug. 5 — In a lecture delivered at Saba Center for Strategic Studies, Dr. Ahmed Al-Rafiq, Professor of Economics at Sana'a University, said that Imams are responsible for educating the public on economic matters too, as well as the usual moral and societal issues.

Al-Rafiq said that Imams should be aware of the economic and social situations in the country in order to reflect these issues in their sermons and deal with them in a moderate way, away from extremism that is a result of ignorance of society's real issues.

Al-Rafiq said that some preachers don't include economic and development issues in their sermons nor do they show the relationships of these issues to dangerous practices such as terrorism, extremism, drug selling and smuggling, adding that each of these issues has an economic effect on the entire country.

He confirmed that educating extremists and guiding them back onto the right path is the duty of preachers, who should also hold dialogue sessions with extremists to teach them about Islam's real principles, including tolerance.

In his lecture Al-Rafiq, stated that the high rate of population growth is one of the issues that preachers should pay attention to more often in their sermons and religious lectures, particularly given that Yemen's population is growing at an estimated 3.5 percent per year – one of the

highest growth rates in the world. Al-Rafiq maintained that this high rate should leave no scope for more argument as its risks are clear to all people in the society.

"Every five minutes, the population increases with another baby," said Al-Rafiq, who pointed out that economic resources in Yemen are limited and can't cover the demands of this rapid population growth.

He said that preachers should participate in the process of educating people about the negative effects of rapid population growth on the development and economy of the country. He noted that developing people to be educated and healthy represented the major building blocks of the country's economy.

"Family planning is the only way to avoid the risks of high population growth," he said, noting that religious scholars approved the process of spacing out childbirths according to Islamic regulations. "We should work to form smaller, happier families and a strong nation whose members are strong and happy," he said.

"The major task facing preachers is to highlight in their sermons the concept that the health and happiness of a family as well as strength of the country as a whole involves planning for and spacing childbirths," said Al-Rafiq.

According to him, it is in the interest of the society as a whole if mothers are healthy, and not physically and mentally depleted from repeated childbearing, deliveries and feeding her babies. He also said that it benefits no one when fathers are financially exhausted by the expenditures they have to make to adequately sustain their large families. "At the same time, the government shouldn't be exhausted and be made unable to offer services to people as required [because of the huge population increase]," Al-Rafiq added.

Al-Rafiq also said that preachers shouldn't be restricted to ivory towers of religious learning, maintaining that they should instead be open to the social, cultural and media surroundings in which they exist. "Preachers' activities shouldn't be confined only to educating people who go to mosques; they should go to people wherever they are - in schools, institutes, universities, factories, farms, unions and camps," he said, maintaining that the major awakening of the society must involve discussion of the problems in order to offer solutions.

Al-Rafiq concluded that the successful preacher is the one who is educated and aware of world around him. He also should know the requirements of every problem and give solutions as well as know how to order priorities. He said additionally that the government should include economics classes in school, institute and university curricula in order to build up country-wide economic knowledge.

GPC and JMP agree on amending Election Law

Political detainees top list of unresolved issues

SANA'A, Aug. 5 — Despite an announced agreement between the ruling General People's Congress and the Joint Meeting Parties on a government project to amend the Election Law presented to Parliament last week, the JMP-affiliated Socialist Party boycotted Tuesday's Parliament sessions dedicated to discussing the amendments.

Further, the Socialist Party has determined to boycott all such parliamentary sessions until all political detainees are released and the situation in the southern governorates is resolved.

Member of Parliament Mohammed Saleh Al-Qubati, head of the Socialist parliamentary bloc and JMP spokesman, said, "It's unreasonable to move forward regarding the elections without releasing these political detainees because this issue relates to all agreements and dialogue issues involving the ruling party."

He continued, "Other unresolved issues remain under discussion, including the 'relative list' and women's representation in Parliament, as well as the mechanism of casting votes in the Supreme Commission for Elections and Referendum."

He pointed out that the Joint Meeting Parties demand that "voting within the [SCER] should be based on agreement and a majority on issues such as declaring election results and legislation."

Al-Qubati further affirmed that they agree with the GPC to form the election commission from political parties, not judges, noting that choosing committee members will be the last point of discussion with the GPC in their bilateral meetings.

JMP and GPC sources confirm that the two sides reached an agreement on amending the Election Law after opposition parties previously threatened to boycott the upcoming April 2009 parliamentary elections if they don't reach an agreement with the ruling party.

"GPC and JMP leaders agreed on the Election Law amendment suggested by the government," reported Tariq Al-Shami, head of the GPC's media circle, noting that the amendments include 30 articles and that there is "no disagreement in this regard between the two

The agreement between the JMP and the ruling party regarding the Election Law and the SCER stipulates that the JMP will have four members, includ-

ing the head of the commission, while the GPC will have five members, according to a source wishing to remain anonymous.

The same source pointed out that the amendment project includes widening the scope of court appeals and promoting guarantees of impartiality in public works, finance and official media during election campaigns.

Further, he said the amendments include enhancing the current terms, which affirms the SCER's independence and impartiality, and organizing election security, in addition to specifying a mechanism to form security committees as a responsibility of the SCER. However, JMP Supreme Council Chairman Abdulwahab Al-Anisi denies any dialog between the JMP and the ruling GPC, pointing out that what's occurring is only "communication, not dialogue" because dialogue involves certain conditions differentiating "dialogue" from "communication." "The failure of dialogue between the JMP and the GPC is a result of the derogatory manner in which the GPC treats such dialogue, as well as its lack of commitment to the results of such dialogue," Al-Anisi

TIMES

Vacancy for reporters and editors

Yemen Times is seeking to employ full time reporters and editors to work at the newspaper's editorial department starting from September 2008.

Requirements for reporters/ journalists:

- Excellent command of English and Arabic writing, speaking and reading
- Ability to move around and do field work
- Good research, investigation and communication skills

Requirements for editors:

- Experience in editing and revising stories and reports
- Excellent command of English and Arabic writing, speaking and reading
- Ability to move around and do field work
- Good research, investigation and communication skills

Interested candidates should send their resumes along with a 300 words essay as to why they want to work with Yemen Times Editorial department to **yteditor@gmail.com** no later than 15 August 2008.

Continued from page 1

Gov't committee resumes Sa'ada field visit to complete assessment

These so-called Houthi "rebels," as the government calls them, reported two weeks ago that tribal mediation had succeeded in ending the fighting.

The study center report also focused on national poverty indicators, price hikes and inflation.

Further, it considered protests and peaceful struggle for rights as a positive phenomenon within Yemeni society in light of the political development the nation is witnessing. As center Chairman Mohammed Al-Afandi, noted, "It's every Yemeni's constitutional right to strive for legal rights."

Several politicians and intellectuals attended the report's launch ceremony.

Jury declares Yemeni inmate "guilty"

His defense attorneys portrayed him as a simple man seeking a decent salary and who had no knowledge of the terrorism plots his boss was planning.

Military prosecutors attempted to convince the jury that Hamdan wasn't just a

mere errand boy, but intimately involved with the Al-Qaeda organization, even transporting weapons for the group on several occasions.

Hamdan said in April that he would

boycott his trial, but in the end, he did appear in court, although he missed one day due to being taken to the hospital to treat a high fever.

On Tuesday, the prosecution asked the judge, Navy Capt. Keith Allred, to recall the jury and issue new instructions about what constitutes a war crime, according to a report in the Jurist, a U.S.-based web site that follows legal news.

Allred denied the request – which would have amounted to a mistrial – on the basis that the jury already had entered deliberations. The defense was reportedly satisfied with the judge's response.

Hamdan and his lawyers will still have the chance to appeal his verdict, which could very well end up in front of the U.S. Supreme Court, as his lawsuit, Hamdan v. Rumsfeld, did back in 2006.

In that case, the U.S. Supreme Court decided in favor of Hamdan, whose lawyers successfully challenged the military commissions system established by U.S. President George Bush and his

administration. The decision stated that such military commissions were against both U.S. military procedure and Geneva Conventions. However, the U.S. Congress subsequently passed the Military Commissions Act of 2006, thereby allowing Hamdan's recent trial by military commission.

While other "high-profile" detainees like Khalid Sheikh Mohammed and Yemeni Ramzi Bin Al-Shibh (Bin Al-Shaibah) have had hearings before military tribunals, Hamdan's was the first case to actually go to trial and Hamdan has the ignominious title of being the first person convicted by the trials. The Bush administration has been harangued by human rights groups and the international media, who claim that military commission trials are biased and deny defendants their legal rights

Around 100 Yemenis remain detained at Gitmo and statements by the U.S. Defense Department indicate that there will be approximately 20 more military commission trials like Hamdan's.

U.S. movie star and activist George Clooney recently acquired the rights to "The Challenge," a book based on Hamdan's life. The book also covers the

lawsuit Hamdan and his lawyer, Navy Lt. Cmdr. Charles Swift, brought to the U.S. Supreme Court in 2006 that established rights of *habeas corpus* – a defendant's right to know and challenge the charges against him – for those being held as enemy combatants at Guantánamo Bay.

Clooney supposedly is considering playing the role of Swift in the movie

Al-Qaeda's war in Yemen

Al-Quaity has claimed responsibility for bombing the camp in Sayoun, which resulted in killing one soldier and the executor of the attack, a Hadramout University Faculty of Medicine student, and injuring 11 others.

Yemen's Defense Ministry announced

on its web site Tuesday that it has begun interrogating six suspected Al-Qaeda members for participating in bombing the Hadramout camp. It reported that it had arrested the group in various areas of the district following a widespread investigation. They were arrested after their Al-Qaeda connections were confirmed.

Yemeni security forces currently are interrogating 21 individuals accused of executing terrorist attacks in Abyan, located 427 kilometers southeast of Sana'a. Journalist Ahmed Ghurab sees the Yemeni government falling between the hammer of Al-Qaeda, which threatens to attack both government and foreign facilities, and the anvil of Washington, D.C., which is requesting the handover of Al-Qaeda commanders, Jamal Al-Badawi and Jabr Al-Bana.

Ghurab adds, "I believe the future of this conflict between the Yemeni government and Al-Qaeda will become fiercer unless there's stronger coordination between the government and Washington."

According to observers, Yemen has been nominated in the near future as suitable ground for typical Al-Qaeda operations, particularly since Al-Qaeda's Saudi Arabia branch recently has called upon its supporters to move to Yemen to avoid arrest by Saudi security authori-

In May, a U.S. report advised the White House not to abandon supporting Yemen and to reconsider decreasing its financial support for Yemen. The report

indicated that leaving Yemen alone to face challenges coming from the south and northern parts of the country will turn things in Al-Qaeda's favor.

The U.S. and Yemen have witnessed a cooling of diplomatic relations since late 2007 after Washington was dissatisfied with the Yemeni government's measures to fight terrorism.

According to the report issued by West Point Academy's Anti-Terrorism Center, under the leadership of Nasir Al-Wahishi, Al-Qaeda has amended its strategy for 2008 from conducting massive attacks to lighter and more frequent attacks to compel foreigners to leave the country, thereby causing major damage to the Yemeni government.

Yemen has witnessed 20 terrorist attacks this year that have killed 35 people, including six soldiers and two tourists. According to estimates, 91 individuals have been injured, most of them Yemenis. Al-Qaeda has claimed responsibility for some of the attacks, including the two attacks that targeted the U.S. and Italian Embassies in Sana'a this past March and April, in addition to a January attack on a Belgian tourist group in

In Brief

SANA'A

Sana'a University, Military

Academy sign cooperation protocol Sana'a University and the Higher Military Academy signed on Tuesday a protocol on the academic and scientific cooperation.

The protocol, which was signed by the rector of Sana'a university Khalid Tamim and the academy's director Abdu-Rabu al-Kushaibi, aims at enhancing the academic and scientific cooperation and exchanging experiences between the two sides.

Al-Kushaibi hailed cooperation between the two foundations, mentioning interest of President Ali Abdullah Saleh in the academic and scientific aspects.

For his part, Tamim made reference to the achieved efforts which have been done by the academy and its outcomes that serve the development issues and strategic building.

It is worth mentioning, Higher Military Academy was established in

19 tons of drugs captured in 2008 Security authorities of al-Baidha'a and Hodeidah provinces captured about 55

kg of drugs during the few days ago.

An official source at the Interior Ministry said to Saba that about 40 kg of drugs were captured in Hodeidah province and 15 kg of drugs in Rada area in al-Baidha'a governorate as well as 94,147 drug tablets.

The accused were referred to the prosecution, according to the sources. About 19 tons of drugs and 1,278 drug tablets were captured in a number of governorates during 2008.

Yemen, Cuba further medical, educational cooperation

governor of Abyan Mohammed al-Dahbali and the Cuban charge d'affaires Michael Borto discussed here on Tuesday means of reinforcing mutual cooperation relations in scientific and medical areas.

The meeting also discussed possibility of re-qualify hundreds of Yemeni students have already studied in Cuba, most of them are from Abyan gover-

Al-Dahbali voiced the local authority's readiness to work side by side with Cubans to promote activities of the Cuban medical missions in the gover-

The Cuban diplomat, for his part, expressed the readiness of Cuba to offer all assistance in field of receiving Yemeni students in the Cuban universi-

TAIZ

Awareness program for water users began in Taiz

The General Authority for Rural Water in Taiz inaugurated on Tuesday the social awareness program for the water users that is financed by the Dutch Support Program for 2008.

Governor of Taiz Hamoud al-Sufi said during the inauguration ceremony that Yemen is suffering from water shortage, valuing the Dutch grant for the water projects in Yemen.

He affirmed that the continuation of water projects would not be achieved without a real partnership between the public and official efforts.

For his part, the Dutch ambassador to Yemen, R.H. Buikeman expressed his happiness in the program inauguration, mentioning that the Netherlands will keep on its support for the water field.

It is worth mentioning, the Dutch program targets 346 projects distributed in 177 distracts in 20 provinces.

HODEIDAH

Yemen, France discuss irrigation cooperation

Governor of Hodeidah Ahmed al-Jabali discussed here on Tuesday with technical experts of the French Agriculture Nimes Institute the last stages of Irrigation project.

The experts briefed the governor on the objectives of project, which is implemented by the Agricultural Serdood Institute in the framework of the technical cooperation between both

The irrigation project aims to spread awareness among farmers of importance of rationalizing water consumption and how to distribute it via the implementation of modern irrigation

Governor of Hodeidah pointed out that the French Institute is to implement a new project in 2009 to train farmers close to the Serdood Institute how to use irrigation nets.

ADEN

50 participants avail from family planning in Aden

About 50 male and female participants

in Aden province have gained advantage from two-day awareness activities on family planning and women's rights.

The activities organized by the Women National Committee (WNC) in collaboration with United Nation Population Fund (UNFPA) aimed to provide health information on family planning and reproductive health in general for the largest number of citi-

Additionally, the participants have been introduced to several issues related to safe maternity, current situation of the country in terms of reproductive health services and the motherhood and childhood mortality rates.

HADHRAMOUT

\$18 mln aquaculture project in Hadhramout to be implemented

A German investment company is carrying out the final arrangements to start construction activities in the last quarter of 2008 to build an aquaculture project in Hadhramout to be the first of its kind in Middle East at \$18 million, 26 September reported on Monday.

The German company signed contracts with al-Zabi Corporation to implement the project. According to the contract, the corporation shares 50% of the capital of the project.

Hajjah launches course on women's rights

Hajjah launched on Monday a training course in raising awareness of women's rights and their role in development for 20 women which is organized by the Ministry of Religious Endowment and Islamic Affairs in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). During the training, they will provide a number of religious and legislative concepts on women's rights in the holy Koran and the Yemeni constitution, their role towards issues of social and economic development, the principles of equality between men and women in rights and duties, the importance of rural girls education and the position of Islam towards violence against women and reproductive rights. The course aims to rise awareness among participants on the aspects of reproductive health and gender from an Islamic perspective and the importance of reducing illiteracy in the com-

Their News

Young Arab Leaders (YAL) announces its New Regional Board of Directors

Young Arab Leaders (YAL), a pan-Arab, not-for-profit organization today announced its new Regional Board of Directors (BoD). The new Regional Board has been formed partly through appointments and partly by elections.

In order to ensure clear, transparent and fair elections, Hawkamah - The Institute for Corporate Governance was selected to be YAL's partner and was assigned with the role of management of the nomination and the elections process. The first elections at YAL, held this year, have been organized as part of the YAL Leadership's efforts to streamline the organization's operations and to create independent and self sufficient chapters. This election has been held in two phases. The first phase concluded successfully, with the new Chapter Executive Boards being elected by their chapter members.

Commenting on the second, crucial phase of the elections and the appointment of the YAL Regional BoD, H.E. Dr. Omar Bin Sulaiman, Chairman of the Board of YAL, said, "Our members and our country chapters are our strong foundation for the successful outreach and implementation of all of YAL's goals, programs and initiatives. The Regional BoD of YAL holds great significance for our young and dynamic organization. This Board will lead the organization and devise the strategic plans for the coming years, while committing to ensuring the financial sustainability of the organization. As we tread on the path of positive change and progress for YAL, it is a matter of pride to know that our members have shown faith and entrusted this Board with the responsibility of overseeing the growth and development of our organization."

Speaking at the announcement of the new Regional BoD, Assem O. Kabesh, CEO of YAL, said, "The new Board Members will provide exemplary guidance to the organization as they have demonstrated great leadership in diverse areas of expertise. The Board will direct the successful implementation of our programs throughout our region and is committed to bringing international best practices and strengthening YAL's governance framework. The 2008 elections are a step to ensure that all YAL members have a voice in the decision-making, shaping of future strategies and designs of the various programs of our organization. I look forward to working closely with the New YAL Regional BoD.

The election process for the YAL Regional BoD started with a Call-for-Nominations; open to all YAL members, followed by the announcement of names of nominees by the Hawkamah Institute for Corporate Governance. This was followed by voting, by all new elected Chapter Executive Boards. As per the YAL Governance, four Directors were elected through this process and the YAL Chairman has appointed two Directors on the new Regional BoD. A non-voting Director has also been appointed to the new Regional BoD to represent the YAL Regional Head Office. The newly

elected Regional BoD will assume office as of the first Board Meeting Date, which will be announced shortly. They will serve till December 31,

UNITAID, UNICEF AND WHO ANNOUNCE MASSIVE SCALE-**UP IN FIGHT AGAINST HIV IN MOTHERS**

AND CHILDREN As the world's leaders and AIDS community gather in Mexico for the biennial global conference on HIV and AIDS, UNITAID, UNICEF and the World Health Organization (WHO) today announced an infusion of \$50 million aimed at halting mother-tochild transmission of HIV.

Over the next two years, UNITAID funding will be used to test some 10 million pregnant women for HIV and treat 285 000 mothers and children in nine target countries: Central African Republic, China, Haiti, Lesotho, Myanmar, Nigeria, Swaziland, Uganda, and Zimbabwe. These countries represent approximately 25% of the world's HIV-infected pregnant women giving birth annually.

"This effort aims to go beyond mere prevention by promoting ongoing treatment for mothers and their babies," said Dr Philippe Douste-Blazy, Chair of UNITAID's Executive Board. "Our aim is to fund the most effective and appropriate medicines and diagnostics on the market for both women and chil-

A novel element of the project is that it will allow UNICEF to negotiate reduced drug prices, allowing for a greater scale-up of more effective treatment for HIV-infected women as well as aim to prevent infection in their children. This ramping up means the WHO-recommended treatment protocol – introduced in 2006 and a far superior solution to the single therapy Nevirapine – can be implemented much more quickly and intensively.

Funding will also provide a one-year course of antiretroviral treatment to HIV positive pregnant women in need, in the nine countries.

"Testing pregnant women for HIV gives mothers a better chance to survive this disease," said Ann M. Veneman, UNICEF Executive Director. "Women, their children and their entire communities benefit when life-saving treatment is provided to HIV positive mothers as quickly as

WHO will ensure that expansion of programmes, use of antiretroviral medicines and procurement of commodities are done according to published guidelines and recommendations through close collaboration with Ministries of Health. WHO will also provide support in monitoring and evaluating prevention-of-mother-to-child transmission programmes to meet national tar-

"Women are one of the main target groups for WHO action," said Dr Margaret Chan, WHO Director-General. "Women play an important role in the functioning of communities, in caring for and educating children and make invaluable contributions to societies' development."

The three agencies are already fund-

ing and providing commodities to prevent mother to child HIV transmission in eight African countries, representing approximately 342 000 women.

