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# YEMEN TIMES

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## Outrage in Yemen over Gaza flotilla raid

By: Ali Saeed

SANA'A, June 2 — On Tuesday morning, thousands of Yemenis flowed from their houses, schools, work places and colleges to Al-Saba'een in Sana'a in a march supporting the "freedom flotilla" to break the siege on Gaza.

The protest followed Israeli navy commandos intercepting the six ship flotilla on early Monday morning, killing around 16 of the pro-Palestinian activists, wounding dozens on board the ships, and arresting the others, according to news reports.

The flotilla was carrying aid to the people of Gaza who have been living under siege by Israel since June 2007.

The Israeli forces arrested Yemeni lawmakers Haza'a Al-Maswari, Mohamed Al-Hazmi and Abdulkhalq Shaikhoo among the 750 pro-Palestinian activists on board.

Yemeni school children left their classes and participated in the march, repeating with the demonstrators, "Oh freedom flotilla, Israel is barbaric."

The marchers raised the flags of Yemen, Turkey, and Hamas, and photos of

the Yemeni lawmaker Al-Maswari who is one of the flotilla activists who was arrested.

Participants in the march included politicians, tribal leaders, local officials and religious scholars.

During the march, the assistant general secretary of Yemeni ruling party, the General People Congress (GPC), Ahmed Bin Daghr, spoke to the marchers and congratulated them for their support of the Palestinian issue.

He described the raid against the six ship flotilla as piracy and a war crime that will be added to the list of crimes of the Zionist entity in the Middle East.

He said that by attacking the flotilla, Israel has violated the international code of human rights and revealed its discriminative stance toward Arabs.

He demanded that the international community represented by the International Security Council do its duty in stopping Israeli aggression against the Palestinians and enabling Palestinians to obtain their rights in having their own independent state.

Bin Daghr renewed Yemen's support for the Palestinians' struggle against Is-

raeli aggression, calling on the international community not to forgive Israel for committing this crime.

For his part, the assistant general secretary of the Arab Baath Socialist Party, Ahmed Haydr, spoke up on behalf of the Joint Meeting Parties (JMP) and called on Washington to reconsider its policy with Israel.

The lawmaker and tribal leader, Sadeq Al-Ahmr, head of the Public Authority for Palestinian Support, said that the "freedom flotilla" contained all free persons from around the world who support Palestinians' rights to break the blockade on Gaza.

He called on Arab leaders to move and take action because they are responsible to do their best in supporting the Palestinians.

He called on all the free people around the world to continue supporting the Palestinians' resistance, as it is the only option that will enable them to regain their rights.

Abdulmajed Al-Zindani, rector of the Iman University, spoke during the march on behalf of religious Yemeni scholars. Al-Zindani's speech was different: it was like a dialogue with the marchers. He asked marchers to raise their hands to demand that Egypt open the Rafah crossing and to call on Yemen to send an official delegation to Gaza of civilian activists and officials from the government on four Yemeni ships.

He also asked the Yemeni Public Authority for Palestinian Support to prepare a festival to receive the three Yemeni activists who participated in the flotilla.

Al-Zindani in his speech commended Amr Mosa, the secretary general of



Thousands participated in the march including politicians, tribal leaders, local officials and religious scholars.

the Arab League, for his proposal of an Arab Union like the European Union that Islamic countries such as Iran, Pakistan and Turkey could join.

He called on the Arab leaders who will meet in a summit in Libya to hurry and begin to take steps to implement this proposal.

In a related event, on Wednesday, Israel began deporting the flotilla's de-

tained activists to Jordan, British newspaper the Guardian has reported on its website.

The activists said that they were mistreated by the Israeli naval commandos, but their message achieved some success.

"The Israelis roughed up and humiliated all of us, women, men and children," the Guardian quoted one of the

activists. "They were brutal and arrogant, but our message reached every corner of the world that the blockade on Gaza is unfair and should be lifted immediately," said the activist.

The Israeli press published photos of Mohamed Al-Hazmi, the Yemeni activist who was on board of one of the ships, holding up his jambiya.

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## Children the main victims of land mines

By: Sumaiya Alkebsi  
For the Yemen Times

SANA'A, June 1 — Athbah, 9, has nightmares, not of ghouls and goblins, but of land mines exploding in her face.