About UNITAID

UNITAID is an international financing facility committed to the scale-up of treatment and care for HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis. It was founded in 2006 by Brazil, Chile, France, Norway and the United Kingdom. Currently, UNITAID is supported by 27 countries - 19 of which are developing or transition countries - and the Gates Foundation. In less than two years of operation, UNITAID has disbursed US\$ 280 million and committed US\$ 200 more for the purchase of health commodities for the poorest countries.

About UNICEF

UNICEF is on the ground in over 150 countries and territories to help children survive and thrive, from early childhood through adolescence. The world's largest provider of vaccines for developing countries, UNICEF supports child health and nutrition, good water and sanitation, quality basic education for all boys and girls, and the protection of children from

violence, exploitation, and AIDS. UNICEF is funded entirely by the voluntary contributions of individuals, businesses, foundations and governments.

About WHO

WHO is the directing and coordinating authority for health within the United Nations system. It is responsible for providing leadership on global health matters, shaping the health research agenda, setting norms and standards, articulating evidence-based policy options, providing technical support to countries and monitoring and assessing health trends.

Third Global Congress of Women in Politics and Governance, 19-22 October 2008 - Metro Manila, Philippines

The Center for Asia-Pacific Women in Politics (CAPWIP), in partnership with the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN/ISDR) and the Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO), is pleased to invite you to the Third Global Congress of Women in Politics and Governance which will be held on October 19-22, 2008 at the Dusit Thani Hotel, Makati City, Metro Manila, Philippines. The theme of the congress is "Gender in Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction."

Women and environment experts have raised concern over the absence of women in the discourse and debate on climate change and disaster risk reduction, both of which are global mainstream issues that are currently impacting the entire world. The involvement of women in areas of environmental management and governance should not be perceived as an afterthought. Women's roles are of considerable importance in the promotion of environmental ethics.

The current imperative is for women to understand the phenomenon of climate change and disaster risk reduction

and their impacts and implications at the individual, household, community and national levels. Studies show that women have a definite information deficit on climate politics, climate protection, and preparedness through disaster risk reduction. Only with this information can women take their proper, significant and strategic role in the issues of climate change and disaster risk reduction.

Invited to this congress are parliamentarians, decision - makers in national governments, environment ministries/ organizations, National Organization/Councils, Disaster Disaster Relief Organizations, Red Cross Societies, youth leaders, media practitioners, funding/donor agencies/organizations. (Female and male participants are welcome).

The Congress will have the following objectives:

Overall Purpose: To provide a forum for legislators and decision-makers in national governments and leaders at all levels in formulating gender-responsive legislation and programs related to gender in climate change and disaster risk reduction.

Specific Objectives:

a) to understand the phenomenon of climate change, its impacts, and its implications and study the appropriate risk reduction strategy;

b) to review and examine the gender aspects in climate change and disaster risk reduction and formulate appropriate actions to address these;

c) to define the roles women can Importance of the Congress play in addressing the impacts of climate change and disaster risk reduction programs and policies at the global, national and sub-national levels; and

d) to identify and define the action agenda for parliamentarians, policy advocates, and women leaders to support global and national actions to adapt gender responsive legislation and programs related to gender in climate change and disaster risk reduction.

Congress Proceedings:

The discussion on gender in climate change and disaster risk reduction will be organized around identifying the challenges to action as well as defining the appropriate responses to effectively address the impacts of climate change and disaster risk reduction. Inputs to the discussion will be collected and organized around: 1) geographic location and 2) types of actions: i.e. preparedness, risk reduction: building community resilience; adaptation; and mitigation. Cross cutting these discussions will be the identification of technologies in aid of responding to climate change and preparedness thru disaster risk reduction.

The focus of the discussions will revolve around defining and elaborating actions (i.e. preparedness, disaster risk reduction, adaptation, and mitigation) to cope with climate change and its impacts and preparedness and disaster risk reduction.

Preparedness and disaster risk reduction is about building individual and community capacities to position themselves and their communities so that the likelihood of climate changeinduced disasters is reduced: the intensity or adverse impacts of disasters are cushioned and that inhabitants are able to respond promptly, expeditiously and effectively. Adaptation entails actions that moderate harm, or exploit benefits, of climate change. Mitigation entails actions that minimizes or cushions the adverse impacts of climate change. In all of these actions, special atten-

tion will be given to defining how women and gender could be mainstreamed. In other words, the Congress should define how women can be given the social space to participate, influence, and benefit from global and local responses to climate change

The registration fee for the four day congress is One thousand five hundred fifty US Dollars (US\$ 1,550.) per person for twin room sharing accommodations (two persons in one room) and one thousand nine hundred fifty US Dollars (US\$ 1,950.) per person for single room accommodations (one person in one room).

The congress will be held on Oct 19-22, 2008. However, the participants will be requested to be in Manila the day before, October 18, 2008 and leave Manila only on October 23, 2008. The overnight hotel accommodation on October 18, 2008 is already included in the fee. Participants will be billeted in the DusitThani Hotel, the venue of the congress and hotels near the Dusit Thani Hotel, accessible within walking distance. Room accommodations in the Dusit Thani Hotel, the venue of the Congress will be on a first come - first served basis.

Today, on the average, one person out of nineteen in a developing country will be hit by a climate disaster, compared to 1 out of 1,500 in an OECD country. Climate change creates life time traps: in Niger, a child born during a drought is 72 percent more likely to be stunted than a child born during a normal season. We hope that you can help us generate more interest in the Third Global Congress of Women in Politics and Governance. The Theme of "Gender in Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction" is the first time this will be discussed in a forum whose objective is to formulate gender responsive legislation and policies for national governments and parliaments. I am sure that the UNDP office in the Philippines also has such programs and we hope that you will find the congress as a venue for deepening your commitment to including the gender perspective in climate change and disaster risk reduction in your country.

We truly hope that the environment organizations in your country will also find this forum a good opportunity to advocate gender and climate change policies and programs through gender responsive legislation to the women parliamentarians, decision makers, the youth leaders, media and the funding agencies/organizations. Let us join hands in promoting gender responsive governance through transformative leadership and citizenship. We are looking forward to your participation.

Please download the full information sheet and registration form for this Third Global Congress of Women in Politics and Governance from our website, mailto:sitemailto:sitemailto:sitemailto:sitemailto:site<a href





DIA is a French international development NGO working in Yemen, Morocco, Cape Verde and Comoros. Its main objectives are the promotion of social justice and the improvement of living conditions for the most marginalized people. DIA has been active in Yemen since 1999 mainly in Taiz Governorate in two geographical areas (rural areas along the Red Sea coast by olementing Watsan projects and Taiz city for the social integration of the marginalized people). This project iscurrently funded by Europ ean Commission. DIA is looking for:

A WATER & SANITATION ENGINEER

The Engineer will be under the supervision of the Project Manager, His/ her main objective will be to provide a good access to drinkable water (quality and quantity) for the beneficiaries. The Engineer will be based in Mokha. However one day a week will be used for reporting in Taez office

Main duties

- Technical study to collect data
- Design Plans
- Bills of quantity Tender (preparation, announcement, selection of contractors) if necessary
- Preparation of implementation Supervision of implementation
 To work in collaboration with the AWARENESS TRAINING team to prepare the management of
- the water supply systems The position requires:

 Technical skills for the survey, design and drawing parts,

Reporting skills

Management skills for the tender, implementation supervision and staff management Working experience in rural area

Profile

Professional Minimum 5 years in a similar position experience Excellent ability to write and speak English and Arabic. • Engineer diploma or 5 years experiences in design and imple water supply and sanitation project Social skills Computer litteracy (Excel and in Word Software)

<u>Deadline to apply:</u> **AUGUST 16, 2008.** (CV + application letter in English) have to be delivered at the address below: DIA office - Kalaba / next to Al Saffa' Mosque— Taez (phone 04 274 927) or by email at : **jeanlouis.haye@justdia.org**







For more information, Please Contact Toll Free: 800 6000 Fixed line and Yemenmobile Or TEL 6000 any G.S.M Network

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) invites Yemeni Nationals to apply for the following position within United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) - Yemen.

1- Post Title: Finance Associate **Duration: 12 months**

Responsibilities:

Full compliance with UN/UNDP rules, regulations, and policies of financial activities. Financial recording/reporting system follow-up on audit recommendations; implementation of effective internal controls, proper functioning of a client-oriented financial resources management system.

- Country Office (CO) business processes mapping and elaboration of the content of internal Standard Operating Procedures in Finance in consultation with office management.
- Administration of budgets and functioning of the optimal cost-recovery system.
- Implementation of the control mechanism for development projects through monitoring budgets preparation and modifications.
- Maintenance of the internal expenditures control system.
- Timely review of cash position for local accounts to ensure sufficient funds on hand for disbursements. Timely identification and recording of receipts for income application.

Qualification:

- University degree in Accounting/Finance.
- At least 5-7 years experience is required.
- Good communication skills.
- Good command of English and Arabic (Oral and Written).

2- Post Title: Information Communication Technology (ICT) - Associate / Webmaster **Duration: 12 months**

Responsibilities:

- Web Development to develop and work flow automation through web-based application with database management interfaces, develop web pages and control panel administration for the work flow system, maintain a dynamic and
- Web Management of UNDP's web, intranet and extranet sites.
- System Administration Assist to manage the organization active directory, maintain local area network and local servers, share point and exchange server.
- ICT support to staff to ensure business continuity at all times, implement security policies pertaining to computer users and network access and to provide timely maintenance of communication equipments in the office.
- To provide training on policies and procedures of ICT use in the office and to perform non-technical training to staff.

Qualification:

- University degree in Computer Science.
- At least 2-4 years experience is required.
- Knowledge of UNDP rules and procedures.
- Good communication skills.
- Good command of English and Arabic (Oral and Written).

3- Post Title: Administrative Assistant (Assets Management): **Duration: 12 months**

Responsibilities:

- Provision of inputs to the related Country Office (CO) administrative business processes.
- Receiving, inspecting and verification of all incoming equipment, furniture, vehicles and supplies.
- Ensuring that CO/Projects Assets data and items description are accurately collected and recorded in special forms. Update of Capitalized and Non-capitalized property inventory records in Atlas/special data base and track movement of equipment, furniture or vehicles to new locations.
- Preparation of inventory reports as required and submits to Head of Unit.
- Maintenance of the filing system ensuring safekeeping of confidential materials and documents.
- Ensures that certified inventory lists are obtained from all projects at the end of the year.
- Participate in related project closures.
- Training of staff engaged in the conduct of physical inventory.
- Briefing of staff members on issues relating to area of work.
- Sound contributions to knowledge networks and communities of practice.

- University degree in Business of Public Administration or any other related field.
- At least 3-5 years experience is required Experience in the usage of computers and office software packages (MS Word, Excel, etc.).
- Good communication skills.
- Good command of English and Arabic (Oral and Written)

1- Post Title: Operations Associate (Head of General Services Unit): **Duration: Fixed-Term**

Responsibilities:

- Administrative activities with UN/UNDP rules, regulations, policies and strategies.
- Support to the CO administrative business processes mapping and elaboration of the internal standard operating pro-
 - Preparation of administrative team results-oriented work plans.
- Supervises the receptionist and manages the registry functions and the handling of mail services, email, fax facilities, diplomatic pouches, and archives.
- Arranges logistics for conducting internal workshops/training retreats, hotel reservations, high level missions, airport pick ups and arrangements for incoming and outgoing missions and visitors.
- Closely monitors drivers and vehicle fleet and ensures that proper records, registration and insurance of all UNDP & project vehicles.
- Supervises the security guards and ensures proper office security functions.
- Supervises the repair and maintenance of office furniture; renovation, painting and plumbing works etc.
- Supervises cleaning staff and Gardner and ensures that they provide efficient services.
- Supervises all office/projects shipments custom exemption and clearance processes. Supervises and controls the stocks of supplies and stationery in the stores, and the maintenance of records.
- Proposes and implements cost savings and cost recovery measures for support services to partners and clients provided by General Services Unit.
- Prepares and monitors section work plan.
- Ensures effective and accurate CO inventory management
- Proper planning and tracking of common services budget.
- Organization of training for the operations/projects staff on administration. Sound contributions to knowledge networks and communities of practice.

Qualification:

- University degree in Business of Public Administration or any other related field.
- At least 5-7 years experience is required
- Experience in the usage of computers and office software packages (MS Word, Excel, etc.).
- Good communication skills.
- Good command of English and Arabic (Oral and Written)

Interested candidates are requested to visit our website at: http://www.undp.org.ye/undp-vacancies.htm for detailed term of reference of the position and may 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/Fax: 448892/E-mail: (hr.ye@undp.org)

The deadline for receiving applications is Thursday, 21 August 2008.

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







World Breastfeeding Week 2008

Unite for children by supporting mothers

By: Yemen Times Staff

espite the fact that over half of the Yemeni population is under the age of 16 years old, little is being done to ensure their prosperity through preventive health measures. Almost half of Yemeni children under five years old are underweight and more than a half are stunted, according to the Ministry of Health.

By celebrating World Breastfeeding Week, UNICEF Yemen joined all UNICEF offices around the world to advocate for breastfeeding as a main solution to help Yemeni children fight malnutrition. Naseem-Ur-Rehman, UNICEF in Yemen's chief communications and information officer, emphasized that the mass media has a responsibility to women and children to help bridge what he calls the information gap.

"Infants are six to 25 times more likely to die of diarrhea, four times more likely to die of pneumonia and half of all Yemeni children are malnourished," said Ur-Rehman. "Exclusive breastfeeding can help this.'

Currently, exclusive breastfeeding for the first six month's of life is at only 12



According to UNICEF, 46 percent of Yemeni children under five are underweight, 12 percent suffer from wasting, and 53 percent from stunting.

percent in Yemen and is in decline, according to UNICEF-Yemen. This can lead to higher rates of malnutrition and death among children under five.

According to UNICEF's State of the World's Children report for 2008, the rate of exclusive breastfeeding in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) was 28 percent, a whole 10 percentage points below the average for developing coun-

about the event. This year, under the theme "Mother Support: Going for the Gold," partly inspired by the Olympic Games held this month, World Breastfeeding Week calls for greater support to mothers in achieving the gold standard of infant feeding: breastfeeding exclusively for six months and providing appropriate complementary foods with continued breastfeeding for up to two years or beyond.

tries. The MENA region is also lagging

behind sub-Saharan Africa, where current

rates of exclusive breastfeeding are

Despite exclusive breastfeeding being

the most complete form of nutrition for

infants, figures are not progressing in the

MENA region, said a UNICEF statement

between 30 and 39 percent.

Dhekra Annuzaili, UNICEF- Yemen's nutrition program officer, said that breastfeeding is very economical for Yemeni families, especially since infant formula prices are high. She described the main threats to breastfeeding as 1) poor feeding practices for infants and young children, 2) formula companies and 3) political commitment.

Ur-Rehman agreed that the problem lies in Yemeni culture, which supports formula feeding through the promotion of images and language that portrays feeding children formula. In addition to that, there is low awareness of breast milk's natural

'There is an inappropriate [amount] or lack of facilities to enable mothers to breastfeed wherever they may be, and there is a lack of a social support system for mothers who want to breastfed," added Ur-Rehman.

Considered a basic child-survival intervention, exclusive breastfeeding also holds the key to reducing the rates of underweight and stunting among children under five, which remains highly prevalent in countries such as Yemen, Sudan and Djibouti.

A myriad of contrasts in a highly diverse region

According to UNICEF, countries like Tunisia, Egypt and Iran have retained the highest scores in exclusive breastfeeding in the region for several consecutive years. However, they still have below 50 percent of exclusive breastfeeding, leaving no room for complacency and underscoring the urgency of enhanced promotion of the practice among pregnant and lactating mothers, as well as within policy design, which should involve health practitioners, development partners and local communities.

A glance at exclusive breastfeeding practices in the Gulf countries reveals very slow progress, but more critically, it exposes the absence of reliable and recent data. While exclusive breastfeeding in the Gulf remains noticeably low on the basis of available figures, results are indicative of a steady percentage of mothers chooseclipsed by the growing diversity of artificial milk substitutes in the mar-In drought-prone countries like Djibouti, Yemen and Sudan, the need

ing to initiate complementary feeding

as early as the first month. Similar pat-

terns are seen in industrialized coun-

tries, where exclusive breastfeeding is

for exclusive breastfeeding is all the more important because of the fragile nutritional status of newborns and mothers, which is seriously jeopardized by growing food insecurity as a result of the global rise in food prices and limited access to basic services and humanitarian aid.

Breastfeeding: the human rights angle

"Mother Support," the theme of World Breastfeeding Week 2008, calls for enhanced community-based breastfeeding support systems and the development of national frameworks linking knowledge, existing capacities and resources to protect and support breastfeeding at all

"Exclusive breastfeeding contributes to the achievement of Millennium Development Goals One and Four in par-Governments, healthcare providers, communities and families all have an important role to play," said Sigrid Kaag, UNICEF Regional Director for the Middle East and North Africa.

Partnership building in support of mothers in the region has gradually grown in the form of "baby-friendly" hospitals, by means of an open dialogue between

health practitioners, mothers and communities. The inclusion of child-feeding interventions as part of national health and development initiatives is also funda-

and Iran are "baby-friendly."

mental. Today, about 90 percent of pre-

natal health facilities in Tunisia, Oman

H.M. Queen Rania of Jordan, who is a strong supporter of children's and women's rights, said on the occasion of World Breastfeeding Week that breastfeeding is not only the best choice for infants, it is also a mother's right. Networks in place in many countries need to be supported in their efforts to promote community-friendly breastfeeding. This means women-friendly workplaces, balanced parental responsibility (men must also be involved in the care of children), and the endorsement of breastfeeding structures at all levels. Governments must be held accountable in their commitment to devise social services that enable breastfeeding mothers to uphold their work responsibilities and remain unhindered in public life, according to H.M. Queen Rania's statement.

"We need to fully grasp the importance of optimal infant feeding as an essential key to human development," she said.

Advantages of breast feeding for chil-

- Protects babies from: Diarrhea
- Immune system: health enhance nutrients, meticulous, enzymes, hormones, antibodies that a baby needs.
- Strengthens the mothers' emotional bonding with their infants.
- Save money and avoid expensive
- food crisis on nutritional need of

Offsets specified adverse effects of

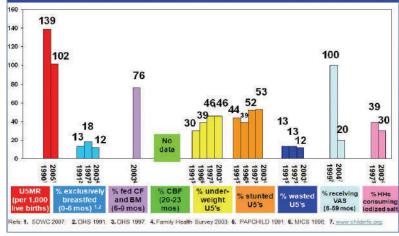
Risks for babies who do not breast feed

- *Mortality* Respiratory infection
- Diarrhea and other infections
- Obesity
- Asthma and wheeze Diabetes and other infections
- Childhood cancers
- Weak mental development and visual acuity
- Abnormal development

Advantages of breast feeding For mothers

- Breast and ovarian cancer. Type II Diabetes other chronic ill-
- Early return of menstrual periods
- and fertility.
- Less time between pregnancies. Difficulties in cleaning and prepar-
- ing formula and bottles. Financial burden of artificial baby
- milk and fuel.

Basic Nutrition data for Yemen



Yemen - along with Djibouti and Sudan - had the lowest rates of breastfeeding in

Benefits under weight babies.

- Safe guards women's own wellbeing.
- (no.1 killer) & Pneumonia (no.2
- *Improves response to vaccination.*



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Bequeathal of power or lifetime president

By: Ahmad Abdullah Al-Maqrami

hich is more stable and can survive for a longer time period in the w o r 1 d ? Constitutions or Laws! In other words, which is more subjected to breakdown and repair? People worldwide know well that respected states acquire this quality (respect) by respecting their constitutions, which they rarely amend or modify only in a way granting more freedoms to people. In the New Yemen that has its own

quality, we find that laws in aggregate are amended as much as the Constitution of the Republic is violated and contravened. Anyone trying to find out a justification for the most recent amendments may see before him nothing other than the ruler's will that shamelessly insist to amend the Constitution.

Therefore, all the justifications provided by all the recruits in power seem to be inadequate to harbor fault of such a desire and will. These justifications also fail to convince those involved that such amendments are

The authority only forgets its faults through seducing people with the announcement of various development projects for their areas. It then announces that the amendments it has undertaken are necessary to establish a bicameral legislature under the name of 'Shoura Council', to be added to Parliament. Then, Yemen will have two legislative chambers.

All these allegations are exposed by performance of Parliament that is always controlled by the executive authority, which we metaphorically name 'the Executive', but in fact it is a totalitarian authority.