On March 25, Athbah and her sister Hana, 7, were playing with their friend Raja when they accidentally stepped on a land mine that exploded. Raja died in the explosion. Athbah lost her eye, a couple of fingers, and movement in her left hand. Hana has scars all over her face and the optic nerve in her left eye burst with the explosion.

Yahya Al-Seminky, Athbah and Hana's father, says that he tried to take his family to the Emirate refugee, fleeing from the fighting in Sa'ada, northern Yemen. When they were refused entry to the camp because it was full, they decided to sleep outside until there was space. The land mine exploded before they got the chance.

There have been fifteen mine explosions since the cease-fire on February



According to the Ministry of Interior's website, mines in various districts nearly killed and wounded 15 shepherds. The wounded were mostly children between the ages of 8-15 years of age.

12, according to SEYAJ, a non-governmental organization working for children's rights.

Preliminary statistics analyzed by SEYAJ show that more than 90 percent of victims in these explosions were children.

According to the Ministry of Interior's website, mines in various districts nearly killed and wounded 15 shepherds. The wounded were mostly children between the ages of 8-15 years of age.

SEYAJ is calling for the attention of the Yemeni government and relief organizations to the number of young victims of land mines and their struggle to receive the free health care promised to them by decree.

"There is no coordination between relief organizations like UNICEF and the Yemeni government to implement the Ministry of Health's decree that stipulates that any land mine victim be treated for free," Ahmad Al-Qurashi, general director of SEYAJ, told the Yemen Times.

He said that even the president has directed to take care of land mine victims but until now the directions have yet to come to reality.

After the explosion, Al-Seminky took Athbah and Hana to different health centers and then took them to the Salam Hospital in Sa'ada and one of the doctors told them to leave and find another hospital.

Al-Seminky then decided to take them to Sana'a for treatment. For the couple of days that he and his daughters were in the hospital, they did not get any treatment and kept them for no reason. He says that the doctors told him that he should take his young daughters outside the country to get treatment and that the operation will cost YR 200,000.

Ahmed Wahaan's family is another example of a family that fell victim to a land mine. On April 9, he, his son, and three daughters were near the Mazraq camp for internally displaced persons in Amran. A land mine exploded while they were walking. They are all now

suffering from severe injuries. Wahaan said that they went to a medical camp but the camp did not have the means to treat them.

"So we moved to Hodeida to a military hospital where they were friendly and took care of us," Wahaan told the Yemen Times.

However, one of his daughters lost her eye and the hospital could not do anything about it. Despite having lost everything in the war, he was also told to take them outside Yemen for treatment.

"I don't have anything," he said. "I lost everything I own because of the war."

According to SEYAJ, these explosions are not the most recent. On May 27, a land mine caused the deaths of several adults and 3 children in Al-Marjum. Also, on May 29, a ten-year-old girl was hit by a land mine while she was grazing sheep in the Amran district in the Amran governorate. She was transferred to the hospital for treatment immediately.

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## Presidential committees to address southern issue

By: Mohammad Bin Sallam

SANA'A, June 2 — Last Monday, a presidential committee started its work towards solving tension between the government and the Southern Movement in Al-Dhale' governorate, south Yemen.

Deadly clashes between Southern Movement supporters and the government have been ongoing in the south of Yemen, especially in Al-Dhale' and Lahj where heavy security presence has impeded the movement of the population.

The presidential committee was headed by Ali Mus'ed Ubaida, brigadier general of missiles, and deputy governor of the Mahwit governorate Mohamad Sa'eed Al-Mafahi was one of its members.

Sources from Al-Dhale' said on Wednesday that members of the committee were to discuss the ongoing

situation with members of the Joint Meeting Parties (JMP) and that JMP members would be chosen to be part of the committee.

The committee is working to remove all flags calling for secessionism. Its members are also to talk to the JMP about them working with the state and helping to solve the problems of the people.

Another committee has been formed to discuss a solution to the siege by the government's security forces of Al-Habeelain, Radfan, Lahj governorate, where residents complain that they have run out of food and medicine.

Abdu Rabu, a member of the Southern Movement in Radfan told the Yemen Times in a phone call that such governmental committees will not do anything for the people and that they will fail by all standards.

"Since the committee started its

work in Radfan three weeks ago, it has been turning around in circles," he said. "The committee members do not hold the power of decision."

"If the demands we have are not fulfilled, things will be worse than ever," he warned.

Last Sunday, the central committee of the Socialist Party, one of the parties belonging to the JMP, stated that the Southern Movement is legitimate and was established to call for the rights of the people in the south after the civil war in 1994.

The Socialist Party called on all local and international human rights organizations to work to end the siege that has caused a shortage in commodities and medicine in the two governorates.

Last Monday, Abdu Naser Habeeb, the head of the political committee of the Islah opposition party, also one of the JMP, at a seminar in Aden ex-

pressed his anger over what he called "a coup against the unity."

He added that the JMP are "bigger than a group and smaller than a nation" and that they call for reform. He confirmed that if the Southern Movement issue was solved, the crises in Yemen would end.

He called on civil society organizations to support the national dialogue.

Human rights activist Afra Hariiri has said that Yemeni law lacks equality and respect for international human rights' conventions. She said that, as the judiciary in Yemen depends on the executive power, it is the latter that does not care about human rights.

She called on the state to reform the law and the constitution according to human rights.

The constitution must ensure the state's accountability because that is what it makes the government work properly.

## Government promises workers salary increase next year

By: Mahmoud Assamiee

SANA'A, June 2 — A ministry committee has made a promise to increase the minimum monthly salary of workers from March 2011. The promise was made to the Yemeni Workers' Union (YWU) whose members were last month on full strike for more than a week.

Employees in public transport, oil companies, the water sector, the Telecommunication Corporation, and ports, as well as municipality cleaners were on strike.

The union demanded to increase the minimum monthly salary from YR 20,000 to YR 60,000, roughly from USD 100 to USD 300.

The union also called for the government to help improve the living standards of its members, specifically following the devaluation of the local currency against the US dollar and the subsequent rise in prices.

The union demanded the additional bonuses the government promised to give workers years ago.

They also wanted the reduction of income tax imposed by the government on employees, which currently stands at 16 percent of the salary.

The union demanded social security system for employees and fixed contracts for short-term staff.

Secretary General of YWU Mohammad Al-Jedri said that the full strike came after the government's refusal to respond to the union's demands.

"The workers union will continue the full strike until they obtain all their rights and will not accept procrastination," he told the Yemen Times on May 26 after the full strike had started. "Our demands fall under the president's directions to improve citizens' living standards and hence we call on political forces to act according to the president's directions."

Some leaders and members of the union's syndicates were reportedly arrested and others threatened with detention after the beginning of the full strike.

"We have faced difficulties in some governorates like the arrest of union leaders in Taiz, Aden and Dhamar. Some governors are accusing us of affiliation with Southern Movement," said Al-Jedri.

He explained that 15 people from the union had been arrested in Dhamar and three in Aden, and that a great number in Taiz were being threatened of arrest.

Deputy secretary general of the YWU Jamal Al-Sanabani told the Yemen Times on May 26 that two military vehicles were following the head of the Cleaners' Syndicate, a body affiliated with the union.

According to Al-Sanabani, some street cleaners had been replaced by others after they started the full strike. Others were forced to go out to work.

Moreover, employees at the Telecommunication Corporation were threatened with dismissal if they refused to work.

## Yemeni law against smoking ineffective, say activists

By: Sadeq Al-Wesabi

SANA'A, June 2 — Activists and officials demanded that the government better activate an "ineffective" Yemeni law against smoking last Monday on the occasion of World No Tobacco Day.

Organizations and forums organized marathons for young non-smokers and held awareness campaigns against smoking on this day calling for a stop to the habit.

"We call for the Yemeni law against smoking to be activated immediately to preventing smoking in public and enclosed places to protect our future generations," said Abdullah Al-Akwa, vice-chairman of the Life Makers Forum, during a meeting held by the forum last Monday.

Issued in 2005, the Yemeni law against smoking stipulates that smoking is not permitted in public places like schools, universities, public transport, ministries, public companies and gas stations, among other places.