It is evident that road to the bequeathal of power is not paved, nor is it safe, and walking on it is risky. As

a result, we have another option before us: "Why should not the current rule remain for lifetime?" Constitutional amendments in this case ensure getting this task done as long as the Constitution appears to be fragile and the agencies concerned with protecting the constitution obey orders of the ruler whenever he demands to amend or modify it.

This reminds us of the presidential speech given on July 17, 2005 at the Presidential Palace. Yemeni people were surprised to hear that the speech is seeking a new president to lead Yemen as the current president (who was giving the speech) was done and needn't stay in power for any longer. He also renewed his insistence to quit

Afterward, we realized that there is a big difference between that address and subsequent attempts to convince the man to run for president in the most recent presidential election that took place in September 2006. We also perceived the strange insistence to conduct constitutional amendments, which ensure, in one way or another, stay of the current president in power for lifetime.

Peaceful transfer of power prohibit-

The peaceful transfer of power has become prohibited from the practical viewpoint. It is also prohibited in the parliamentary elections via edging out role of the Supreme Commission for Election and Referendum and asserting government's dominance over all the aspects of political life.

The peaceful transfer of power will be banned if we inspire for change, as well as wait for an end to the two presidential terms as per the constitution because the Constitution always undergoes surgical operations with the intention of paving the way for bequeathal of power.

Source: Al-Ahale.net

What is wrong with Arabs?

By: Khalid Batarfi

n American reader, Gordon Reade, sent me the following question, which is no doubt on the minds of many:

"In America our history books say that while Europe was mired in the dark ages, the Arabs led the world in art, education, science, math, philosophy, military power and you name it. According to our books, a thousand years ago the Arabs were every bit as powerful as America is today.

But what our books don't tell us is what went wrong. The Arabs of today would be virtually unrecognizable to the Arabs of the past. Clearly you guys suffered some tremendous catastrophe long before 1967 and long before 1948. What went wrong and when did it happen? Do the Arabs have a name for it?"

I answered him: True, we ruled and enlightened the world for some thousand years, reaching China, India, Central Asia, Africa, Spain and northern Europe.

Our contributions to science and culture were immeasurable. They included the invention of the zero, algebra and the astrolabe and the discovery of blood circulation.

We translated Greek, Indian and Persian literary treasures and added our own. Then, we fought each other and the Ottoman Turks took over the Islamic Caliphate and united its disinte- able levels of poverty, quality of educagrated empire. While the Turks are not Arabs, they are Muslims.

At the time, they used Arabic alphabet and ruled our world in the name of the Prophet (peace be upon him) as his successors "Caliphs".

The Ottomans were once the most powerful nation on earth. They ruled supreme for many centuries. At the end of 19th century, they began to decline. Their mistake was the one oft repeated by many empires.

They felt so invincible that they had no need to consult with anyone regarding anything they did in the world, no matter how vital or colossal. Arrogance and mistreatment of subject people led to revolts, including some in Arab countries. Still, their rule continued until World War I when they and their allies, the Germans, were defeated.

The Western victors then took over and colonized the Arab world, lasting up to the late sixties. They left behind dictatorial regimes; most still rule today with Western support. America, alone, installed some of the most horrible regimes and leaders like Saddam Hussein and others.

Today, the Arabs suffer from a decline on all fronts. Politically, most of us are prisoners to emergency and revolutionary rules.

Economically, altogether we produce every year less than Spain. Culturally, we print fewer than one percent of the books in the world. We have questiontion and unemployment rates. That says

Arab world is a basket case:

The Arab world is a basket case, economically and politically (morality we can debate another day). One handy statistic: If you subtract oil, the total exports of the Arab world — i.e., the 500 million people comprising all of North Africa and the Middle East, minus Israel - amount to less than those of Finland: a country with one hundredth the population. So convinced that some outside force imperialists, Jews, oil companies, America, the CIA — is responsible for the failings of their once-great civilization, Arabs cannot handle any blow to their self-esteem. It's not so much dead Arabs which grates on their psyche but, the sting to their pride which comes when non-Muslim, non-Arabs do the killing. This is what makes smart people act stupid.

Indeed, this is hardly unique to Arabs. All over the world and throughout history national pride and cultural passions have driven nations to violence and folly. As Yale's Donald Kagan has written, "The common practice of calling such motives 'irrational' reveals how narrow the professional understanding of what matters to people has become in our day." He goes on: "The notion that only economic benefits, power and security are rational goals is a prejudice of our time, a product of the attempt to treat the world of human events as though it were the inanimate physical universe, susceptible to scientific analysis and free to ignore human feelings, motives, and will. Such an approach is no more adequate to explain current behavior than to explain the actions of human beings throughout history."

But if Arabs want to define their national interests in terms of pride and shame — as NR's David Pryce-Jones has argued so eloquently — that's fine; that's natural even. But that decision has serious costs. If the Iraqis side with pride and totalitarianism over realism and liberty; if the Arab propaganda machine and suicide-bomber networks decide that it would be better for Iraq to be a giant Lebanon free of Americans than to be an Arab Sweden with our help; if they decide that even one dead Iraqi at the hands of "infidels" is worse than 100,000 at the hands of Saddam; if they greet this rescue mission with bullets, then things will only worsen for

For that's what this is, a rescue mission. It may have been launched out of American self-interest, but that should make no difference to the Iraqis. And I still hope that the Iraqis will snap out of it and recognize we're there to help. Indeed, if they greet the U.S. with gratitude there really will be no end to American charity and assistance. We can point to Japan, South Korea, and Germany as evidence of the prosperity and decency we can help usher in. Al Qaeda, Hezbollah, Hamas, et al., can offer only Lebanon or some phantasmagorical Brigadoon plucked from the fantasies of jihadists. To those who can see clearly the interests of their children, this should not be a hard choice.

But it is a choice. If even after Saddam is gone, they shoot at the lifeboat and spit at its crew, America will simply confiscate the weapons we came for and leave. Many, many Americans will conclude that democracy cannot take root in Arab soil after all, and if they don't want our help we will say "to hell with them" — as we did to the Somalis. We will strike deals with murderers and thugs whenever profitable and contain those murderers when not. To borrow a phrase from Le Monde, we will declare "We Are All Frenchmen Now" and we will let Arabs kill Arabs (and yes, probably Israelis too) because it won't be our business all because some desperate people are too proud to stop acting stupid.

Source: Al-Sharq Al-Awsat Weekly

COMMON SENSE

A note to God When the extreme becomes godless

religion should one have in life?" asked Mahfouz as he gathered his clothes to get them ready for washing.

"Son, it really depends on how much conscientiousness one has. You see, people of true and sincere faith in God already have it made as to how to worship God and more importantly how to deal with the day to day chores of living. God must be more than just someone we bow



and pray to or write notes to. God is more than some Being we claim to call on us in our sleep and ask us to deliver mankind. God is certainly not some Deity, who demands of us to blow half the world in HIS NAME, as some of our misguided Wahhabi so called Jihadists contend. All of these nincompoops are not doing God any favors by claiming to correspond with Him, each in his own way."

"Oh Mom! You do not believe that Barack Obama was really writing to God when he wrote that controversial note at the Wailing Wall. He knew of course that he was not really being himself, when he was being "politically" coerced to make a few shakes at the Wailing Wall, just so to placate a few Jewish voters in the United States and to keep the American Israel Public Affairs Committee or AIPAC off his back.

You see that is what I mean, by the hypocrisy of it all. In the United States, we have Christians who are now actually thinking that it is better to get all the Jews into the Holy Land and obliterate them once and for all. These are called the Neo-Conservative Christians, who see this as the only way to be ready for the approaching Judgment Day.

I do not know how this can be justified by spiritual doctrine, but for the Zionists this seems to be fine as long as the US keeps supporting the Israelis until they achieve their Eretz Israel from the Nile to the Euphrates, as the map in the Israeli Knesset clearly shows. What the naïve neo-Christians forget is that the Zionist goons are already prepared for that calamity, which is why they have collected 200 nukes." Mahfouz was explaining to his mother the spiritual dilemma that the world is

"But son, don't you think the Israelis have those nukes to face the Arabs, who are waiting for the first opportunity to annihilate the Jewish State, which was imposed upon this region by a misguided international community unable to tell right from wrong?!" said his mother, giving a hint of the layman's view of the Middle East problem.

Mahfouz, while going through piles of soiled laundry was not surprised by his mom's simplification of a generally more complex problem. So, he sought to straighten out matters: "Mother! You see all of these people are just messing around with religion to suit their own mundane aspirations.

The Zionists have pulled a BIG number by claiming that God would truly sanction real estate to trespassers, who do not have the least legitimate proof of ownership of the 'Holy Land', which was ordained by God for all his truly God fearing believers of all faiths, and which has been inhabited by the Palestinians for millennia. We all know God to be Just and Merciful and certainly would not allow for an injustice to be meted out in His name.

The neo-Christians are seeking some spiritual comfort for relief from an extremely non-altruistic culture that has overtaken one of the most beautiful regions of the world ever since the White Man first set foot on Massachusetts Bay.

There are different explanations of how the Christians could come up with the idea of obliterating the Jews, but the Zionists think their stockpile of nukes will avoid that. So, they believe that letting the Neo-Christians think like that suits their purposes well for now. They may actually be encouraging people like George Bush and Dick Cheney to think that this is Godsent Christian belief.

Then we have our lunatic Wahhabi suicide legions that have been scientifically reared to disguise themselves as the Angel of Death and just blow up anything that moves believing this to be the pathway to paradise. Nothing is further than the truth. These loonies are buying a one way ticket to eternal Hell for having distorted Islam beyond recognition and caused most of the havoc that is shaking the world today.

They even established an unusually powerful clergy, which is anathema to Islamic belief, since Allah forbids the emergence of a clergy as a medium between man and God! Yet, thanks to the trillions of petrodollars they have access to; they have managed to spread this heretical sect of Islam to the far corners of the world, expending around US \$ 200 billion over the last three decades alone! I am not sure which is more dangerous to the Moslem Nation or Ummah, but if you ask me I think that the last of the three is a Fifth Column we really have to keep our eyes open to. They have seriously damaged the image and the position of Islam as a leading, sensible and down to earth simple faith."

Hassan Al-Haifi has been a Yemeni political economist and journalist for more than 20 years.

0 0 0 -By: Samer

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World holds breath as Eritrea, Djibouti eye war

With world oil prices soaring, the very real possibility of an outbreak of war between Eritrea and Djibouti is of increasing concern to the United States and other Western powers. Supertankers carry millions of barrels of oil past their coastline everyday, heading for the massive markets of Europe and beyond. The Media Line looks at the efforts to prevent a return to bloodshed between old enemies...

By: The Media Line/ Daniel Ooko

he Horn of Africa nations Eritrea and Djibouti overlook one of the world's most important waterways and the international community fears a potential war between the two could impact on supertankers making their way west from the Gulf. The country's borders meet at Bab al-Mandab the narrow strait that separates the Gulf of Aden from the Red Sea route to the Suez Canal and the massive markets of Europe and North America.

Right now the United States and other powers are concerned the Horn and the waters around it are breeding grounds for piracy and Islamist-based terror, and they do not want to see another military front opening in a region that has witnessed so much bloodshed in years past.

The African Union (AU) has denounced what is sees as Eritrea's campaign of violence against its neighbor, Djibouti, and warned it would not allow any African state to use force against another over colonial border integrity.

Eritrea has been edging closer to war with neighboring Djibouti since April this year. The extent of the military aggression between the two states has placed the Horn of Africa region in a dangerous situation, and is likely to involve the U.S., France and Ethiopia.

The U.S. has a military base in

Djibouti, as does France, which had reportedly pledged to provide military hardware to assist Djibouti against

France is reported to have 2,900 soldiers stationed in Djibouti, backed by 10 attack helicopters and fighter planes, while the U.S. has 1,100 troops on Djiboutian soil. The U.S. is understood to be considering Djibouti as the possible location for a new military headquarters for its African operations.

The AU leaders, tasked with ensuring peace prevails in the continent, met at an Egyptian resort in A-Sheikh from June 30-July 1, and rejected Eritrea's bid to advance further into Djiboutian territory, saying every AU member was obligated to respect the territory of

"The situation obtaining at the border between Djibouti and Eritrea and the tension which characterizes the relations between the two countries is a source of serious concern," a special report compiled by a technical wing of the AU stated.

Eritrea has been attempting a forceful seizure of Djiboutian territory after stationing its troops near the town Ras Doumeira since April 16 this year, leading to a brief exchange of hostilities with the Djiboutian army on June

Djiboutian President Isma'il 'Umar Guelleh, who has previously warned that his country would not entertain consistent exchanges of "war rhetoric with Eritrea," first sought the urgent intervention of the AU and the Arab League to stop Eritrea in April. Djibouti is a member of the Arab League, while Eritrea has observer sta-

In May Guelleh warned the situation was becoming alarmingly dangerous, with his troops facing the Eritrean forces, although he noted the Eritreans appeared unlikely to wage war.

Eritrean troops invaded part of Djiboutian territory and dug trenches in the region of Ras Doumeira, leading to months of tension, which forced the Djiboutian foreign minister to write to the 15-member Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the AU.

Guelleh said he was ready to defend his national sovereignty against the Eritrean threats.

According to a confidential report compiled by PSC ambassadors, Djibouti first sought AU intervention in the looming border war with Eritrea on April 24, days after Eritrean troops invaded Ras Doumeira.

As a result, the PSC urgently deployed a team of experts to investigate the source of the tension between the two states. The AU mission left for Diibouti in early June where it conducted its investigations from June 5-

However, its efforts to interview Eritrean officials, or obtain access to Eritrean territory failed.

The AU ambassadors recommended that the PSC denounce Eritrea's campaign of violence.

AU Commission President Jean Ping said, "I am deeply troubled by the appearance of another area of conflict in the Horn of Africa. I am referring to the prevailing situation at the borders between Djibouti and Eritrea," he told the African leaders meeting in Egypt

"I should underscore the fact that the African Union has reacted swiftly to assist the parties to reach a peaceful



settlement, in strict respect of the principles of our organization, which include refraining from the use of force to settle differences, and the obligation to respect borders inherited at independence.

Djiboutian military sources suggested the hostilities, which resulted in heavy casualties on both sides, broke out following Djibouti's refusal to hand over an Eritrean military deserter.

Eritrea, one of the few rogue states in Africa, has been making expansionist threats against its Horn of Africa neighbors.

Its intentions of attacking Djibouti have been considered suicidal given Djibouti's Western leanings.

Djibouti hosts a French military base and has been acting as the United States' security checkpoint for the Horn of Africa region, believed to be frequented by dangerous criminal elements suspected of planning major terror threats against Western interests.

Eritrea denies carrying out any military incursions into Djibouti. The two have been locked in a series of borderrelated altercations, mostly involving Djibouti's colonial power, France, and Italy, which unsuccessfully tried to colonize Ethiopia

At the center of the current border dispute is what experts call "vague language" used in the border treaty signed between Italy and France in 1901.

Eritrea and Djibouti have clashed twice over their border at the southern end of the Red Sea. The last of the border wars, before the June 10 fighting,



broke out in 1996.

The AU has asked Eritrea to back off its attempts to re-occupy Djiboutian territory, saying President Isaias Aferweki's regime must respect the sovereignty, territorial integrity and the independence of AU member

Eritrea has played down the existence of any border war with Djibouti, saying such claims are aimed at serving the strategic interests of the U.S., with Eritrean Information Ministry Spokesman Mebrahtu Asfaha calling the claims of a border war with Diibouti, an "evil design" to control the Red Sea basin.

Eritrea says it is bitterly opposed to the U.S. pursuing its strategic interests in the Horn of Africa region, largely through its support of its archenemy, the Ethiopian government.

The AU's Peace and Security Council has warned of serious consequences unless the organization mobilizes an urgent rescue mission to help stop the exchange of hostilities between the two states.

"The AU assembly (heads of state) should urge the two countries to exercise utmost restraint, resort to dialogue for the resolution of any bilateral dispute and lend their full cooperation to the efforts deployed in this regard," it

The AU is faced with a list of limited choices. The first is to impose sanctions on Eritrea, but this will come, not on the basis of the border row, but on Eritrea's inability to pay its contributions to the AU.

Should Eritrea fall into the sanctions list, it would lose its seat in any of the deliberations carried out by the organization, formerly a club of Africa's self-styled dictators, now preaching good governance and democracy.

Meanwhile, Italy is bankrolling the AU to set up a special task force to demarcate borders at the center of long-standing disputes around the Horn of Africa region.

Italy has signed a \$40-million aid package with the organization to set up the working units of the border-demarcation secretariat, which is expected to begin receiving submissions from African states.

"The border conflicts in Africa show that extra efforts are required to define the borders. We need to contribute to these programs more strategically. We need to contribute to these programs because peace and security are indivisible," according to Ramntane Lamamra, the AU peace and security commissioner.

Meanwhile, sources say top-level negotiations are underway to end the border row between Eritrea and Djibouti. However, Djiboutian military officials maintain that tension is still high.

Both sides to the border conflict have claimed victory in the first round of fighting, with Djibouti arguing that Eritrea has suffered major casualty and military-hardware losses.

Eritrea has declined to discuss its involvement in the war with the media, and continues to deny the existence of hostilities.

All the while, the American and French troops based in Djibouti are carefully monitoring developments. They fear that an outbreak of largescale hostilities will drag them into yet another conflict in the Horn of Africa, which has not seen peace in decades.

Breathe easy about Beijing

By Achim Steiner

mages of the Beijing skyline seemingly bathed in a soup of smog and haze have been a common sight on the world's TV screens in recent days and weeks. Foreign journalists with handheld air pollution detectors have been popping up on street corners checking levels of soot and dust. Everyone seems keen to prove that the city's air will be a decisive and debilitating factor for one of the world's most high-profile sporting events.

Without doubt Beijing is facing a huge challenge. There are real and understandable concerns for the health of competitors, especially those in endurance and long-distance events such as cycling and the marathon.

But the current frenzied focus is

marked by considerable amnesia. After economic growth and the fact that the all, air pollution was a major concern in Los Angeles 24 years ago, though few now seem to recall the dramatic scene at the end of the women's marathon, when the Swiss competitor was seen staggering and stumbling from exhaustion, the heat, and, perhaps, the effects of air pollution. And air quality was also an issue for subsequent Olympic Games in deserves more fair play than it has

Indeed, real and, one hopes, longlasting achievements have been made by the Beijing Organizing Committee for the Olympic Games, the city as a whole, the government, and the six provinces concerned.

This is all the more remarkable when set against the city's double-digit

Games are being staged in a developing country, with all the social, economic, health, and environmental challenges this entails.

For example, some 200 polluting factories have been closed, switched to new kinds of cleaner production, or moved out of the city over the past seven years.

Moreover, as a result of a \$17 billion Barcelona, Atlanta, Seoul, and Athens. investment, more than 90% of the So the debate about the Beijing Games city's wastewater is now treated, more than 50% of the city is forested, and natural gas accounts for more than 60% of energy generation, up from roughly 45% in 2000.

> Meanwhile, eight new railway lines, covering 200 kilometers and with a daily capacity of close to four million people, have become operational this year, alongside 60 kilometers of bus lines. New vehicle emission standards

meet the most stringent equivalent European standards, and are higher than in the United States.

In addition, 50,000 old taxis and 10,000 buses have been replaced, and 4,000 of the new buses are powered by natural gas – now the largest fleet of its kind in the world. In recent days, the authorities have also requested businesses to stagger the working day before, during, and after the Games to reduce traffic volumes, alongside a raft of other traffic-cutting measures.

Then there is the attention to ecodetail at the Olympic venues themselves, including the 400,000square meter Olympic Village, where water reclaimed from the Qinghe sewage treatment plant is being used for heating and cooling systems, resulting in an estimated 60% savings in electricity consumption.

Only time will tell if all these

measures will bring air pollution down to acceptable levels.

The United Nations Environment Program will certainly make this a focus of its post-Games report, building on the initial one issued in

But it is clear that Beijing is striving to be part of the Green Team, embracing environmental standards that are now central to the modern Olympic movement, and that are increasingly part of other big sporting events, such as the Green Goals for the 2006 and 2010 FIFA World Cups.

Increased public awareness, the ability to showcase new and more sustainable ways of managing an urban setting, and the legacy of more environmentally friendly energy, transport systems, and other infrastructure should also not be underestimated

Humanity is currently engaged in a far-reaching and urgent competition that pits the need to embed a twentyfirst century "green economy" against the rapid implosion of our climate and natural life-support systems.

The catalytic and inspirational possibilities of events like the Olympics thus have a wider role to play, one that might just help prevent us from staggering and collapsing under the weight of our environmental degradation.