The law also prescribes penalties



for people who smoke in public places and double penalties for teachers who smoke in the presence of students.

There are 1 billion smokers around the world, mostly from developing countries, according to the World Health Organization (WHO).

Twenty percent of women are smokers, says the WHO, and tobacco companies target women, especially in

poor countries. Tobacco consumption among women is becoming more socially acceptable in many countries.

"The number of women smokers is rising and they use other forms of tobacco, such as shisha and smokeless tobacco," said Dr. Gholam Bobar from the WHO, on behalf of Dr. Hussein Al-Jazaeri, regional director for the WHO in the Eastern Mediterranean Region.

"We have the responsibility to prevent tobacco among females because they become more easily addicted to nicotine than males and find it harder to quit," he said.

"Unless we all work together now to face the challenges of women consuming tobacco, we might face a real disaster in the coming days," he said. "We want to empower women to take a leading role in fighting this epidemic."

Smoking is one of the most important factors in environmental pollution and ranked second in causes of death worldwide, according to Ali Al-Khawlani, the head of Public Institution for Cancer Control.

The Public Institution for Cancer Control held a meeting with 300 imams and preachers last Monday to urge them to persuade people to quit smoking.

"We must prevent smoking in public places like other countries and that will come through implementation of the law against smoking," Sheikh Jabri Hasan, one of the religious figures, told participants at a symposium on World No Tobacco Day.

## World No Smoking Day celebrating by running

By: Yemen Times Staff

SANA'A, June 2 — Fifty middle and small size enterprises received awards from the Sabafon mobile telecommunication company for not selling tobacco despite the temptations.

The company presented the awards in an event organized with the Ishraq Smoking Awareness Association on the occasion of World No Tobacco Day.

The main event however, was a race in which five hundred people competed and in which Walid Saleh Olaia of the army won the first place. Mohammed Al-Khawlanani won the second place and Ali Abdulrahim Al-Asbahi won the third place.

The celebration was accompanied by a campaign targeting drivers including those in public transport as Sabafone group distributed thousands of stickers and leaflets encouraging the public to stop smoking.

While celebrating the marathon winners Sabafone and Ishraq association urged attendees to maintain an environmental friendly life style and a healthier life.

"This sports event is not only a display of athletic, but it is also a motivational event for volunteerism and being

part of the community to create an educated aware generation responsible for their environment and surroundings," said Tareq Al-Haidari Executive Director of Sabafone, encouraging the locals to avoid smoking in public places and to advise others to refrain from it.

More than five hundred runners will compete in a seven kilometers race planned to take place next Monday, May 31.

Ishraq Smoking Awareness Association on the occasion of World No Tobacco Day. Runners will start at nine A.M. at the Apollo Center on Sitteen Road and will run across the Zubairi street to the Police Officers' Club where the finishing line will be.

Following the race a number of events will take place at the club including presentations on smoking risks and awarding the winners of the race. The first three winners will receive monetary prizes while the first fifty winners will receive in-kind prizes and gifts.

The traffic authority will place barriers and signs to direct the traffic and pedestrians to clear the runners' path. Participants in the race are all men and they are either athlete members of sports clubs or military men from the army and republican guards.



A 2009 report by the World Health Organization has revealed that Yemen has the second highest national rate of smokers in the whole Arab region, after Tunisia.

There are 3.4 million total smokers in Yemen, 29 percent of who are between 17 and 24 years old, according to the National Tobacco Control Program at the Ministry of Health.

A cigarette in Yemen can be as cheap as YR 10, less than a piece of Lebanese bread, which is YR 20. Yemenis

consume around 6.4 billion cigarettes a year, and spend about YR 21.3 billion on them.

An astounding 86 percent of adult Yemeni males are smokers, found a 2007 paper by researchers at the University of Edinburgh. However, the Ministry of Health has said that this figure is too high, pointing the results of its last survey in 2003, which concluded that only 34.5 percent of Yemeni men and 12.8 percent of Yemeni women were smokers.

## Yemen arrests al-Qaida suspect and captures pirates

SANA'A, May 30 (Xinhua) — Yemeni policemen arrested a suspected al-Qaida militant and found in his possession 266 videotape CDs documenting al-Qaida military operations, the Interior Ministry said Saturday.