Achim Steiner is Under-Secretary General of the United Nations and Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), which is assisting the Beijing Organizing Committee environmental issues.

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Middle East rhetoric obstructing US interests

By: ichard Murphy and Ethan

would be naive to assume that Undersecretary of State William Burns' presence at the recent EU-Iran nuclear talks has opened the door to a rapid improvement in US-Iranian relations, or that the US administration has abandoned its military option. But this recent tilt towards diplomacy offers a pause in which to take note of the unsung economic and political costs of hyped-up rhetoric.

Our lack of understanding of regional dynamics - particularly in the Gulf - is losing us significant new commercial opportunities; a reluctance to engage is preventing us from acquiring the information needed to fight against extremism in the region.

Stereotypes have some basis in past experience, whether positive or negative. Over the last 30 years, the American public's clearest memories of our involvement in the Middle East relate to gruesome acts of violence and oil prices far more than to any of the more positive aspects. The 1983 bombing of the US barracks in Lebanon, Pan Am-Lockerbie and endless violence in Iraq and Lebanon – this is the stuff of headlines, not the successful bilateral trade agreements or the widespread emulation of aspects of American culture. The result: increasingly angry uncompromising "us against them" rhetoric, heard in such slogans as "war on terror" and "clash of civilisations".

Once imbedded in the national psyche, negative rhetoric tends to feed on itself, ultimately leading us either to exaggerate or minimise individual countries' aspirations and their capabilities to affect us. Thus, President Ronald Reagan's repeated characterisation of Mu'ammar Qaddafi as the "Mad Dog of the Middle East",

rather than diminishing Libya's influence, afforded it an unlikely

We have yet to grasp that the recent experience of small Gulf Arab states allows them to project wealth and experience in excess of their size, and beyond their borders. Thus we see Qatar mediating the Arab-Israeli conflict, and Dubai changing the fortunes of countries like Djibouti and Senegal.

American attitudes towards the Middle East are affecting our ability to attract investment from the region at a time when we need it most. Since 9/11, resentful of being limited to inconsequential shares, and labelled "terrorist money", Saudi investors have scaled back US purchases and repatriated a good fraction of existing investments. Receiving a lukewarm response from US banks, the Libyan Investment Authority - steward for a \$50 billion sovereign wealth fund (a

state-run investment vehicle, typically oil-producing associated with economies) - chose to make London its western base.

Increasingly stringent requirements persuade a large number of Middle Eastern students to go elsewhere. In this last case, we lose doubly, for those who do not experience an American education are not available in the future as a source of goodwill. Many large US companies are still hesitant to deal with the Middle East, while European companies profit from the commercial openings we helped create.

Administration officials have repeatedly said that we must take Iran at its word, referring principally to its desire to "wipe Israel off the map". In repeatedly seizing on the words of the Iranian president, and ignoring the views of other Iranian personalities, we miss the degree to which Iran's failing economy is seen by other officials and

its own citizens as the greatest problem of their regime.

The fact that we have to rely almost solely on what Iran says publicly is a sign that we don't know enough about that country to understand the ways to which its main actors employ rhetoric.

Furthermore, we have a hard time understanding why our language doesn't persuade others to join us because we do not fully appreciate the constraints our friends and allies face. US policy towards Iran troubles many Gulf States for two reasons: they are heavily linked to Iran by trade, and they know that if the United States attacks Iran, their ties to the United States could make them convenient targets for Iranian missiles.

In order to seek international solutions to the current standoff with Iran, we must work harder to understand Iran's inner workings, which have thus far eluded us. We have indicated our interest in opening an "Interests Section" in Tehran, and Iranians have said they may be open to increased education and cultural exchanges – all positive steps. Training a large cadre of analysts in Iranian politics, language and history would

Only through a conscious effort to monitor language and acquire new knowledge can we hope to reverse the effects of decades of hyperbole, and be ready to face both threats and opportunities with open eyes.

Richard Murphy is an adjunct scholar with the Middle East Institute and former Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs. Ethan Chorin is a senior fellow in the Middle East Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). This article was written for the Common Ground News Service (CGNews) and can be accessed at www.commongroundnews.org.







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Condensed Interim Financial Statements For The Six Months Ended 30 June 2008

National Bank of Yemen, the first in Yemen announces the Interim Financial Statements for the six months ended 31th July 2008

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| BALANCE SI As at 30 June BALANCE SI As at 3 | Note 4 5 | 2008 YR '000 10,699,020 21,940,624 39,344,494 9,350,000 9,120,496 579,050 2,300,119 2,077,770 95,411,573 | 2007 YR '000 12,950,745 26,740,642 33,423,127 9,350,000 8,914,584 144,604 1,661,402 1,917,874 95,102,978 | CCC Initial Color CCC GCC GCC Pr |
| BALANCE SI As at 30 June BALANCE SI As at 3 | Note 4 5 | 2008 YR '000 10,699,020 21,940,624 39,344,494 9,350,000 9,120,496 579,050 2,300,119 2,077,770 95,411,573 | 2007 YR '000 12,950,745 26,740,642 33,423,127 9,350,000 8,914,584 144,604 1,661,402 1,917,874 95,102,978 | CCC Initial Color CCC GCC GCC GCC GCC GCC GCC GCC GCC GC |
| BALANCE SI As at 30 June BALANCE SI As at 3 | Note 4 5 6 7 | 2008 YR '000 10,699,020 21,940,624 39,344,494 9,350,000 9,120,496 579,050 2,300,119 2,077,770 95,411,573 998,582 80,227,884 3,090,824 480,681 84,797,971 7,500,000 639,762 | 2007 YR '000 12,950,745 26,740,642 33,423,127 9,350,000 8,914,584 144,604 1,661,402 1,917,874 95,102,978 572,858 80,961,204 2,587,898 1,260,109 85,382,069 | CCC Initial Color CCC GCC GCC GCC GCC GCC GCC GCC GCC GC |
| BALANCE SI As at 30 June BALANCE SI As at 3 | Note 4 5 6 7 | 2008 YR :000 10,699,020 21,940,624 39,344,494 9,350,000 9,120,496 579,050 2,300,119 2,077,770 95,411,573 998,582 80,227,884 3,090,824 480,681 84,797,971 7,500,000 639,762 1,559,832 | 2007 YR '000 12,950,745 26,740,642 33,423,127 9,350,000 8,914,584 144,604 1,661,402 1,917,874 95,102,978 572,858 80,961,204 2,587,898 1,260,109 85,382,069 | CCI In GG OO |
| BALANCE SI As at 30 June BALANCE SI As at 3 | Note 4 5 6 7 | 2008 YR '000 10,699,020 21,940,624 39,344,494 9,350,000 9,120,496 579,050 2,300,119 2,077,770 95,411,573 998,582 80,227,884 3,090,824 480,681 84,797,971 7,500,000 639,762 | 2007 YR '000 12,950,745 26,740,642 33,423,127 9,350,000 8,914,584 144,604 1,661,402 1,917,874 95,102,978 572,858 80,961,204 2,587,898 1,260,109 85,382,069 | CCI In GG OO |

CONTRA ACCOUNTS AND OTHER COMMITMENTS, NET

| | | | STATEMENT OF The Six Month | |
|--|--------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|------|
| | | Se | urplus On | |
| | 0 11 | | luation Of | |
| | Capital YR 1000 | | YR 1000 | |
| Balance at 31 December 2006 | 5,500,000 | | 639,762 | |
| Net movement in fair value for the year | | | - | |
| Profit for the year Transfer to statutory reserve | | | | |
| Transfer to general reserve | 10.7 | | 2 | |
| Government's share in profit transferred to capital | 1,521,132 | | | |
| Transfer from general reserve to capital Employees' share in profit | 478,868 | | | |
| Balance at 31 December 2007 | 7,500,000 | | 639,762 | |
| Profit for the period | | | | |
| Balance at 30 June 2008 | 7,500,000 | | 639,762 | |
| The Bank's Board of Directors, in its meeting held on 15 A capital. The capital will be raised from the Government's sh | | | | |
| No transfer has been made to the capital and reserves from | | | | |
| | Attached note | s 1 to 19 form a | n integral part | of t |
| INCOME STATEMENT | | | 147 | 1 |
| For The Six Months Ended 30 Jur | | | | |
| | | January / June 2008 | January / June 2007 | |
| Andrew Constant | Note | YR' 000 | YR' 000 | |
| PERATING INCOME | | | | |
| terest on loans and advances and due from banks terest on treasury bills | | 1,053,506 2,677,337 | 1,259,512 2,232,648 | -1 |
| erest on certificates of deposit with the Central Bank of Yemen | | 732,844 | 754,846 | |
| Total interest income | - | 4,463,687 | 4,247,006 | |
| est of deposits | _ | (2,659,599) | (2,215,584) | |
| Net interest income | | 1,804,088 | 2,031,422 | |
| ommissions and fee income on banking services come on available for sale investments | | 434,295 | 354,806 | - |
| ain on foreign currency transactions | | 2,053 64,059 | 2,359 32,143 | |
| her operating income | | 345,988 | 429,256 | |
| NET OPERATING INCOME | | 2,650,483 | 2,849,986 | |
| PERATING EXPENSES | X | - All | | |
| ommissions and fee expenses on banking services | | 38,648 | 31,409 | 1 |
| eneral and administration expenses | | 686,804 | 520,688 | |
| ovisions | 11 | 514,157 | 661,166 | 0 |
| TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES | K= | 1,239,609 | 1,213,263 | |
| PROFIT FOR THE PERIOD BEFORE ZAKAT AND INCOME TAX | | 1,410,874 | 1,636,723 | 1 |
| kat | | (37,500) | (32,500) | |
| PROFIT FOR THE PERIOD AFTER ZAKAT AND BEFORE INCOME TAX | - | 1,373,374 | 1,604,223 | |
| ovision for income tax | 8 | (480,681) | (561,478) | |
| PROFIT FOR THE PERIOD | _ | 892,693 | 1,042,745 | |
| asic earnings per share | 12 | YR 119 | YR 190 | 8 |
| Attached notes 1 to 19 form an integral part of these conden | 7000 | ial statements. | - Andrews | |
| STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS For The Six Months Ended 30 Jun | | | | |
| TO THE SIX MUNICIS ENGED 30 JUN | 2000 | 30 June | 30 June | |
| | | 2008 | 2007 | |
| | | YR 000 | YR 000 | |
| erating profit before changes in assets and liabilities related to operating activities | | 413,519 | 988,690 | |
| tincrease in assets | | (2,675,527) | (4,604,570) | |
| tincrease in liabilities | | 178,927 | 4,921,920 | 1 |
| cash flows (used in) investing activities | | (633,430) | (40,417) | |
| t (decrease) / increase in cash and cash equivalents | | (2,716,511) | 1,265,623 | |
| sh and cash equivalents at 1 January | | 63,940,438 | 61,886,479 | |
| CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT 30 JUNE | Sold and the Transport Control | 61,223,927 | 63,152,103 | |
| Attached notes 1 to 19 form an integral part of these condens NOTES TO THE CONDENSED INTERIM FINANCE | | ar statements. | | |
| For The Six Months Ended 30 Jun | | | | |
| INCORPORATION AND ACTIVITIES | | | | |
| ne National Bank of Yemen (the Bank) was incorporated in Aden in 1969. It is ank undertakes all banking activities through its head office and 28 bra | | | | 1 |

SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

2.1 Basis of Preparation of Condensed Interim Financial Statements

These condensed interim financial statements are prepared in accordance with International Accounting Standard 34: Interim

| | | For | The Six Months | Ended 30 June 2008 | | | | |
|--|---|--|-------------------------------------|--|---|--|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | | Su | rplus On | | | Cumulative | | |
| | | Reval | uation Of | Statutory | General | Changes in Fair | Retained | |
| | Capital | Property | | Reserve | Reserve | Value Reserve | Earnings | Total |
| At | YR 1000 | | YR 1000 | YR 1000 | YR 1000 | YR 000 | YR 000 | YR 1000 |
| December 2006 | 5,500,000 | | 639,762 | 1,060,742 | 275,898 | 19,560 | - | 7,495,962 |
| in fair value for the year | | | - | • | a . | 1,755 | - 0.40.000 | 1,755 |
| tutory reserve | - | | - 5 | 351,030 | | | 2,340,203 (351,030) | 2,340,203 |
| neral reserve | _ | | 2 | 331,030 | 351,030 | | (351,030) | - |
| share in profit transferred to capital | 1,521,132 | | | | - | | (1,521,132) | |
| eneral reserve to capital are in profit | 478,868 | | | | (478,868) | | (117,011) | (117,011) |
| December 2007 | 7,500,000 | | 639,762 | 1,411,772 | 148,060 | 21,315 | | 9,720,909 |
| riod | | | 2 | | 100 P | unitone. | 892,693 | 892,693 |
| The second secon | 7 500 000 | | 620.760 | 4 444 770 | 440,000 | 04.045 | A CONTRACTOR AND A CO | the stranging for the form |
| | 7,500,000 | | 639,762 | 1,411,772 | 148,060 | 21,315 | 892,693 | 10,613,602 |
| ard of Directors, in its meeting held on 15 spital will be raised from the Government's s s been made to the capital and reserves from | hare of profit at in the profit of the | the end of each | n year, as the Ba same is done a | ank's Board of Directo | ors will decide until th | e amount of the capital re | | |
| | | | | | | | 1 9 | |
| For The Six Months Ended 30 Ju | | | et e | investments, financia | l assets and financial lial | have been prepared on a his bilities held at fair value throug ments are presented in Yemeni | h profit or loss and that have | ve been measured at fa |
| | Note | anuary / June 2008 YR' 000 | January / June 2007 YR* 000 | | al except when otherwise | | ruyais and all values are fo | unded to the nearest on |
| honore and this fore basis | | | | Contract Con | na Character and an area of the second | are prepared on a going conc | ern basis in accordance wi | th International Financia |
| lvances and due from banks | | 1,053,506 2,677,337 | 1,259,512 2,232,648 | Reporting Standards | (IFRS) as adopted by the | International Accounting Stand | dards Board (IASB) in force | at 30 June 2008 and th |
| deposit with the Central Bank of Yemen | | 732,844 | 754,846 | | | eporting Interpretations Commit s and regulations and the rules | | |
| Total interest income | | 4,463,687 | 4,247,006 | including those cover | | Yemen circular no. 2 of 2002 re | | |
| Net interest income | - | (2,659,599) 1,804,088 | (2,215,584) | | | and effective for the annual per | | |
| come on banking services | | 434,295 | 2,031,422 354,806 | | | atory for annual periods beginninges to the Bank's accounting po | | The application of thes |
| sale investments | | 2,053 | 2,359 | 1 30/459 ASSAURES SAUSSAU 1901 L | | | | |
| transactions | | 64,059 | 32,143 | | oplying the Restatement A cope of IFRS 2, effective fi | pproach under IAS 29, effective rom 1 May 2006; | nom i march 2006; | |
| | _ | 345,988 | 429,256 | IFRIC 9: Re | eassessment of embedde | d derivatives, effective from 1 Ju | | |
| NET OPERATING INCOME | \$ | 2,650,483 | 2,849,986 | | | and Impairment, effective from ry Share Transactions, effective | | |
| S | | | | | | gements, effective from 1 Janua | | |
| penses on banking services | | 38,648 | 31,409 | IFRIC 14: I. from 1 January | | efined Benefit Asset, Minimum | Funding Requirements and | their Interaction, effective |
| on expenses | 11 | 686,804 514,157 | 520,688 661,166 | | and interpretations issued | but not yet effective: | | |
| TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES | (6) 1 E | 1,239,609 | 1,213,263 | For the avoidance of | doubt, the following stan | dards and interpretations, which | h were issued by the IASB t | pefore 30 June 2008 and |
| HE PERIOD BEFORE ZAKAT AND INCOME TAX | | 1,410,874 | 1,636,723 | are not yet in effect, h | ave not been adopted ea | rty: | | |
| The second secon | | (37,500) | (32,500) | | erating Segments, effective | | orbino from 1 Innue - coco | |
| PERIOD AFTER ZAKAT AND BEFORE INCOME TAX | - | 1,373,374 | 1,604,223 | A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR | | ements (as revised in 2007), effe in 2007), effective from 1 Janua | | |
| The state of the s | 8 | (480,681) | (561,478) | | | mes, effective from 1 July 2008 | * CT-00-0046 | |
| PROFIT FOR THE PERIOD | | 892,693 | 1,042,745 | | | n of these standards/interpreta | tions will result in a significa | int impact on figures and |
| | 12 | YR 119 | YR 190 | Section of the sectio | oorting period they will be emational Financial Reor | adopted. orting Standards in compliance | with local laws and requisito | ns issued by the Centre |
| tached notes 1 to 19 form an integral part of these conde | ensed interim financia | al statements. | | Bank of Yemen are: | | centages for losses on non per | | |
| STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW | _ | | | Central Ban | ik of Yemen circular no. 6 | of 1996 and circular no. 5 of 19 | 98; and | |
| For The Six Months Ended 30 Ju | | | | loans and a | dvances rather than equit | A CONTRACTOR OF THE STATE OF TH | | |
| | | 30 June 2008 | 30 June 2007 | The effect of these de | eviations is immaterial on | the condensed interim financial | statements of the Bank as at | 30 June 2008. |
| | | YR 000 | YR 000 | 2.2 Significant | Accounting Judgments | and Estimates | | |
| anges in assets and liabilities related to operating activities | | 413,519 | 988,690 | The preparation of co | indensed interim financial | statements requires managem | | |
| | | (2,675,527) | (4,604,570) | | | ed amounts of the financial ass of revenue and expenses duri | | |
| and the second second | | 178,927 | 4,921,920 | management of the E | Bank to have a significant | risk of material adjustment in | | |
| vesting activities | | (633,430) | (40,417) | impairment of loans a | | fortan about the | | |
| n cash and cash equivalents | | (2,716,511) | 1,265,623 | The Bank takes into liabilities: | consideration the following | ng factors when determining th | e provisions for loans and a | advances and contingen |
| s at 1 January CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT 30 JUNE | | 63,940,438 | 61,886,479 | CO | customer's financial posit | ion; | | |
| | | 61,223,927 | 63,152,103 | | ntage i.e. the ability of the | customer to conduct profitable | business activities and colle | ect enough money to pay |
| tached notes 1 to 19 form an integral part of these conde | nsed interim financial | statements. | | the debt; Value of the | collateral and possibility | of transferring ownership to the | Rank: and | |
| Notes To The Condensed Interim Finan For The Six Months Ended 30 Ju | | | | Cost of setti | ling the debt. | or canalorning ownership to the | Durin, dilu | |
| TION AND ACTIVITIES | | | | Management Estimate | | as board on blated at | | a alban for a second |
| emen (the Bank) was incorporated in Aden in 1969. It anking activities through its head office and 28 br ugh two branches in Sana'a, and one branch in each | anches spread all of Hodeidah and T | over the Souther aiz. The Bank is r | m and Eastern egistered under | believed by the Bank | to be reasonable under to | are based on historical experie the circumstances, the results of at are not readily apparent from | which form the basis of mal | king the judgments abou |
| number 1748 and its Head Office is at Queen Arwa en. | Gueer, and its post | aduless is P. U | . Dox 5, Crater, | the period in which th | | e reviewed on a regular basis. e revision affects only that perio | | |

the revision affects both current and future periods.

2.3 Summary of Principal Accounting Policies

followed in the full set interim financial statements for the period ended 30 June 2007.

The significant accounting policies followed are the same as those followed for the year ended 31 December 2007 as well as those

| Risk is inherent in the Bank's activities but it is managed thri subject to risk limits and other controls. This process of risk individual within the Bank is accountable for the risk exposures. The Bank is exposed to credit risk, liquidity risk, interest rate risk. Credit Risk Loans and credit facilities to customers and banks, current accoonsidered as financial assets exposed to credit risk. Credit risk they fall due. In order to comply with the Central Bank of Yemen circular no Bank adheres to certain minimum standards in order to properful naddition to the standards stated in the above-mentioned circusyposure are: • preparing credit studies on customers and banks befieve obtaining sufficient collateral to minimize the credit risk or banks; • follow-up and period reviews of customers and banks befieve obtaining sufficient collateral to minimize the credit risk shown gross, before the effect of mitigation by the use of collateral to repart of the standards stated in the above-mentioned circusyposure are: Cash in hand and reserve balances with the Central Bank of Due from Bank Treasury bills Certificates of deposit with Central Bank of Yemen Loans and advances to customers, net of provision Available for sale investments, net Debit balances and other commitments Total assets Contra accounts and other commitments Total credit risk exposure The Bank manages concentration of risk by distributing the port no. 15 shows the distribution of financial instruments based on gliquidity risk is the risk that the Bank will be unable to meet its limit this risk, the Bank's management in addition to its core deflows and liquidity on a daily basis and has arranged diversified. The table below shows the maturity analysis for financial liabilities LIABILITIES YR 7000 Liquidity Risk Liabilities Total liabilities Follation to the above, note no. 14 shows the maturity analysis Interest Rate Risk | ough a process k management i relating to his or ik and exchange counts and depot sk represents the counts and depot sk represents the counts and depot sk represents the country of 1997 per ular, additional proceeding with risk exposure whenks in order to over diversified so for the componeral agreements of Yemen (excluding sources) of Yemen (excluding sources) payment obligations or the componeral agreements of Yemen (excluding sources) and the country of Yemen (exc | is critical to the rher responsibil rate risk. sits with banks are inability of the ertaining to the dit risk. rocedures appli them and deter nich may result evaluate their ectors to minimi ents of the ball ing cash in hand diffied economic artified economic artif | and rights | obligations fromeet their oblig of credit risk e. sk to minimize the credit risk problems facin tions, credit risk problems facin tions, credit risk to maximum 30 June 2008 YR 700 624,636 940,624 ,344,494 ,344,494 ,344,494 ,344,494 ,345,000 120,496 579,050 ,300,119 ,259,419 ,887,538 ,146,957 aggraphical local | m others are pations when exposure, the credit risk crates; go customers ting and the cexposure is 31 December 2007 YR 7000 11,240,202 26,740,642 33,423,127 9,350,000 8,914,584 144,604 146,61402 91,474,561 44,655,854 136,130,415 ations. Note | | 4,779,268 16,213,741 29,277,279 9,350,000 2,269,069 340,363 62,229,720 29,734,897 521,058 30,255,955 31,973,765 31,973,765 31,973,765 an circular no. 6 erves, and that the properties process funds in force by positions of the exposures to force the exposure the exposures to force the exposure the exposure the exposures to force the exposure the exposure the exposure the exposure the exposure the exposure that the exposure the exposure the exposure the exposure the exposure the exposure that the exposure the exposure the exposure the exposure the exposure that the exposure the exposure the exposure that the exposure the exposure the exposure that the exposure the exposure that the exposure the exposure that th | sitions in complia of 1998 which s the aggregate op entral Bank of Ye eign currencies to Bank are shown eign currencies: Pound erling R 1000 4,533 1,8 3,361) (1,43) | ance with the C pecifies that in pen position for men circular no o the Central B n in note no. 17. Euro Sa YR'000 811,200 1. | Central Bank of dividual foreign all currences and currences ank of Yernen and Riyal YR'000 ,368,666 300,853) | Other currencies YR'000 145,934 (121,266) |
|--|--|--|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Risk is inherent in the Bank's activities but it is managed thrisubject to risk limits and other controls. This process of risk individual within the Bank is accountable for the risk exposures. The Bank is exposed to credit risk, liquidity risk, interest rate risk. Credit Risk Loans and credit facilities to customers and banks, current acconsidered as financial assets exposed to credit risk. Credit risk they fall due. In order to comply with the Central Bank of Yemen circular in Bank adheres to certain minimum standards in order to properful naddition to the standards stated in the above-mentioned circular exposure are: preparing credit studies on customers and banks befine the obtaining sufficient collateral to minimize the credit risk shown gross, before the effect of mitigation by the use of collate arequired provision for non-performing loans; distributing credit portfolio and balances with banks of the shown gross, before the effect of mitigation by the use of collate Certificates of deposit with Central Bank of Yemen Loans and advances to customers, net of provision Available for sale investments, net Debit balances and other assets Contra accounts and other commitments Total credit risk exposure The Bank manages concentration of risk by distributing the port no. 15 shows the distribution of financial instruments based on the Liquidity Risk Liquidity Risk Liquidity risk is the risk that the Bank will be unable to meet its limit this risk, the Bank's management in addition to its core diflows and liquidity on a daily basis and has arranged diversified flows and liquidity on a daily basis and has arranged diversified flows and liquidity on a daily basis and has arranged diversified. LiABILITIES Proton Less than 3 months LIABILITIES LIABILITIES LIABILITIES Liabilities Total liabilities 50,846,411 As at 31 December 2007 Less than 3 months Liabilities Liabilities Total liabilities 50,181,363 In addition to the above, note no. 14 shows the maturity analysis interest rate risk arises fro | ough a process k management i relating to his or ik and exchange counts and deposisk represents the counts and deposisk represents the count of 1997 per y manage its crecular, additional proceeding with risk exposure when the componeral agreements of Yemen (excluding the county of Yemen (excluding geographical locupayment obligation posit base, man funding sources ites that shows the | is critical to the rher responsibil rate risk. sits with banks are inability of the ertaining to the dit risk. rocedures appli them and deter nich may result evaluate their ectors to minimi ents of the ball ing cash in hand diffied economic artified economic artif | and rights | obligations fromeet their oblig of credit risk e. sk to minimize the credit risk problems facin tions, credit risk problems facin tions, credit risk to maximum 30 June 2008 YR 700 624,636 940,624 ,344,494 ,344,494 ,344,494 ,344,494 ,345,000 120,496 579,050 ,300,119 ,259,419 ,887,538 ,146,957 aggraphical local | m others are pations when exposure, the credit risk crates; go customers ting and the cexposure is 31 December 2007 YR 7000 11,240,202 26,740,642 33,423,127 9,350,000 8,914,584 144,604 146,61402 91,474,561 44,655,854 136,130,415 ations. Note | Cash in hand and reserve balances with the Cent Bank of Yemen Due from banks Treasury bills, net Cartificates of deposit with Central Bank of Yemen Loans and advances to customers, net of provision Available for sale Investments, net Debit balances and other assets Property plant and equipments Total assets LIABILITIES AND EQUITY Due to banks Customers' deposits Credit balances and other liabilities Income tax payable Equity Total liabilities and equity Interest rate sensitivity gap Cumulative interest rate sensitivity gap Exchange Rate Risk Due to the nature of the Bank's activities, I Bank strives to maintain a balanced foreig requirements of the Central Bank of Yem exceed 15% of the Bank's capital and res Bank's capital and reserves. In order to of foreign currency positions and sells the ex date of sale. The significant foreign curren. The Bank had the following significant net As at 30 June 2008 United St. Liabilities [26,386.5] | 3 months YR'000 al 4,779,268 16,213,741 29,277,279 9,350,000 2,269,069 340,363 62,229,720 29,734,897 521,058 30,255,955 31,973,765 31,973,765 he Bank deals in in currencies posen circular no. 6 erves, and that it sumply with the Cess funds in forcy positions of the exposures to formates (b) 1000 YF 576 2,324 43) (1,896) | 6 months YR'000 2,673,410 1,470,377 14,792 4,158,579 8,777,278 70,413 6,847,691 (4,689,112) 27,284,653 diffferent foreign sitions in complia of 1998 which s the aggregate opentral Bank of Ye eign currencies to Bank are shown reign currencies: Pound erfing R'000 4,533 1,8 3,361) (1,43 | 1 year YR'000 396,580 4,145,848 2,045,873 1,849 6,592,150 16,705,107 112,662 16,817,769 (10,225,619) 17,059,034 currencies; hen ance with the C pecifies that inven position for monor crucular not on the Central B in note no. 17. Euro Sa YR'000 311,200 1,33,051) (1,30,051) (1,30,051) | 1 year YR'000 3,129,265 925 3,130,190 3,130,190 20,189,224 ance it is expose central Bank of dividual foreign all currencies o. 6 of 1998, thank of Yemen and Riyal YR'000 3,368,666 300,853) | Sensitiv YR 700 8,171,47 7,454,91 144,60 1,303,47 1,917,87 18,992,33 572,855 25,743,92 1,883,76 1,260,10 9,720,99 39,181,56 (20,189,224 do exchange f Yemen instance unrency postal not exchange f Yemen instance at the prevail of the regulation of |
| subject to risk limits and other controls. This process of risk individual within the Bank is accountable for the risk exposures. The Bank is exposed to credit risk, liquidity risk, interest rate risk Credit Risk Loans and credit facilities to customers and banks, current acconsidered as financial assets exposed to credit risk. Credit risk they fall due. In order to comply with the Central Bank of Yemen circular ne Bank adheres to certain minimum standards in order to properly in addition to the standards stated in the above-mentioned circular networks. • preparing credit studies on customers and banks befile obtaining sufficient collateral to minimize the credit in or banks; • follow-up and period reviews of customers and banks befile obtaining sufficient collateral to minimize the credit in or banks; • follow-up and period reviews of customers and banks befile or banks; • follow-up and period reviews of customers and banks befile or banks; • follow-up and period reviews of customers and banks befile or banks; • follow-up and period reviews of customers and banks of distributing credit portfolio and balances with banks of customers, before the effect of mitigation by the use of collaters. 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| LIABILITIES Due to banks Questioners' deposits Income tax payable Total liabilities As at 31 December 2007 Less than 3 months LIABILITIES PYR'000 Due to banks Customers' deposits LIABILITIES PYR'000 Due to banks Total liabilities Less than 3 months | 6 month | 222 | hs to year | Over 1 year | Total | Net currency position 762, | 527 295 | 5,7472 | 296,513 | 285,737 | 26,090 |
| Due to banks 998,582 Customers' deposits 49,847,829 Income tax payable 50,846,411 As at 31 December 2007 Less than 3 months LIABILITIES YR 7000 Due to banks 572,858 Customers' deposits 49,608,505 Income tax payable 50,181,363 In addition to the above, note no. 14 shows the maturity analysi Interest Rate Risk Interest rate risk arises from the possibility that changes in interest rate risk arises from the possibility that correlating interest rates on borrowing with interest rate considering the discount rates for different currencies controlling the matching of maturity dates of financia The table below shows the Bank's exposure to interest rate risks As at 30 June 2008 Less than 3 months | YR'00 | | 2'000 | YR'000 | YR'000 | Capital Management | odal managamen | at are to seem | a that the Dan | uk somolioo u | ith automal i |
| Total liabilities 50,846,411 As at 31 December 2007 Less than 3 months LIABILITIES YR'000 Due to banks 572,858 Customers' deposits 49,608,505 In come tax payable 50,181,363 In addition to the above, note no. 14 shows the maturity analysis interest rate risk arises from the possibility that changes in interest rate risk arises from the possibility that changes in interest rate risk arises from the possibility that changes in interest rate risk arises from the possibility that changes in interest rate risk arises from the possibility that changes in interest rate risk arises from the possibility that changes in interest rate risk arises from the possibility that changes in interest rate risk arises for different currencies controlling the matching of maturity dates of financial. The table below shows the Bank's exposure to interest rate risks as at 30 June 2008 Less than 3 months | 40 0E4 26 | 9 20,256 | - | 69,122 | 998,582 80,227,884 | The primary objectives of the Bank's ca requirements and that the Bank maintain | s strong credit ra | atings and health | ny capital ratios | . The capital | adequacy is |
| As at 31 December 2007 Less than 3 months LIABILITIES YR 000 Due to banks 572,858 Customers' deposits 49,608,505 Income tax payable 50,181,363 In addition to the above, note no. 14 shows the maturity analysis interest rate risk arises from the possibility that changes in ininstruments. The Bank performs a number of procedures to lime correlating interest rates on borrowing with interest rate considering the discount rates for different currencies controlling the matching of maturity dates of financial. The table below shows the Bank's exposure to interest rates risks as at 30 June 2008 Less than 3 months | 10,054,38 | |),681 | | 480,681 | quarterly basis by the management of the of Yemen for supervisory purposes. The | | | | | |
| Less than 3 months LIABILITIES Due to banks Customers' deposits Income tax payable Total liabilities Total liabilities Total shows the maturity analysi Interest Rate Risk Interest rate risk arises from the possibility that changes in intinstruments. The Bank performs a number of procedures to lim correlating interest rates on borrowing with interest rate considering the discount rates for different currencies controlling the matching of maturity dates of financia The table below shows the Bank's exposure to interest rate risks As at 30 June 2008 Less than 3 months | 10,054,38 | 20,737 | ,225 | 69,122 | 81,707,147 | The Central Bank of Yemen requires each | 18 | | | | 2 5 |
| Less than 3 months LIABILITIES Due to banks Customers' deposits Income tax payable Total liabilities Total liabilities Total shows the maturity analysi Interest Rate Risk Interest rate risk arises from the possibility that changes in intinstruments. The Bank performs a number of procedures to lim correlating interest rates on borrowing with interest rate considering the discount rates for different currencies controlling the matching of maturity dates of financia The table below shows the Bank's exposure to interest rate risks As at 30 June 2008 Less than 3 months | | Fr | rom 6 | | | the internationally agreed minimum of 8 | | | | | |
| LIABILITIES Due to banks 572,858 Customers' deposits Income tax payable Total liabilities 50,181,363 In addition to the above, note no. 14 shows the maturity analysi Interest Rate Risk Interest rate risk arises from the possibility that changes in interstruments. The Bank performs a number of procedures to lim correlating interest rates on borrowing with interest ra- considering the discount rates for different currencies controlling the matching of maturity dates of financia The table below shows the Bank's exposure to interest rate risks As at 30 June 2008 Less than 3 months | From 3 6 monti | | ths to year | Over 1 year | Total | deposits at or above 5%. | | | | | |
| Customers' deposits 49,608,505 Income tax payable 50,181,363 In addition to the above, note no. 14 shows the maturity analysi Interest Rate Risk Interest Rate Risk Interest rate risk arises from the possibility that changes in intinstruments. The Bank performs a number of procedures to lim correlating interest rates on borrowing with interest rate considering the discount rates for different currencies controlling the matching of maturity dates of financia. The table below shows the Bank's exposure to interest rate risks As at 30 June 2008 Less than 3 months | YR'00 | | R'000 | YR'000 | YR'000 | The total capital of the Bank is divided in t | wo tiers: | | | | |
| Income tax payable Total liabilities 50,181,363 In addition to the above, note no. 14 shows the maturity analysi Interest Rate Risk Interest rate risk arises from the possibility that changes in intinstruments. The Bank performs a number of procedures to lime correlating interest rates on borrowing with interest rate considering the discount rates for different currencies controlling the matching of maturity dates of financia The table below shows the Bank's exposure to interest rate risks As at 30 June 2008 Less than 3 months | 9,486,53 | 39 20,399 | 0.412 1 | 466,747 | 572,858 80,961,204 | Tier 1 capital: which comprises the share Tier 2 capital: which comprises the revalu | | | | choses | n in fair valva |
| In addition to the above, note no. 14 shows the maturity analysi Interest Rate Risk Interest Rate Risk Interest rate risk arises from the possibility that changes in interestrate risk arises from the possibility that changes in interstrate. The Bank performs a number of procedures to lime correlating interest rates on borrowing with interest rate considering the discount rates for different currencies controlling the matching of maturity dates of financial. The table below shows the Bank's exposure to interest rate risks As at 30 June 2008 Less than 3 months | 1,260,10 | | | | 1,260,109 | sale investments. | duuti tesetves di | na umeanzeu ge | anis ansing non | i any changes |) iii iaii value |
| Interest Rate Risk Interest rate risk arises from the possibility that changes in infinistruments. The Bank performs a number of procedures to lim correlating interest rates on borrowing with interest rate considering the discount rates for different currencies controlling the matching of maturity dates of financia The table below shows the Bank's exposure to interest rate risks As at 30 June 2008 Less than 3 months | 10,746,64 | 48 20,399 | 9,413 1, | 466,747 | 82,794,171 | Investment in any local bank or finance of | mpany is deduct | led from the Tier | 1 and Tier 2 ca | apital. The ba | lance of gene |
| Interest rate risk arises from the possibility that changes in infinistruments. The Bank performs a number of procedures to lim correlating interest rates on borrowing with interest rate considering the discount rates for different currencies controlling the matching of maturity dates of financia The table below shows the Bank's exposure to interest rate risks As at 30 June 2008 Less than 3 months | is of assets and | liabilities and th | e net gap betw | veen the two. | | loans and advances is added to the Tier 1 | | | | 38 612121 C 1902 - 2003 | Stranger St |
| correlating interest rates on borrowing with interest rate considering the discount rates for different currencies controlling the matching of maturity dates of financia The table below shows the Bank's exposure to interest rate risks As at 30 June 2008 Less than 3 months | | | | | the financial | The risk - weighted assets are measure reflecting an estimate of credit, market ar collateral or guarantees. A similar treatm | d other risks ass | sociated with each | ch asset and co | ounterparty, tal | king into acco |
| controlling the matching of maturity dates of financial that the table below shows the Bank's exposure to interest rate risks. As at 30 June 2008 Less than 3 months. | ites on lending; | | | | | contingent nature of potential losses. | | | | | |
| The table below shows the Bank's exposure to interest rate risks As at 30 June 2008 Less than 3 months | | | s; | | | The Bank complied with all the externally | mposed capital r | equirements to v | which they are | subject. | |
| As at 30 June 2008 Less than 3 months | al assets and lia | bilities. | | | | The capital adequacy is calculated as folk | wc. | | | | |
| As at 30 June 2008 Less than 3 months | | | | | | | | | | | 30 June |
| 2 months | | From 6 | | | | | | | | | 2008 'million |
| | From 3 to | months to | Over | Non Interest Sensitive | Total | Tier 1 capital | | | | in | |
| 111,000 | 6 months YR'000 | 1 year YR'000 | 1 year YR'000 | Sensitive YR'000 | YR'000 | Capital Statutory reserve | | | | | 7,500 1,411 |
| Cash in hand and reserve balances with the Central | | | | | | General reserve | ing together | | | | 148 |
| Bank of Yemen Due from banks 18,319,842 | 499,450 | | 1,114,770 | 10,699,020 2,006,562 | 10,699,020 21,940,624 | Profit for the period before provision Total | or taxation Tier 1 capital | | | | 1,373 |
| Treasury bills, net 33,331,939 Certificates of deposit with Central Bank of Yemen 9,350,000 | | 6,012,555 | | | 39,344,494 9,350,000 | Tier 2 capital | | | | | |
| Loans and advances to customers, net of provision 4,319,404 | 692,517 | 2,491,425 | 1,617,150 | | 9,120,496 | Property revaluation reserve | | | | | 640 |
| Available for sale Investments, net Debit balances and other assets 266,010 | 1,971 | | 4,399 | 579,050 2,027,739 | 579,050 2,300,739 | Fair value reserve Total | Tier 2 capital | | | 8 | 661 |
| Property plant and equipments | | | | 2,077,770 | 2,077,770 | Investment in any local banks or financial | | | | - | (62) |
| Total assets 65,587,195 | 1,193,938 | 8,503,980 | 2,736,319 | 17,390,141 | 95,411,573 | General provision balance as at period / y | ear end | | | | 119 |
| LIABILITIES AND EQUITY Due to banks - | | | | 998,582 | 998,582 | Total q | ualifying capital | | | | 11,150 |
| Customers' deposits 30,193,261 Credit balances and other liabilities 358,773 | 4 | 18,655,897 221,680 | | 22,231,557 2,401,680 | 80,227,884 3,090,824 | Risk weighted assets | | | | | |
| Income tax payable - | 9,147,169 108,691 | | | 480,681 | 480,681 | On balance sheet | | | | | 15,036 |
| Equity - 20 552 024 | 9,147,169 108,691 | 40 077 577 | | 10,613,602 | 10,613,602 | Off balance sheet Total risk | - weighted assets | s | | | 6,710 21,746 |
| Total liabilities and equity 30,552,034 Interest rate sensitivity gap 35,035,161 | 108,691 | 18,877,577 | 2,736,319 | 36,726,102 | 95,411,573 | Capital adequacy ratios | | | | | |
| Cumulative interest rate sensitivity gap 35,035,161 | 9,255,860 | (10.373.507) | A STATE OF THE STA | 1.0,000,001) | | Tier 1 capital | | | | | 48% |
| Johnson advisority gap | 108,691 | (10,373,597) | 19,335,961 | | | Total capital | | | | | 51% |