The 26-year-old suspect was arrested when he was onboard a car in Al-Baidha province, south of the capital Sana'a, said the ministry in a report posted on its website.

The ministry did neither tell when the suspect was captured nor identified him, but noted that it held him for investigative procedures and confiscated

the videotape CDs of his possession.

Sana'a has come under mounted pressure from Washington and international community to solve its internal conflicts and focus on fighting al-Qaida militants after its Yemeni wing boasted that they were behind a botched attempt to bomb a U.S. passenger jet last December.

On another security front, Yemen's coastguard on Friday captured 12 Somali pirates and freed a hijacked Yemeni-flagged fishing vessel with nine crew onboard which was seized earlier off the Yemeni island of Socotra, the

country's Defense Ministry reported.

"The coastguard managed to capture 12 Somali pirates and free the Yemeni fishing vessel along with its nine Yemeni fishermen off the south-eastern coast of Al-Mahra," said the Yemeni Defense Ministry in a statement posted on its 26sep.net website.

Earlier Friday, the Yemeni Interior Ministry issued a warning that Somali pirates may use a hijacked Yemeni-flagged fishing vessel to launch attacks on merchant ships passing by the Socotra archipelago. The warning came after pirates seized

the Yemeni-owned fishing vessel while it was sailing towards Yemeni port city of Mukalla, the interior ministry quoted Yemen's coastguard as saying.

The ministry warned that "pirates are likely to use the vessel to attack commercial ships in the Yemeni regional waters."

The interior ministry did not specify the date of the incident.

The Gulf of Aden, off the northern coast of Somalia, has the highest risk of piracy in the world. About 25,000 ships pass every year through the canal south of Yemen, between the Red Sea and the Arabian Sea.

## New map shows youth imprisoned for human rights activities

The interactive map aims to bring clarity to the number of Middle East youth kept behind bars for various human rights activities.

By: Adam Gonn  
The Media Line

SANA'A, June 1 — With the number of youth across the globe imprisoned for human rights activism rising, a new map has been released to clarify the picture.

The World Youth Movement for Democracy, together with local human rights organizations across the world, are trying present an accurate picture of the number of youth sitting behind bars by launching a web-based map that details each individual case.

"Our main goal is that we want to spread information about all the political prisoners in the world," said Mohamed Al Maskati, President of the Bahraini Youth Society for Human Rights, one of the organizations behind the campaign.

"We are not focusing on all political prisoners but we are focusing about the youth, especially those who are working as human rights activists or political activists, journalists or bloggers working with non violent actions," Al Maskati told The Media Line.

Al-Maskati said that one important part of the campaign was getting the world out.

"We want to spread the information about them [the prisoners] to international organizations, to the media, to the local organization, to the diplomats and governments all over the world," he said.

"We have a lot of youth political prisoners in the Middle East," including Egypt, Iran, Yemen and Bahrain, Al-Maskati added.

He pointed out that not having any compiled information on the exact number of prisoners was a problem.

In a recent report for Human Rights Watch, deputy Middle East director Joe Stork noted that Bahrain had recently imposed a \$1,325 fine Maskati's organization for operating a non-governmental organization in violation of the Bahraini Civil Associations Law.

"Mohammad al-Maskati tried to comply with the law, and the authorities responded by punishing him with a large fine," Stork was quoted as saying.

The map is based on the Google map system and each prisoner is cited with a marker. A user can click on the marker to get all the information about that particular prisoner.

In addition to being added the map, the information will be forwarded to other human right organizations and the media.

Some current cases on the map include Egyptian blogger Kareem Amer who was sentenced to four years in prison of which three were for contempt of religion and one year for defaming Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

Other prisoners on the map are Iranians Mohammad Olyayi Fard, sentenced to one year for 'propaganda against the system' and Ali Bikas, who is serving seven years for organizing student protest at Tabriz University, one of the five largest universities in Iran.

"It's clearly an important initiative" Nadim Houry, a Researcher for Human Rights Watch, "There are a number of challenges in keeping track of political prisoner in the region."

Houry noted that there is reliable data on the more well known political prisoners, and this initiative would help regarding the lesser known ones.