| Total | 4 CASH IN HAND AND RESERVE D | nanitued III | IN THE CENT | IVAL BANK OF TE | | June | 31 December |
|-------------------------|--|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--|
| YR'000 | | | | | | 2008 | 2007 YR 1000 |
| 2,950,745 | Cash in hand: | | | | | ,267 | 864,470 |
| 6,740,642 3,423,127 | In local currency In foreign currencies | | | | 649 | ,117 | 846,073 |
| 9,350,000 8,914,584 | Cheques purchased, net | h in hand | | | 1,099 | 716 | 13,768 |
| 144,604 1,661,402 | | | | | 1,033 | ,710 | 1,724,511 |
| 1,917,874 | Reserve balances with the Central Bank of Ye In local currency | emen: | | | 3,561 | ,353 | 4,779,268 |
| 5,102,978 | In foreign currencies | | | | 6,037 | | 6,447,166 |
| 572,858 | Total reserve balances with | | | | 9,599 | 7.21.63 | 11,226,434 |
| 0,961,204 2,587,898 | Total cash in hand and reserve balar | | | | 10,699 | | 12,950,745 |
| 1,260,109 9,720,909 | In accordance with the Yemeni Banks Law no of Yemen at stipulated percentages on local | currency and f | oreign currence | ies of its demand, | time and other | er deposits. | In accordance |
| 5,102,978 | with the Central Bank of Yemen circular no. from 10% to 7%. The rate of foreign currence | | | | | | |
| 0,102,370 | (2007: local currency - 13% and foreign curre | | | | | | ************************************** |
| Nati | 5 DUE FROM BANKS | | | | | | |
| | 3 DOET ROM BANKS | | | | 30 | June | 31 Decembe |
| | Due from the Central Bank of Yemen and oti | per local hanks | | | V | 2008 R 1000 | 200 YR'00 |
| risk. The | Current accounts with the Central Bank of Ye | | | | | | |
| and the shall not | In local currency In foreign currencies | | | | | 9,730 7,398 | 5,833,79 886,12 |
| % of the onitors its | Total due from the Current account balances with local banks | Central Bank | of Yemen | | | 7,128 1,974 | 6,719,920 |
| es on the | Total due from the Central Bar | k of Yemen ar | nd other local b | anks | | 9,102 | 6,721,90 |
| | Due from foreign banks and other financial in | etitutione | | | - | | |
| | Current and demand account balances | GRUNUNG | | | | 8,335 | 3,520,168 |
| Total | Provision for outstanding reconciling items Time deposits | | | | 15,72 | 4,048 | (22,775 16,521,349 |
| YR'000 | Total due from foreign bank | s and other fin | ancial institutio | ns | 20,71 | 1,522 | 20,018,74 |
| 3,096,909 | Total due | from banks | | | 21,94 | 0,624 | 26,740,642 |
| 138,074) | Current accounts and time deposits with for | | rry variable inte | erest rates while or | urrent accoun | ts with the C | Central Bank o |
| 1,958,835 | Yemen and local banks do not carry any inte 6 LOANS AND ADVANCES TO CU: | | T OF PROVIS | ION | | | |
| Total | COMIGNIE ADVANCEO TO GO | orometto, its | 0 | | 30 | June | 31 Decembe |
| YR'000 | Loans and advances to customers in the priv | ata sector | | | V | 2008 R 1000 | 200° YR'000 |
| 4,630,452 | Overdraft facilities | ate sector. | | | 6,47 | 1,487 | 6,568,294 |
| 2,963,838) | Short term loans Total loans and advances to | a austamam im | the private cou | otor | 11,29 | 7.504 | 4,241,22 10,809,52 |
| 1,666,614 | Provision for losses on non performing loans | | | Lioi | (2,049 | 1,712) | (1,804,949 |
| ed capital | Suspended interest (note 6-b) | a lease and a | duanasa and c | wanandad internet | | 7,386) | (89,988 |
| ored on a | Total provision for losses on non performing Neloans and adv | | | uspended interest | | 0,496 | 8,914,58 |
| luai bank | Gross non-performing loans and advances | | | nted to YR 2,949, | | _ | |
| or above | 2,715,490 thousand). The breakup of the ab | | | | | | |
| customer | | | | | 30 | June 2008 | 31 Decembe 200 |
| | 2000 | | | | | 000 9 | YR'00 |
| | Substandard debts Doubtful debts | | | | 93 | 6,522 1,830 | 694,15 602,03 |
| ailable for | Bad debts | | | | | 0,985 | 1,419,30 |
| anabio ioi | Total gross non perfo | rming loans ar | nd advances | | 2,94 | 9,337 | 2,715,49 |
| ovision for | 6-a Provision for Losses on Non-Perfor | ming Loans ar | nd Advances | | | | |
| *essenestarin | In accordance with article no. 85 of the Bank of the Income Tax Law no. 31 of 1991 as am | | | | | | |
| are of and | advances made by a bank in compliance wi | th the regulation | ons of the Cen | tral Bank of Yeme | en in this resp | ect, are not | subject to the |
| ny eligible the more | provisions of any income tax law and are allow Details of movements in the provision for pos | | | | | as follows: | |
| | | | -30 June 2008 | | 28 | December 20 | 007 |
| | | Specific YR'000 | General YR'000 | Total YR'000 | Specific YR'000 | General YR'000 | Total YR'000 |
| | Balance at 1 January | 1,673,333 | 131,616 | 1,804,949 | 1,573,179 | 63,857 | 1,637,036 |
| | Revaluation of opening balance in foreign currencies | 678 | 97 | 775 | 3,590 | 250 | 3,840 |
| December 2007 | Amount utilized during the period / year. | (2,152) | | (2,152) | (7,406) | | (7,406) |
| 'R * million | Adjusted opening balance Amounts recovered of loans previously written | 1,671,859 | 131,713 | 1,803,572 | 1,569,363 | 64,107 | 1,633,470 |
| 7,500 | off Provision for the period / year (note 11) | (176,343) 435,278 | (22,353) 9,558 | (198,696) 444,836 | (731,251) 835,221 | (12,005) 79,514 | (743,256) 914,735 |
| 1,411 | Charged to the income statement Balance at end of period / year | 258,935 1,930,794 | (12,795) | 2,049,712 | 1,673,333 | 67,509 131,616 | 1,804,949 |
| 9.059 | Management has decided to provide for the | | | | | | |
| 9,039 | rate of 2% (2007: 2%). | acidia picin | | | | | |
| 640 | The Bank has, during the period, written-off thousands) against impairment provisions | | | | | | |
| 21 | management believes the possibility of recovery of these loans through all possible means a | veries is remot | e. The Bank's | management, how | wever, continu | ues to pursu | e the recovery |
| (62) | statement. | ind any luture | recovery mon | ulese willion on | iodiio wiii bo | rocograsco | ar are moonie |
| 122 | 6-b <u>Suspended Interest</u> | | | | | | |
| 9,790 | This represents interest on non-performing which is recognised as revenue only when co | | vances in acco | ordance with the C | Central Bank | of Yemen re | egulations and |
| 0,100 | and the same and t | | | | 30 | June | 31 December |
| 14,024 | | | | | Y | 2008 R'000 | 2007 YR'000 |
| 7,218 | Balance at 1 January | | | | | 9,988 | 53,381 |
| 21,242 | Exchange differences for the period / year Amounts written-off during the period / year | | | | | 783 (339) | (277) |
| | Recovered during the period / year | | | | | (926) 7.880 | 36 884 |

Balance at end of period / year



National Bank Of Yemen



Condensed Interim Financial Statements For The Six Months Ended 30 June 2008

| 7 | AVAILABLE FOR SALE INVESTMENTS, NET | | | | |
|----------|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| These | comprise investments, available for sale, in the following | g banks and finan | cial institution: | | |
| | | Ownership Percentage % | No. of shares of US\$ 1 each | 30 June 2008 YR 1000 | 31 December 2007 YR'000 |
| Unquot | ted investments in UBAF Group: | 100 | | 0.000 17,000 | 77,000 |
| U | JBAF - Curacao - A Shares of US \$ 1 each | 0.788 | 1.497.200 | 17.982 | 17,982 |
| U | JBAF - Curacao - B Shares of US \$ 1 each | 0.783 | 234.650 | 2,818 | 2,818 |
| U | JBAF - Curacao - C Shares of US \$ 1 each | 1.371 | 528,250 | 6,344 | 6,344 |
| | Total investment in shares in UBAF Group | | 2,260,100 | 27,144 | 27,144 |
| Other u | inquoted investments: | | | | |
| A | LUBAF Arab International Bank (BSC) | 0.344 | | 2.067 | 2,067 |
| A | LUBAF Arab International Bank (BSC) | | | 34.362 | -,00, |
| A | rab Financial Services Company - Bahrain (note 7-a) | 0.167 | | 21.487 | 21,487 |
| | emen Financial Services Company - Yemen (note 7-b) emen Mobile Company for Telecommunication - Yemen | 10.000 | | 62,001 | 61,917 |
| | note 7-c) | 0.139 | | 61.200 | 61,200 |
| | slamic investment deposits with two local banks | 0.133 | | 400,000 | 61,200 |
| | Total other unquoted investments | | 2.7 | 581,117 | 146,671 |
| | Total available for sale investments | | | 608.261 | 173,815 |
| Provisio | on for impairment (note 7-d) | | | (29,211) | (29,211) |
| | Net book value of investments available for sale | | 107 | 579,050 | 144,604 |
| 7-a | Arab Financial Services Company - Bahrain | | _ | | |

The fair value of the investment in Arab Financial Services Company - Bahrain is based on the book value of shares as per the company's latest audited financial statement (i.e. for the year ended 31 December 2007) which amounted to US\$ 9.94 per share (2007: US\$ 9.94 per share).

7-b Yemen Financial Services Company - Yemen

The Bank has contributed a sum of USD 310 thousands to the capital of Yemen Financial Services Company (Closed Yemeni Shareholding Company), which had been established in joint venture with a number of other local banks. The share capital of YFSC is

Yemen Mobile Company for Telecommunication - Yemen

The Bank has purchased 120,000 shares of YR 500 each for a sum of YR 60 million of Yemen Mobile Company for Telecommunication (Yemeni Shareholding Company). The total share capital of this Company is YR 43,262 million. The Bank paid YR 1,200,000 as acquisition costs which have been added to cost in accordance with IAS 39: Financial Instrument - Recognition

7-d Provision for Impairment

Since no dividends were received from the investments in UBAF - Curacao and AlUBAF Arab International Bank (BSC) during the last few years and no dividends are expected to be received in the coming years, a full impairment provision was taken for the balances of those investments because their net present value is nil. No provision is made for the new investment made during the period in AUBAF Arab International Bank (BSC).

| 8 INCOME TAX PAYABLE | |
|--|-------------|
| 30 June | 31 December |
| 2008 | 2007 |
| Amounts due to the Tax Authority YR'000 | YR'000 |
| Balance at 1 January 1,260,109 | 917,415 |
| Charged for the period / year in the income statement (note 8-a) 480,681 | 1,260,109 |
| Total amounts due to the Tax Authority 1,740,790 | 2,177,524 |
| Amount paid during the period / year (1,260,109) | (917,415) |

8-a Charge for the Period / Year The tax provision for the period has been calculated on the basis of 35% of the profit for the period.

The Bank received on 7 May 2008 the final tax clearance for the income tax liability for the financial year ended 31 December 2007.

9-a Authorized Capital

The authorized share capital amounting YR 10,000 million (2007: YR 10,000 million) consists of 10,000 thousand shares of YR 1,000 par value each (2007: of 10,000 thousand shares of YR 1,000 par value each).

9-b Declared and Paid Up Capital

The declared and paid up share capital amounting YR 7,500 million (2007; YR 7,500 million) consists of 7,500 thousand shares of YR 1,000 par value each (2007; 7,500 thousand shares of YR 1,000 par value each).

In accordance with the provisions of the Public Corporations, Establishments and Companies Law no. 35 of 1991, the annual profit

-15% to statutory reserve;

- 15% to general reserve; 65% to the Government for its share of profit;
- 2% to employee's incentives; and 3% to employees' social fund.
- 9-d Surplus On Revaluation Of Property Reserve

The difference between the revalued amounts of the freehold land and the buildings and their book value as at 31 December 1999 had been credited to this account and included in equity 9-e <u>Cumulative Changes in Fair Value Reserve</u>

In accordance with the provisions of IAS 39: Financial Instruments - Recognition and Measurement, the differences between the fair values and the book values of the "available for sale" investments are recognized in the cumulative changes in fair value until they are sold, collected, disposed off, or until they are determined to be impaired, at which time the cumulative gain or loss previously

10 CONTRA ACCOUNTS AND OTHER COMMITMENTS, NET

Credit related commitments include commitments to extend credit, standby letters of credit and guarantees, which are designed to meet the requirements of the Bank's customers.

Commitments to extend credit represent contractual commitments to make loans and revolving credits. Commitments generally have fixed expiration dates or other termination clauses and require the payment of a fee. Since commitments may expire without being drawn upon, the total contract amounts do not necessarily represent future cash requirements.

Standby letters of credit and guarantees commit the Bank to make payments on behalf of customers' contingent upon the failure of

The commitments on behalf of customers for which there were corresponding customer liabilities, as of the balance sheet date, consisted of the following:

| As at 30 June 2008 | Gross commitments YR 1000 | Covered by margin YR 1000 | commitments YR'000 |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Documentary letters of credit | 23,727,067 | 4,508,407 | 19,218,660 |
| Letters of guarantee - customers | 5,710,664 | 1,359,674 | 4,350,990 |
| Letters of guarantee - correspondent banks | 8,309,956 | | 8,309,956 |
| Credit cards | 71,521 | 19,928 | 51,593 |
| Cheques purchased | 68,330 | 10,249 | 58,081 |
| Total contra accounts and other commitments | 37,887,538 | 5,898,258 | 31,989,280 |
| As at 31 December 2007 | Gross commitments YR 1000 | Covered by margin YR 000 | Net commitments YR'000 |
| Documentary letters of credit | 29,527,323 | 7,151,094 | 22,376,229 |
| Letters of guarantee - customers | 5,554,043 | 1,361,825 | 4,192,218 |
| Letters of guarantee - correspondent banks | 9,489,936 | NET DETECTIONS | 9,489,936 |
| Credit cards | 65,439 | 14,759 | 50,680 |
| Cheques purchased | 19,113 | 2,867 | 16,246 |
| Total contra accounts and other commitments | 44,655,854 | 8,530,545 | 36,125,309 |
| | | | |

| | | January / June 2008 YR 1000 | January / June 2007 YR 1000 |
|-------|---|---|---|
| Prov | rision for losses on loans and advances (note 6 -a) rision for off-balance sheet items er provisions | 444,836 69,321 | 557,286 103,776 104 |
| | Total provisions | 514,157 | 661,166 |
| 12 | BASIC EARNINGS PER SHARE | | |
| | | January / June 2008 YR 1000 | January / June 2007 YR 1000 |
| Prof | it for the period | 892,693 | 1,042,745 |
| Weig | phted average number of shares | 7,500,000 | 5,500,000 |
| | Basic earnings per share | YR 119 | YR 190 |
| 13 | RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS | | |
| and c | ordinary course of business, the Bank conducts transactions with certain of its companies in which they own 25% or more of its capital and who were custome transactions are approved by the Bank's management. | directors, senior managements of the Bank during the pe | it and their families riod. The terms of |
| The p | eriod / year-end balances included in the condensed interim financial statements | s are as follow: | |
| | | 30 June 2008 YR 1000 | 31 December 2007 YR'000 |
| | members and parties related to them: | 77, 000 | 77,000 |
| | ans and advances, gross ustomers' deposits | 17,822 13,816 | 15,517 19,124 |
| | | January / June 2008 YR'000 | January / June 2007 YR'000 |
| | | | |

| 4 MATURITIES OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|-------------|--------------|-----------|------------|
| s at 30 June 2008 | | | From 6 | | |
| s at 30 Julie 2006 | Less than | From 3 to | months to | Over | |
| | 3 months | 6 months | 1 year | 1 year | Total |
| SSETS | YR'000 | YR'000 | YR'000 | YR'000 | YR'00 |
| ash in hand and reserve balances with the Central Bank of | | | | | |
| 'emen | 10,699,020 | | | | 10,699,02 |
| lue from banks | 17,442,272 | 1,196,680 | 1,709,430 | 1,592,242 | 21,940,62 |
| reasury bills, net | 33,331,939 | SC 101 | 6,012,555 | | 39,344,49 |
| ertificates of deposit with the Central Bank of Yemen | 9,350,000 | | | | 9,350,00 |
| oans and advances to customers, net of provision | 4,319,404 | 692,517 | 2,491,425 | 1,617,150 | 9,120,49 |
| vailable for sale Investments, net | - X - X | | - | 579,050 | 579,05 |
| Total assets | 75,142,635 | 1,889,197 | 10,213,410 | 3,788,442 | 91,033,68 |
| IABILITIES | | | | | |
| ue to banks | 998,582 | | | | 998,58 |
| ustomers' deposits | 49,847,829 | 10,054,389 | 20,256,544 | 69,122 | 80,227,88 |
| Total liabilities | 50,846,411 | 10,054,389 | 20,256,544 | 69,122 | 81,226,46 |
| Net Gap | 24,296,224 | (8,165,192) | (10,043,134) | 3,719,320 | 9,807,21 |
| s at 31 December 2007 | | | From 6 | | |
| s at 31 December 2007 | Less than | From 3 to | months to | Over | |
| | 3 months | 6 months | 1 year | 1 year | Tota |
| SSETS | YR'000 | YR'000 | YR'000 | YR'000 | YR100 |
| ash in hand and reserve balances with the Central Bank of | 10 | | | | |
| emen | 12,950,745 | | • | 20 | 12.950.745 |
| ue from banks | 23,588,848 | 2,673,410 | 398,580 | 79,804 | 26,740,642 |
| reasury bills, net | 29,277,279 | ** | 4,145,848 | | 33,423,127 |
| ertificates of deposit with the Central Bank of Yemen | 9,350,000 | | | | 9,350,000 |
| | 2.269.069 | 1,470,377 | 2,045,873 | 3,129,265 | 8.914.584 |
| pans and advances to customers, net of provision | | | | | |
| oans and advances to customers, net of provision vailable for sale Investments, net | 2,205,005 | | | 144,604 | 144,604 |
| vailable for sale Investments, net Total assets | 77,435,941 | 4,143,787 | 6,590,301 | 3,353,673 | 91,523,702 |
| vailable for sale (investments, net Total assets IABILITIES | 77,435,941 | | 6,590,301 | | |
| vailable for sale Investments, net Total assets ABILITIES ue to banks | 77,435,941 572,858 | 4,143,787 | T | | |
| vailable for sale (investments, net Total assets IABILITIES | 77,435,941 | | 6,590,301 | | 91,523,702 |
| vailable for sale Investments, net Total assets ABILITIES ue to banks | 77,435,941 572,858 | 4,143,787 | T | 3,353,673 | 91,523,702 |

DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES, CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND COMMITMENTS BASED ON GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATIONS

As at 30 June 2008

1,260,109

Interest income for the period / year

nterest expense for the period / year

| | Republic | United States | 2501 | 2.3 | | |
|--|------------|----------------------|------------|--------------------|--------------|------------|
| ASSETS | of Yemen | of America | Europe | Asia | Africa | Total |
| [| YR'000 | YR'000 | YR'000 | YR'000 | YR'000 | YR'000 |
| Cash in hand and reserve balances with the Central Bank of Yemen | 10,699,020 | | | The serves account | 100 market 0 | 10,699,020 |
| Due from banks | 1,229,102 | 7,299,463 | 10,068,112 | 3,265,243 | 78,704 | 21,940,624 |
| Treasury bills, net | 39,344,494 | - | • | - | - | 39,344,494 |
| Certificates of deposit with Central Bank of Yemen | 9,350,000 | - | - | - | - | 9,350,000 |
| Loans and advances to customers, net of provision | 9,120,496 | • | | | • | 9,120,496 |
| Available for sale Investments, net | 523,201 | | | 55,849 | | 579,050 |
| Total assets | 70,266,313 | 7,299,463 | 10,068,112 | 3,321,092 | 78,704 | 91,033,684 |
| LIABILITIES | | | | | | 5000000 |
| Due to banks | 4,059 | | • | 994,523 | - | 998,582 |
| Customers' deposits | 80,227,884 | | | | | 80,227,884 |
| Total liabilities | 80,231,943 | | - | 994,523 | - | 81,226,466 |
| As at 31 December 2007 | | | | | | |
| | Republic | United States | | | (4) | |
| | of Yemen | of America | Europe | Asia | Africa | Total |
| ASSETS | YR'000 | YR'000 | YR'000 | YR'000 | YR'000 | YR'000 |
| Cash in hand and reserve balances with the Central Bank of Yemen | 12,950,745 | | • | • | | 12,950,745 |
| Due from banks | 6,721,900 | 3,707,555 | 13,152,401 | 3,098,103 | 60,683 | 26,740,642 |
| Treasury bills, net | 33,423,127 | | | | | 33,423,127 |
| Certificates of deposit with Central Bank of Yemen | 9,350,000 | | | - | | 9,350,000 |
| Loans and advances to customers, net of provision | 8,914,584 | | • | | - | 8,914,584 |
| Available for sale Investments, net | 123,117 | | - | 21,487 | | 144,604 |
| Total assets | 71,483,473 | 3,707,555 | 13,152,401 | 3,119,590 | 60,683 | 91,523,702 |
| LIABILITIES | | | | | | |
| Due to banks | 10,026 | | | 562,832 | | 572,858 |
| Customers' deposits | 80,961,204 | | <u>.</u> | | | 80,961,204 |
| Total liabilities | 80,971,230 | | | 562,832 | | 81,534,062 |

35 303

CONTINGENT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

The Bank has filed a number of legal cases with the Public Fund Court and the Commercial Preliminary Court against former employees and customers of the Bank relating to irregularities and default in settlements of amounts due respectively. Where there are legal cases filed against the Bank at the respective courts, management fully and/or partly provided for such cases in the condensed interim financial statements. In some of the cases, although court decisions were made in favour of the Bank, their executions have not been effected, whereas the other cases are still pending in the courts.

SIGNIFICANT FOREIGN CURRENCIES' POSITIONS

The Central Bank of Yemen circular no. 6 of 1998 establishes limits for positions in individual foreign currencies as well as an aggregate limitation for all currencies. These limits are 15% and 25% of capital and reserves. The Bank had the following significant net exposures denominated in foreign currencies:

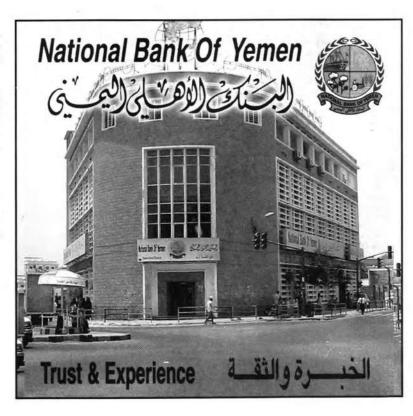
| 31 Dece | ember 2007 |
|----------|------------|
| 000 % | YR'000 |
| 33 7.84 | 762,527 |
| 72 3.04 | 295,747 |
| 49 3.05 | 296,513 |
| 13 2.94 | 285,737 |
| 28 0.15 | 14,569 |
| 98 0.04 | 3,787 |
| 23 0.08 | 7,719 |
| 19 0.00 | 15 |
| 35 17.14 | 1,666,614 |
| | 835 17.14 |

The US Dollar exchange rate as at 30 June 2008 was 199.78 YR/USD (31 December 2007: 199.51 YR/USD).

18 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

Capital commitments at 30 June 2008 amounted to YR 38 million (31 December 2007: YR 72 million).

19 COMPARATIVE FIGURES Certain of the prior period / year amounts have been reclassified to conform to the presentation in the current period.



Republic of Yemen Ministry of Public Health and population Health Reform Support Project (HRSP)Credit 3625 **Credit administration Unit (CAU)**

Announcing Vacancy for the post of Accountant of the CAU

The World Bank financed Health Reform Support Project (Credit 3625) seeks applicants for the position of Accountant at the CAU. The Accountant will report and be accountable to the Financial Management Specialist and Credit Administrator, and will work closely with other staff of the CAU, relevant departments of the Ministry of Health and Population ,Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, and the Ministry of Finance.

The accountant will be responsible for the following:

- 1. Collect and file all supporting documentation on all financial transactions of the project under CAU management.
- 2. Record on a daily basis all the financial transactions after ensuring that they have been properly authorized and in accordance with the budget and the CAU procedures of internal control.
- 3. Prepare bank reconciliation between the bank's account and the Designated Account (DA) withdrawals, on a monthly basis to reflect the monthly receipts and disbursement from the DA.
- 4. Prepare quarterly project financial statements under CAU direct management, and liaise with the procurement officer, to include procurement quarterly results and project's physical progress of activities as measured by project's indicators.
- 5. Prepare quarterly Project Financial Monitoring Report (FMR) to be submitted to the PSC, World Bank, and other relevant bodies.
- 6. Prepare the credit withdrawal applications with supporting documentation and submit it to the CAU administrator for approval and then submission to IDA for replenishment of funds as needed.
- 7. Follow-up on all financial matters with the relevant departments of the Ministry of Public Health and Population, Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MOPIC), Ministry of Finance (MOF), and the Central Bank of
- 8. Ensure that the project is audited annually according to the requirement of the project.
- 9. Assist the external auditors in performing their annual audit of the project by providing necessary documentation, written procedures, and annual financial statements.

Qualifications:

- A minimum of five years experience in accounts, financial planning and budgeting.
- A Bachelor's degree in accounting or auditing .
- A good knowledge, and use of the generally accepted accounting principles.
- The ability to operate accounting software, keep updated accounting records and books of accounts, and generate project's financial statements and other reports as needed by the project's management .
- Proficiency in speaking and writing in Arabic and English.
- Familiarity with the government and World Bank financial and accounting procedures and guidelines is prefect.

Expressions of interest must be delivered to the address below by 16 August 2008. Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours from 8:30 a.m to 3:00 p.m.

Credit Administration Unit Health Reform Support Project 4th Floor-Ministry of Public Health and Population P.O. Box: 1330 - Al Hasabah - Sana'a - Republic of Yemen Tel: + 967 1 252224 Fax: 967 1 251622 Email: hrsp@y.net.ye

Republic of Yemen Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation

SELECTION OF CONSULTANTS

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST CONSULTING SERVICES OF CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISION OF HASSAN DAM PROJECT – ABYAN GOVERNORATE

The Republic of Yemen has received a Loan from Government of Abu Dhabi, represented by Abu Dhabi Development Fund, and The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, intends to apply part of the budget proceeds to make payments under the contract for Consulting Services of Construction Supervision of Hassan Dam Project. The services include the supervision consultancy for:

Package AC-01: Hassan Dam and Appurtenant Structures and Access Road to the Dam Site

Package AC-02: Construction of Irrigation works including Weir, Off-takes for Canals and related conveyance structures, roads along canal and to the weirs, access roads wadi

training works.

All the construction packages are proposed to be completed within 3.5. years. The estimated period of construction of each package is given below:

Package AC-01: 42 months Package AC-02: 36 months

The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation now invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing the services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.). Consultants may associate to enhance their qualifications.

A consultant will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the High Tender Board's Manual for the Procurement of Consultants Services

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below from 08:00 a.m. to 14:00

Expressions of interest must be delivered to the address below by 30/08/2008.

Dr. Eng. /Yousef Ahmad Fara'a **Project Manager General Directorate of Irrigation (GDI) Ministry o Agriculture & Irrigation (MAI)** Al Meethaq Street - Sana'a - Republic of Yemen Tel./Fax: +967-1-226462 Mobile: 967-734116908

E-mail: <u>HassanDam@yemen.net.ye</u>

Tender Announcement No. 2/2008

The Maritime Affairs Authority (MAA) here announces its desire to invite bidders to Tender No. (2/2008) for the construction, equipping, completing, selling and supplying a maritime tugboat that is integrated and specializing in towage, salvage and fire fighting in high seas and capable of working in all high-humidity weather conditions as well as during the summer season. The tender will be funded by a government financing approved by the government of the Republic of Yemen.

Bidders who are willing to participate in this Tender have to submit written applications to [the MAA headquarters to buy and receive Bidding Documents for USD 1,000 non-refundable.

Bidders have to apply during the official working hours at:

Al-Mesbahi Roundabout, Hadda Street, Near Yemen-German Hospital, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen P.O. Box: 19395

Tel: +967 1 423005 - +967 1 414412 Fax: +967 1 414645

E-mail: MAA-HeadOffice@y.net.ye

The deadline for selling BDs will be on 3 September, 2008.

Bids have to be submitted in sealed envelopes addressed to the MAA, mentioning the project name, Tender number and name of bidder. The following documents must also be attached to the envelope:

- 1. An unconditional Bank Guarantee for a lump sum of only \$150,000 (only US dollars one hundred fifty thousand) that is valid for not less than 120 days from date of Bid Opening. Bank guarantee may be substituted with a payable check.
- 2. Valid tax certificate and a copy of VAT registration 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. (foreign suppliers must provide equivalent documents from their respective countries.)
- 5. All other documents mentioned in the Tender documents.
- These documents have to be submitted not later than 1:00pm on Wednesday 3 September 2008. Bids received after the deadline for submission will be returned unopened.
- Bid opening will be at 1:00pm on Saturday 6 September 2008.
- Bid Opening will take place at the Bids Committee Director's Office, MAA in the presence of bidders or their authorized representatives.

Potential bidders may inspect BDs prior to purchasing during working hours for a period of 27 days starting from advertisement.

تعلن الهيئة العامة للشئون البحرية- الجمهورية اليمنية- عن رغبتها في إنزال المناقصة العامة رقم (٢) لعام ٢٠٠٨م بشأن بناء وتحهيز وإتمام وبيع وتوريد ساحبة بحرية متكاملة متخصصة في أعمال القطر والإنقاذ البحري وإطفاء الحرائق في أعالي البحار، وقادرة على العمل في ظروف الطقس عالية الرطوية وكذلك أثناء فصل الصيف.

والتي سيتم تمويلها بموجب تمويل حكومي معتمد من حكومة الجمهورية اليمنية، وعلى الراغبين في المشاركة في هذه المناقصة التقدم بطلباتهم الخطية خلال أوقات الدوام الرسمى إلى مقر المركز الرئيسي للهيئة الكائن في العنوان التالي:-

> شارع حدة - جولة المصباحي - جوار المستشفى اليمني الألماني مدينة صنعاء – الجمهورية اليمنية. تلفون: (۲۳۰۰۰) (۲۲۲۰۱) (۲۲۲۱۰۰)، فاکس: (۲۳۰۰۰)، فاکس: (۲۳۲۰۰). بريد الكتروني: MAA-HeadOffice@y.net.ye صندوق البريد: ١٩٣٩٥

> > لشراء واستلام وثائق المناقصة نظير مبلغ وقدره (١٠٠٠) دولار لا يرد . وأخر موعد لبيع الوثائق هو تاريخ ٩/٣/ ٢٠٠٨م.

يقدم العطاء في مظروف مغلق ومختوم بالشمع الأحمر إلى عنوان الهيئة ومكتوب عليه اسم الهيئة والمشروع ورقم المناقصة، واسم مقدم العطاء، وفي طيه الوثائق التالية:-

- ١- ضمان ينكي غير مشروط بمبلغ مقطوع قدره ٢٠٠،٥٠٠\$ (فقط مائة وخمسون ألف دولار)، صالح لمدة (١٢٠) يوماً من تاريخ فتح المظاريف، أو شبيك مقبول الدفع.
- ٢- بطاقة ضريبية وشهادة تسجيل ضربية مبيعات ساريتا المفعول (على المناقصين الأجانب الذبن لا يقومون بأي أعمال في اليمن عليهم تقديم نسخة من وثائق التسجيل لضريبة القيمة المضافة من بلدانهم).
- ٣- بطاقة تأمينية، سارية المفعول (تطلب بطاقات التأمين فقط من الشركات التي لديها عمال في اليمن والتي يحق لها الاستفادة من العوائد المقدمة من المؤسسة العامة للضمان الاجتماعي في اليمن).
- ٤- شهادة تسجيل وتصنيف سارية المفعول لدى الجهات المختصة (على الموردين الأجانب تقديم ما يعادل هذه الوثائق من بلدانهم)
 - ٥- بقية الوثائق التي تنص عليها شروط وثائق المناقصة.
- آخر موعد لاستلام العطاءات هو الساعة (١) ظهراً من يوم الأربعاء الموافق ٢٠٠٨/٩/٣م، ولن تقبل العطاءات التي ترد بعد هذا الموعد وسيتم إعادتها مغلقة.
 - موعد فتح المظاريف هو الساعة ١ ظهراً من يوم السبت الموافق ٢٠٠٨/٩/٦م.
- سيتم فتح المظاريف بمكتب رئيس لجنة المناقصات الرئيسية بالهيئة بحضور أصحاب العطاءات أو من يمثلهم بتفويض رسمي موقع ومختوم.
- يمكن للراغبين في المشاركة في هذه المناقصة الإطلاع على وثائق المناقصة قبل شرائها وذلك خلال الدوام الرسمي لفترة (٢٧) يوماً من فترة الإعلان.

Handicraft Export Promotion Program an international gateway to Yemeni handicrafts

For the first time Yemen participates in an international handicrafts and products exhibition targeting whole sellers at the Messe-Frankfurt Exhibition in Germany. The visitors expressed their interest and since then the doors were open for Yemeni small and micro enterprises to present their work to the world

By: Nadia Al-Sakkaf

ekri Saleh was amused when he saw how the pieces of Yemeni handicrafts on display in a small stand in Hall 9.2 attracted visitors' attention like magnet. Hearing sounds of delight made him think, why on earth had Yemen not participated in the Messe Frankfurt Exhibition before? Messe Frankfurt is one of the largest exhibitions in the world and is organized each year to exhibit all kinds of gifts, home decoration, Christmas decorations, handicrafts, incense, other promotion and marketing handicrafts programs and fair trade stands from deferent countries and

The Social Fund for Development through its Handicraft Export Promotion Program (HEPP) contracted two small scale enterprises Talha Center and Baituna Lilturath, to collect 17 distinct pieces from around the country in order to display them in the exhibition and make contracts with interested retailers from around the world for bulk quantities.

Yemen's stand included many handicrafts such as embroidered cushions, huge carpets from Socotra Island, bamboo baskets, traditional daggers (Jambia), old Sana'a city lanterns, hand made designer scissors and many others.

Fekri explains that the visitors commented on how beautiful many of the items are, and during the three day exhibition HEPP landed 22 contracts worth more than 60,000 dollars. This year because the exhibition was held in the summer vacation, not many people could visit. And there is a great opportunity in other exhibitions next year.

"This participation introduces HEPP (handicraft export promotion program)

program to the world as the gateway to Yemen. This program will facilitate everything concerning shipments, deliveries and even the quality of products. By making wholesalers aware of this program, Yemen's reputations and handicrafts could reach interested people from all around the world," he said.

Empowering SMEs

HEPP is one of the many programs initiated by the Small Micro Enterprise Promotion Services (SMEPS) in order to build the capacities of Yemeni Small and Micro Enterprises (SMEs). This is why the two organizations Talha Center and Baituna Lilturath were selected to be the middleman between the handicraft makers and HEPP, which in turn will promote these products around the world.

HEPP also provides the associations and others involved in the supply chain with trainings in order to build their capacity and empower them to create products of international standards in order to compete in large exhibitions.

They give them training on finishing the product and how to modify the handicrafts in order to suit European taste without losing the identity or originality of the initial products. For example, instead of using candles in the traditional Sanani lanterns, the local manufacturers would modify the product to be fitted with a light bulb. And instead of having one single color, a variation of colors would be adopted...etc. The organizations also receive training in Micro Enterprise Management, personal productivity, marketing, communication with international companies, Human Resource, and even English and comput-

Moreover, HEPP provided training and feedback to the packaging company SAS for Cargo Services that was con-





Seventeen distinct pieces from around the country were on display in the exhibition and 22 contracts with interested retailers from around the world for bulk quantities were availed.

tracted to package and transport the handicrafts to Germany for the Messe Exhibition. Now they are trained to do door to door delivery, and container shar-

HEPP charges only 5 percent of the contracts as service cost because the program's operations and staff are funded by the Social Fund of Development. This way, Yemeni SMEs would be encouraged to create products at a lesser cost and the whole sellers would be encouraged to buy such products. Gradually this service charge would increase so that the program becomes a standalone project that can depend on itself completely. By that time, Fekri hopes that Yemeni products have found its place in the world handicraft map and hence can demand a good price.

The programs mission is to work with local enterprises and empower them until they become strong enough to depend on their own and compete in international markets. HEPP has dedicated a website for interested retail companies to log into and view available Yemeni handicrafts and order from them whatever quantities

they want, so far the site had been visited around 300 companies who showed interest in Yemen. Because of Messe—Frankfurt companies in Italy, Spain, Germany, USA, Japan and Switzerland showed interest and already signed contracts to buy Yemeni products. The money would go directly to the enterprises who will work with the handcraft makers to provide the required goods under HEPP's supervision to ensure quality, timeliness and customer satisfaction.

Messe-Frankfurt

Messe-Frankfurt is the world's largest trade fair organizer with its own exhibition grounds. With 29 subsidiaries worldwide, five branch offices and 48 International Sales Partners offices outside Germany, the Group has a presence in 150 countries and at more than 30 exhibition sites.

Last year, 112 trade fairs are held, serving as a meeting place for more than 64,000 exhibitors and 4 million visitors. Yemenis stand was at the development countries hall along with developing countries in Africa and Asia.

SMEPS contracted a consultant Klaus Linkenheil, who is an international expert on environmentally and socially responsible projects and has been to Yemen four times during which he created handicraft and incense and value chain studies.

He is assisting HEPP on how to market Yemeni handicrafts in Europe, and hence the participation in the exhibition. Since this was the first experience of its kind, SMEPS contracted a Bushra Al-Nuzaili who is a Yemeni artist living in Bonn - Germany to help in decorating the stand and with the pricing of the goods.

"We focus on Europe because that is where the Yemeni products are most demanded, and there is a genuine interest in Yemen. Also the procedures for marketing and promotion are less completed than in the USA for example," commented Fekri.

In order for HEPP to be successful, Yemen needs to participate more than once in such international exhibitions. The next exhibition is Ambiente Frankfurt between 13 and 17 February 2009. It is organized into 3 major theme bundles with product groups namely:

World of Table, Kitchen & Housewares, World of Gifts and World of Interiors. However, the Social Fund for Development had not accounted for a second participation, and now SMEPS is seeking support from various organizations and agencies in order to complete the mission.

"We hope to be able to participate in the coming exhibition but it all depends on the support we get," Fekri said.

Center for Promoting Imports from Developing Countries

One of the potential supporters for HEPP could be the Center for Promoting Imports from Developing Countries. This center assists some developing countries by providing services aimed at strengthening the competitiveness of local companies in exporting and managing their products in European markets.

Although HEPP in essence complies with CBI's mission, their coordinator in Germany said Yemen can only benefit from CBI's services if the country was included in the list of developing countries supported by the center. They recommended the Netherlands embassy in Yemen to help advocate for Yemen to be included in CBI's plan for 2009.

"CBI's is very interested in supporting Yemeni handicrafts' access to European markets, but currently Yemen is not one of its project countries. We are hopeful that with the support of the Dutch embassy, we can get Yemen included in the CBI project countries list," said Wisam Al-Ariqi SMEPS Executive

Fairtrade

According to the Wikipedia, Fair trade is an organized social movement and market-based approach to alleviating global poverty and promoting sustainability. The movement advocates the payment of a fair price as well as social and environmental standards in areas related to the production of a wide variety of goods. It focuses in particular on exports from developing countries to developed countries, most notably handicrafts, coffee, cocoa, sugar, tea, bananas, honey, cotton, wine, fresh fruit, and flowers.

If Yemeni handicrafts become fairtrade certified, then they could be sold at higher prices in the world market and more money could hence go to the people making these handicrafts. SMEPS had already applied on behalf of the Yemeni government to get the fairtrade label for Yemeni handicrafts. They have two applications simultaneously being processed, one with the Fairtrade Labeling Organization for coffee, and the other with International Federation for Alternative Trading for the handicrafts. Meanwhile, SMEPS has contacted fairtrade products' GEPA buyers such as who, according to Al-Ariqi have shown interest in Yemeni handicrafts and are willing to promote them in terms of buying the products and supporting the labeling of the Yemeni coffee and handicrafts as fair-trade products.

The International Fair Trade Association (IFTA) is a global association created in 1989 of Fair trade producer cooperatives and associations, export marketing companies, importers, retailers, national, and regional fair trade networks and fair trade support organizations.

In 2004 IFAT launched the FTO Mark which identifies registered Fair Trade Organizations (as opposed to the FLO system, which labels products).

So far, SMEPS had fillied the

Once the products are labeled, they could be promoted through the GEPA and other similar associations and the out reach of Yemeni products would increase.