"The bigger problems are for the prisoners that are lesser known or are Islamists who might not belong to large organizations," Houry said.

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The new campaign has set up a website (<http://www.wymdonline.org/political-prisoner-campaign.html>) from which users can send an e-mail to either update the information or add a new prisoner.





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**\*Note: All ordinarily resident applicants must be residing in YEMEN and have the required work and residency permits to be eligible for consideration.**

## Their News

### First Euro-Arab Youth Conference

The Social Sector / League of Arab States (LAS) in collaboration with the Council of Europe, European Youth Forum, Italian Youth Council and the Tunisian Union for Youth Organizations, are organizing the First Euro-Arab Youth Conference and the Third Euro-Arab Coordination Meeting for Youth Organization “EACMYO”.

The Conference represents a unique event as it will be held between two countries on the shores of the Mediterranean. The Conference will start with the Third Euro-Arab Coordination Meeting for Youth Organizations “EACMYO” in Tunisia from 22nd-24th July 2010. Then all participants will travel by boat to Sicily - Italy to start the First Euro-Arab Youth Conference during the period 25th- 30th July, 2010. The conference is going to express a symbolism image of Cultural Continuity between the two shores of the Mediterranean Sea.

### Agenda:

- Tunisia (22nd-24th July 2010): The Third Euro-Arab Coordination Meeting for Youth Organization “EACMYO”;
- 24th July 2010: All Participants Travel to Sicily - Italy (by boat);
- Sicily- Italy (25th- 30th July 2010): The First Euro-Arab Youth Conference

### Objectives:

- To promote dialogue and partnership between Europe and the Arab world
- To further develop the EACMYO structure toward a better institutional cooperation in the Euro-Arab context.
- To activate the dialogue between youth policy makers, youth leaders, and representatives of regional and international organizations concerned on youth issues.
- To support and sustain youth cooperation projects in Euro-Arab context.
- To promote and activate the role of youth organizations in migration and intercultural dialogue.
- To strength the capacity of youth organizations through developing joint capacity building programs in

the Euro-Arab context.

- To introduce best practices for National Youth Councils for Youth Organizations.
- To follow-up on the outcomes of the Third League of Arab States Youth Forum in Assilah – Morocco.
- To develop follow-up projects within the framework of the EACMYO.

### Participants must:

- Representative of active Youth Organization (Kindly attach a letter of support from your organization).
- Has leadership role in his organization.
- Have awareness and commitment to develop the youth cooperation in the Euro-Arab region.
- Have experience in the field of youth policies and in the regional and international youth work, with a special focus in migration and intercultural dialogue issues.
- Be able to attend the whole duration of the conference 21st-30th July 2010.
- Be able to work in Arabic and English
- Age between (18-35) years.

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lege in the world. Through its scholarship scheme, OFID aims to help highly motivated, highly-driven individuals overcome one of the biggest challenges to their careers – the cost of graduate studies. The winner of the OFID Scholarship Award will receive a scholarship of up to US\$100,000. The funds will be spread over a maximum of two years, toward the completion of a Master's degree, or its equivalent, at an accredited educational institution, starting in the autumn of the academic year 2010/2011.

Readmore:

<http://cambodiajobs.blogspot.com/2008/11/opec-fund-for-international-development.html>

### World Summit Youth Award 2010

Young People Using Internet and Mobile to put the United Nations Millennium Development Goals into Action!

The World Summit Youth Award (WSYA) invites young designers, writers, journalists and e-Content creators to participate in this year's international competition - using internet and mobile contents to create awareness of the MDGs.

If you rely on the web for creating culture, overcoming gender inequality, lack of education and access to clean water or to address hunger, poverty, disease and environmental degradation, then you should take part!

The World Summit Youth Award showcases you as young developers and serves as a platform for people from all UN member states to work together on the efforts of reaching the Millennium Development Goals!

The rewards are global recognition within the United Nations, invitations to the WSYA Winners events in NY and networking contacts on a global scale.

We invite you to develop inspiring Internet Content to promote and achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) set by the United Nations to create a humane, just and liveable world.

An application form available from April 19, 2010 till June 20, 2010 online for all young people under the age of 30.

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<http://www.youthaward.org/>

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## Geert Cappelaere, UNICEF Country Representative to Yemen Times

# “Yemen is not 25 million terrorists, Yemen is 12 million children.”

He fascinates you with his sense of humor, passion and strong conviction to protect children or, at least, die trying. Geert Cappelaere has spent most of his life researching and applying his knowledge on how to protect children around the world. He started in Belgium, where he comes from, and passed through many countries in the world including Sierra Leone, where he was posted as UNICEF country rep for five years, before finally coming to Yemen in April, 2010.

Interviewed By: Nadia Al-Sakkaf

In addition to his experience in development and child protection, Cappelaere has worked as a university lecturer on children's rights and protection issues. He is also a member of various organizations working with children's rights. Acknowledging his work for the protection of children, Geert Cappelaere has gained many awards, such as those from the Flemish League for Human Rights with the Children's Rights Center at the University of Gent, the King Baudouin Foundation with the Child Participation Fund and the Fellowship in Criminology with the Council of Europe.

He has a PhD in Criminology in alternative sanctions for juveniles, and has delivered postgraduate courses on children's rights, juvenile delinquency and youth penal law. He speaks Dutch, English and French, and understands German.

### Addressing sensitive topics

From his early days as a UNICEF country representative in Yemen, Geert Cappelaere has showed interest in communicating with the media in Yemen and maintaining good relations with it. He keenly approaches journalists and is frank in addressing questions about children's situations in the country.

“Is it true that, in Yemen, the best food in the house is dedicated to the men of the family then the women and children come second? Is it true that a large percentage of Yemeni mothers do not breast feed their children?” Cappelaere asked.

He wanted answers to those questions and others, in order to understand the situation of children in Yemen. Yet he was not judgmental. “Why are these topics so sensitive?” he asked. In order to understand the real situation of Yemeni children, we have to be more courageous about talking through these sensitive topics, he urged.

“We have the conviction as adults

Yemen and recreate a better cultural system for you, in which children are safer or happier. It is eventually Yemen's choice,” he confirmed.

### Expanding projects

UNICEF is studying where it can considerably increase its investment, after deliberating with the government and civil society parties.

The most important issue now is to find out the situation of children all over Yemen. This is why UNICEF in partnership with stakeholders is part of a national survey to identify the situation of children in every district in Yemen.

“I can't promise that by the end of my term here the situation of children in Yemen will improve dramatically, but what we can do is at least find the facts, present them to Yemeni people and decision makers and help them make the best decisions for the benefit of their children,” he said.

There is so much to be done in Yemen and he acknowledges the challenges. But he is optimistic that much could be done, more so as he sees the bright hopeful Yemeni youth who want to contribute to their country's development.

He remembers an incident in the suburbs of Cape Town in South Africa when he visited with Mandela a poor town. An old woman came to him and said, “All I want from you is to build a good school in this area, then I will die knowing that my people are on the right track and that my children and grand children's life will be better than mine.”

Now whenever he is faced with a challenge for development, Cappelaere remembers this woman. He decides that, as long as we put the foundation stone for progress and a monitoring system to ensure that we continue to move in the right path, we have done our job.

“What I learnt in Serra Lone is to be patient. And this is what I want working in Yemen's development to be, because we cannot expect things to improve



and the fulfillment of their rights, because we still have important information gaps that need to be addressed. Sound knowledge about children in all governorates is important for guiding the government, the UN and other partners, in prioritizing children's rights in the national development agenda.”

2) “Effectively addressing the extremely high levels of malnutrition. Quality nutrition for every child should be a top priority for the government, and UNICEF will step up its efforts to assist the government in the huge task ahead.”

3) “Insuring quality education, particularly for girls. While important progress has been made in achieving the Millennium Development Goals for Education, too many girls in Yemen still miss out on going to school. UNICEF wants to assist the government in ensuring that by 2015, every child (girls and boys alike) will be able to complete basic quality education. Stronger investment will be required, and urgently.”

4) “Helping to materialize a protective environment for all children, against all forms of violence, abuse and exploitation. A keener sense of alertness for serious child rights violations should be one of the critical priorities for everyone in Yemen.”