GEPA is Europe's largest alternative trading organization. According to the Wikipedia, the abbreviation GEPA stands for "Gesellschaft zur Förderung der Partnerschaft mit der Dritten Welt mbH", literally meaning "Society for the Promotion of Partnership with the Third World". With Yemeni products being fair trade, GEPA can promote them in 15 regional fair trade centers in the Federal Republic of Germany that supply approximately 800 shops worldwide and roughly 6,000 action groups with fairly traded groceries and handcrafted products.

Numerous supermarkets and food retailers also sell GEPA products. Cafetiras of companies, student unions, conference houses etc are provided by the society on a wholesaler basis. The GEPA website also has an online shop which generates sales.

4U

About Talha Center

This is a center to promote Yemeni traditional products. The new management took charge of Talha Center in the last quarter of 2007. Since then, the center refocused its work on being the connecting point between simple handicraft makers and smaller associations and between international markets through the HEP Program. Today the center deals with 21 different producers in Sana'a and Hudeidah governorates. It helps them improve the quality of their products, create better finishing and accommodate customer demands and customization of products to suit international tastes. The center has a permanent exhibition for Yemeni products that is open between 9-12 noon and 3:30 to 6 in the evening, it is free entry. Talha Center is located behind Talha Mosque at the Old City of Sana'a. Phone number: 486176

About Baituna Lilturath

This is an established aimed at reviving
Yemeni heritage through documentation
of the old authentic costumes and
embroidery as well as duplicating them
in modern styles. The association deals

packaging, inter
cargo services for they believe in
ice and "treating
only customer".

with textile and embroidery whether for dresses or decoration pieces such as cushions and artistic cloth pieces to be hung on walls. Baituna Lilturath trains women and poor communities to produce such products and helps market and promote their work. They have a permanent exhibition at the establishment's center behind Al-Atiba Building in Al-Zubairi Street – Sana'a, and participate in many exhibitions around the world. The exhibition at the establishment's premises contains traditional dresses from all Yemeni governorates as well as new embroidery. Entry to the exhibition is free and it is open between 9-1 in the afternoon and between 4-6 in the evening. Phone number: 216199.

About SAS for Cargo Services

Sami Abdullah Sabiha for Cargo Services is one of the most efficient Yemeni cargo services that work in the transportation industry. SAS provides packaging, international forwarding and cargo services for any kind of products. They believe in excellent customer service and "treating each customer as the SAS is located at Algeria Street - Sana'a, and could be reached by phone at 472192/3 or email at: info@sas4cs.com

About HEPP

In 2004 the Social Fund for Development Yemen launched a program to identify and promote unique products which are produced by small and micro businesses and social organizations with the goal to expand the country's domestic and international trade.

The program also aims to give advice to the producers how to improve their businesses, e.g. in the fields of production methods, quality control, marketing and product design to make Yemeni products more attractive to export markets. So far a number of product groups have been classified for promotion: baskets & natural fiber items, textiles & dresses, silver jewelry & metal work, pottery, gifts & decorative items, window decorations, incense & myrrh, recycled crafts, furniture & interiors, natural cosmetics & medicine and Mocha coffee

For more information visit: www.yemenhandicraft.com







NOTICE OF CLARIFICATION

This notice is in reference to our advertisement of Thursday, July 31, 2008 regarding the opening for the position of Deputy Chief of Party (DCOP) for the Basic Education Support and Training (BEST) Project being implemented by The Academy for Educational Development and funded by the United States Agency for International Development.

Please note that the BEST-Yemen Project requires a Yemeni national to fill this significant position.

We wish to express our apologies for this oversight and thank you for your understanding.

Contact: eoneil@aed.org





"Masked Criminals" veiled

By: Mohamed Assana mohamedassana@yahoo.com

Criminals"??? I can only say, it represents your inner thoughts or view of the veil in general, instead of leaving it to the reader to decide.

I come from a family that has both veil and non veil women, wearing the veil was not in existent, if this is what you are clothing fashion.

never imposed nor condemned by anyone referring to. in my family. I personally don't think of s k e d however I do agree it is more of a cultural then a religious dress code.

> respected among all others that come to the veil. know Yemeni culture; it set us a part from the rest of the Arab/Islamic world, by how modest Yemeni men and women dress code is.

Just as you have mentioned in your the veil as a degrading tool for women; article, women in Yemen are well integrated into the Yemeni society more than women in other "modern" Yemen culture is highly praised and Arabic/Islamic societies, with and without

> Women in Yemen are well respected honored for what they are and for what they contribute to our society.

To my understanding the veil is neither Talabansation of women in Yemen is a mask nor a jail cell; it is a form of

"Masked Angels"

By:Adnan Alhalmi adnanalhalmi@yahoo.com

his article is a response to Mr Faud Hazaea's article "Masked Criminals" issue No.1177, in 31 July, 2008. First of all, it is delightful to see Yemeni youths including their society's problems in their writings, and what is more important is that they write in English. I respect your view and for shedding a light on social matters, but I think it is not that important topic to be raised into discussion, as veil is a personal option and it has become a part and parcel of women's fashion; rather than a compulsory option as you mentioned in your article. I disagree with what Faud says that "Yemeni women are iailed like criminals". This is a wrong view, and I think that yemeni women are better aware of their interest than others: further I regret to say that what you announce and advertise for is a western propaganda to corrupt our simple society, as it were.

Dissimilarly, our society respects its women more than any society, and if there are some people who don't; through enlightenment and education they will correct their mistakes if there are any. Shamefully, to speak of such falsified freedom, which I guess its concern is to destroy our values and morals, Islam has given women more than any religion, why to imitate others. I wonder why we Arab when we became educated with a little knowledge, what we start to do is to forget and leave our habits, traditions and religion aside. Therefore, it is worthwhile to discuss other problems that affect our life like high prices, dowry expenses, corruption and retaliation. Veiled or unveiled woman doesn't affect us, so what is wrong with the "veil." A woman is free whether to wear the veil or not it is her option.

Therefore, I think that people of such view express their opinions rather than others'; in a mistaken attempt to adapt and acclimatize with the globalization culture, that has brought about to us many facilities, but at the same time brought about a new kind of pollution called "moral pollution." Once more I think we are better to imitate the west in the field of industry, technology, so as to we would be able to construct our society socially, politically, economically, and culturally. I dare say that, we complain of the illiteracy of the educated people, than the illiteracy of the ignorant people.

In terms of choosing a wife I think you are right to some extent, it is a diffi-

But normally you are authorized to see, ask, and search for your prospective spouse's reputation and then after making sure of your choice, you will be allowed to see her, what is the benefit of seeing a woman in the street. As a result, I think you Mr. Faud who looks down on women, as you named Yemeni women like "Masked Criminals" having such view is like leading one to fire. Do you want Yemeni women to imitate western women?. No match the answer is

Shortly, I hope that have at least attempted to clarify a mistaken view, without hurting any one.

By: Maged Thabet Al-kholidy majed thabet@hotmail.com



To marry educated or uneducated women? Part 4

aspects of marrying educated and uneducated women in the three previous parts of this topic, it is time to conclude the topic with making a contrast between the two cases in regard to the men's conditions and circumstances. Firstly I thank those who sent their responses, commenting on the points of the previous parts. I did really like their viewpoints which show some new aspects of marrying educated and uneducated women.

In this article, though I refer to real stories, I also reveal my point of views about the topic. What I am going to do here is to shed light on how the educational level of the man influences his choice whether to marry educated or uneducated women

Actually, there are many other factors which influence men's selection of wives like the financial status, the cultural tendency and so on. The factor of the educational level of both plays a role in the marriage life success. So according to the educational level of both each man and woman should choose his/her husband and wife. The following cases show how the marriage life is influenced by the educational status of the man and of

I think, a well-educated man faces

many problems when he marries uneducated woman. By problem, I do not mean financial, social or emotional problems but exactly the problems of understanding. Understanding each other is, I think, something essential for marriage life. Of course, the thinking of an educated man would be completely different from the thinking of the uneducated women. This creates a clash between such husband and wife.

To illustrate the point, I would like to refer to a real story. A university doctor has uneducated wife. He always thinks about more future studies and researches, aiming to get higher degrees, updating his knowledge in his specialization. He gives this thing the priority, doing best to achieve his goals. "I never get any support from my wife to do so", he said, claiming that she always blames him for shortcomings which occur because of his deep interest only in the academic field. As he said "problems occur from time to time so that I get fade up", deciding either to stop his academic interest or divorce

Such a husband may prove to be ignorant towards his wife and her duties. That may be true and she has the right to fight for them. But the point also indicates that she do not pay attention to his dreams which she must be proud of. This, I think, will not be the same as in the case of the

The above example shows the clashes which occur in the marriage life due to the lack of the mutual understanding between the husband and wife. Such marriage may continue for sometime because of some social or family considerations especially if the husband and wife are relatives. But, we can say, or at least I can say, that this marriage has

In comparison with this, the marriage of educated man and educated woman will succeed if the other things like love, social status, etc are achieved. Regarding the example stated above, the failure of marriage is because of the lack of harmony in the understanding between the couple. Such a lack is apparently resulted because of the difference between the education of the wife and husband.

This is only one case in which the difference of the educational level of the husband and the wife may lead to marriage failure. So both men and women who think or who are about to get married must be aware of so that they avoid any bad circumstances later.

Majed Thabet Al-kholidy is a writer from Taiz, currently doing his M.A. at English Dep, Taiz Uni. He is an exeditor of English Journal of the University.

Expect a rainbow

By: Mona Abdulrhman Hashem somed a good rem@hot mail.com

> Expect a rainbow, and you will find it eventually. your dreams will come true as long as you believe they will.

Expect a rainbow, believe in the impossible, otherwise you may miss the opportunity when it knocks on your door. Expect a rainbow, look beyond the storm for the beauty that follows

the darkness. Expect a rainbow, have faith in yourself above all things. if you believe in yourself, then others will believe in you too.



صندوق الأمم المتحدة للإسكان

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- provide technical support to Implementing Partners in the preparation and implementation of work plans, and monitors and assesses progress;
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- any other duties and responsibilities assigned by the supervisor.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED:

- master's degree in public health and/or other health related or social science field;
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- demonstrated management skills;
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Telephone: +967 777009410.

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- All bidders must submit the following with their bids:
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- 2- A Valid tax certificate.
- 3- A Valid registration and classification certificate.

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ت: ۲۰۰۸-۲۰۲۰۸ فاکس: ٤١٨١١٦ E-mail: felixpene@hotmail.com

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ت: ۲ /۱/ ۲۷۹۷۹ -۱۰ فنق شیراتون ت: ۲۳۷۵۰۰ - ۱۰ ت: ۲۲۲۲۵ -۱۰ فاکس: ۵٤٦٠٠٠ فندق تاج سبأ ت:۲۷۲۳۷۲ - ۱ فندق ریلاکس ان ت: ۲۰۱۰ ۴٤۹۸۷۱ -۱۰ فندق وأجنحة الخليج السياحي

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معاهد

معهد یالي ت: ۴٤٨٠٣٧/ ٤٤٥٤٨٦ فاکس:۴٤٨٠٣٧ معهد اللغة الألمانيه المعهد البريطاني للغات والكمبيوتر ت: ٢٦٦٢٢٢ فاکس: ٥١٤٧٥٥

معهد کاروکوس ت: ۵۳۲٤۳۶/۵ فاکس: ۵۳۲٤۳٦ معهدأیکتك ت: ۵۱۰۶۱۳ - ۲۲۰۸۳۳ فاکس: ۲۲۰۵۳۷

شركات للتأمين

الوطنية للتأمين ت:٢٧٢٩٢٢/٣٢٨٧٣ فاكس:٢٧٢٩٢٤ الشركة اليمنية الإسلامية للتأمين وإعادة التأمين

ىدن ت: ۲٤٤٢٨٠ تعز ت: ۲٥٨٨٨١ شركة اليمن للتأمين صنعاء ت: ۲۷۲۸۰٦/۲۷۲۹٦۲/٤٣ عدن ت: ۲٤٧٦١٧

تعز ت: ۲٥٠٣٤٥

مدارس

ت: ۲۳۲-۱۲۲-۱۲۳ مدرسة رينبو مدارس صنعاء الدولية ت: ۳۷۰۱۹۱/۲ فاکس:۳۷۰۱۹۳ ت: ۹/۸۵۲۸۶۶ مدرسة التركيه الدوليه ت: ۲۰۲۱۰۹ بدرسة الماجد البمنيه

ت: ۲۰/۹۸٥۱۱33 لعالميه للسفريات والسياحه

مطاعم

مطعم ومخبازة الشيباني (باسم محمد عبده الشيباني) تلفون : ۲۲۲۷۰ – ۲۰۵۲۹۰ فاکس : ۲۲۷۲۱۹



تحويلة ٢١١ ٢٦٨٦٦١

الإطفاء ١٩١، طوارىء المياه ١٧١، الإستعلامات ١١٨، حوادث (المرور) ١٩٤، الشئون الخارجيه ٢٠٢٥٤٤/٧، لشئون الداخليه ٢٥٢٧٠١/٧، الهجرة ۲۵۰۷٦۱/۳، وزارة المواصلات (تلفون) ۷۵۲۲۲۰۲، الإذاعة ٢٨٢٠٦١، التلفزيون ٢/٢٠٠١/٢، بؤسسة الباصات للتنقل داخل المدن ٢٦٢١١١/٣، وزارة المواصلات ٣٢٥١١٠/١/٢/٣ السياحة ٢٥٤٠٣٢، الصليب الاحمر ٢٠٣١٣١/٣، تليمن ٧٥٢٢٢٢٧

البنوك

بنك اليمن والخليج 🌏 فاكس: ٢٦٠٨٢٤ ت: ٢٦٠٨٢٣-١-٩٦٧ . فرع عدن :ت/ ۲۳۷۸۲۹ - ۲. فاکس/۲۳۷۸۲۶ -بنك التضامن الإسلامي ت: ١١/٦٦٦٦٦٦ -البنك التجاري ت: ۲۷۷۲۲۶ فاكس: ۲۷۷۲۹۱ مصرف اليمن البحرين الشامل ت: ۲٦٤٧٧٥,٢٦٤٧٠٢ فاکس: ۲٦٤٧٠٣,٥٠٣٣٥٠

ت: ۴۰۷۰۳۰ -۱۰ دا- ۲۷٦٥٨٥/۲ :ت بنك التسليف الزراعي ت: ٥٦٣٨١٣-٠١ ت: ۲۷٤۳۱٤ -۱۰ لبنك المركزي:

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بدنية ورياضية - خبرة في

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الألعاب الفردية والحماعية –

يجيد ألعاب الجمباز والملاكمة

التدريس في مجال تخصصة

• مدرس لغة إنجليزية - خبرة

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وظائف شاغرة

• مطلوب موظفين أجانب للعمل لدى مطاعم الحمراء للتواصل: ٧٣٤٤٤٦٦٤٤ • مطلوب سكرتيرة للعمل في قسم المراسلات الخارجية تكون تجيد اللغة الإنجليزية كتابة ونطقاً ولها خبرة في مجال -المراسلات التجارية بدوام فترتين. ترسل السيرة الذاتية على فاكس ٥٧ه ٥٣٥/٠١ Email: info@ althuriya.com



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Yemen's first and most widely-read English-language newspaper

A hearty "Hai!" to second Japanese culture week in Sana'a

By: Alia Ishaq

emenis drinking green tea and trying on traditional costumes like kimonos? Only at Japanese culture week in Sana'a!

"It was so much fun!" enthused Mohammed Al-Tamimi, a 20-year-old youth who calls himself "Ji-chan" in Japanese. Al-Tamimi, a visitor who participated in Japanese culture week, learned two traditional Japanese dances and says he's now interested to learn more about Japanese culture.

Other Yemenis like Mohammed left the Sana'a Cultural Center, where the week's main events were staged, saying words like "Hai," (Japanese for "Yes") and "Arigato gozaimas" ("Thank you very much"). Attendees were proud to display the new language skills they obtained during the week.

Japanese culture week was held in Sana'a this past week, from Aug. 3-7, organized to be part of the ongoing Sana'a Summer Festival, which began July 16.

The week's inauguration ceremony took place Aug. 2 at the home of Japanese ambassador to Yemen, Masakazu Toshikage. Several other ambassadors attended the event, along with Yemeni Culture Minister, Mohammed Al-Maflahi. "We're really happy to see such events because the Japanese are our partners in Yemen's development," Al-Maflahi noted.

Toshikage pointed out that this was only the second time Japan has hosted a culture week in Sana'a. The Japanese Embassy in Yemen decided to make it an annual event after witnessing the surprising success of last year's Japanese culture week, which saw more than 3,000 visitors.

"It's an attempt to promote better understanding between the peoples of our two countries by introducing traditional



A band from the Japanese southern prefecture of Okinawa performed for a crowd of hundreds at the Sana'a Cultural Center this week.

Japanese art and culture to the Yemeni people," Toshikage stated.

The opening ceremony included a 30-minute preview performance by the Okinawa Band, a traditional music group from southern Japan's Okinawa prefecture. The band came to Yemen after touring in Syria and Jordan, performing again Sunday for a Yemeni audience of hundreds at the Sana'a Cultural Center. The concert was the week's main event.

The Okinawa Band is famed for its unique musical style differing from that of mainland Japan. Okinawan music is played on traditional instruments such as the sanshin, a guitar-like instrument with

strings made of snakeskin, the shimadaiko, which is a drum made of cowhide, and the ryuteki, a type of flute. The band has four

members, three of whom play instruments, plus one singer accompanied by a female dancer. "I was anxiously waiting to come to Yemen to participate in this cultural event," the band's singer Ikeda Suguru

The 29-year-old, who captivated the

audience with his beautiful voice, has been singing since age 11 and already has released eight albums in his home country. His unique music is famous throughout Japan for its artistic mixture of traditional and modern sounds.

In addition to the Okinawa music concert, other activities including showing Japanese movies with Arabic subtitles were shown nightly, in addition to a variety of programs enabling visitors to experience Japanese culture. These included Japanese calligraphy, where visitors could have their names written in Japanese, trying on kimonos, or traditional gowns, and

origami, which is a method of folding paper to create figures.

There were also Japanese tea ceremonies, martial arts and dance performances by Yemeni volunteers.

Japanese student hosts

Along with the hundreds of Yemenis who attended the event, several Japanese university students came all the way from their home country to attend the culture week. Their visit was arranged by the Japan-Middle East Conference Group, which is made up of university students interested in this region. The Japanese students helped orchestrate the week's activities to introduce Yemenis to their culture. However, most said they came to learn more about Yemeni culture. "I came here to learn what the people are like and to get more information about Yemen's culture and economy," 22-year-old liberal arts student Taka Hiwatashi explained, adding, "I'd read a lot about Yemen, but I came here to see it with my own eyes."

His friend, 18-year-old Telebei Seki, who studies economics in Japan, said he really loved the event and that he was pleasantly surprised to see some Yemenis speaking Japanese. He said what he loved most about Yemen was the children he encountered, commenting, "I find Yemeni children really cute; their smiles really cheered me."

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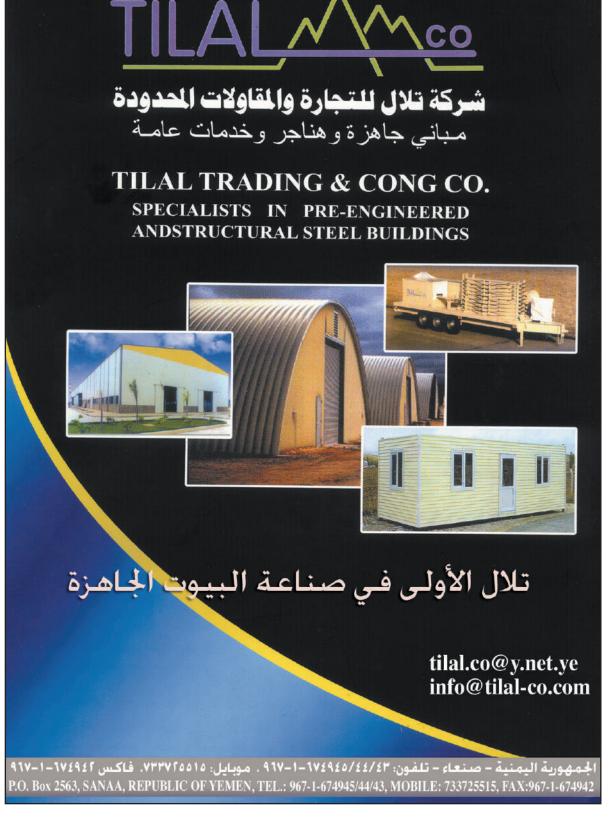




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