### Producing our own food

Yemen has the potential to produce its own food. Cappelaere has read this from agriculture and food security studies. “I am puzzled why, given this fact, Yemen imports so much food and yet half of Yemeni children suffer from malnutrition. Why is it in a country that has considerable fertile land, do you import so much food?” he questioned.

The role of UNICEF is to help the country reflect on this because importing so much food makes Yemen vulnerable to food crises in both prices and quality. UNICEF has to step in and use its authority at the highest level to encourage the government to utilize its fertile land because not doing this is very much part of the problem. UNICEF has to help the government take hard decisions.

“I am sure the Yemeni government wants to take the right decisions and our role is to give it technical assistance and advice. Yemen should start producing its own food and stop importing so much. Why import so much milk for infants, when there is a need to encourage breast feeding?” Cappelaere said.

One way of doing this is through empowering people to demand quality food. Through educating the Yemeni public, they can become more involved in decision making, as regards their health and the health of their children.

Moreover, UNICEF is about to carry out an 18-month survey on Yemeni children aged between 14 and 18. So far, there isn't much information on this demographic group and since Yemen is signatory to the Child Rights Convention it recognizes that a child is any person 18 years old and below. UNICEF will research the conditions of adolescent Yemenis and how they could be improved.

### Generating more funds for Yemeni children

Yemen has been going through tough times, be it the insurgency in the north or the difficult situation in south, not to mention the aftermath of the floods in Hadramout, from which Yemenis are still suffering. UNICEF's objective is to step up its work in Yemen and help the children affected by those crises.

“We are going to defend the basic rights of children and step up our emergency work,” he said.

Soon Cappelaere will start on a Euro-

pean tour to meet decision makers and tell them the story of Yemen.

“Yemen is not 25 million terrorists, Yemen is 12 million children and this is what the world needs to focus on. My plan is to tell them about how Yemeni children's lives could be improved and urge them to be a part of this mission,” he said.

In the north, UNICEF will not just help the IDPs but also the communities that host them in the affected governorates. Although UNICEF does not have the required money to support the expansion of its projects yet, Cappelaere believes it will come soon and employing it is not the problem. “It is my responsibility, as the representative, to generate that needed money,” he promised.

UNICEF will work with the government to ensure the money is provided and channeled for the sake of improving conditions for Yemeni children. This is why it is important to know the true situation.

“We should acknowledge that there are constraints for every single government that prevent it from implementing its plans for its people. UNICEF's goal is to give advice to governments, such that while it has limited resources, chil-

dren must remain a priority and never be compromised in the allocation of it,” he said.

“We know from experience that there are cuts that can be implemented in any government's budget, without affecting children. We will all work with the Yemeni government on this. Moreover, donors will be encouraged not to reduce their aid in a way that may harm children,” said Cappelaere.

While UNICEF is also facing funding gaps in meeting these ambitious goals, Cappelaere wants to focus first and foremost in developing, implementing and monitoring the government quality programs, to ensure children's rights. The government's budget is important, and UNICEF should help to ensure that a sufficient part of that budget is effectively spent on children.

Many development partners have pledged funding for Yemen and parts of that are already available for children. Quality programs will ensure that the available money is well spent and will attract even more funding.

“This has been my experience in many countries throughout the world. I am confident that this will also be the case in Yemen and I want to help make this happen!” he promised.

### To chew or not to chew

Another issue Yemen, both as state and people, must make a decision about, is the prevalence of qat in the society and its effects on the overall country's development, especially concerning children. Here, in this instance, UNICEF will help Yemen make the best decisions through providing information.

“We all need time for relaxation but we should know that the large areas of land specifically used for qat could have been used for growing food. Therefore, we should realize how this plant affects our lives. Although I will gladly accept invitations to be part of the discussions during qat chewing sessions, I will never chew it. Instead, I will enjoy a cup of your very good coffee,” said Cappelaere, commenting on qat.

He insisted that it is the duty of UNICEF to encourage Yemen to make the

best decisions for their children. Providing information on the effects of qat and possible alternatives would be one of the themes the agency will be working on.

Yemen has to invest in its women and children for the country to move forward. What UNICEF can do is contribute in helping the country decide its priorities, by providing relevant information to be used in discussions.

“We agree that no-one should interfere in Yemen's issues and that it is the people's choice. But we have a duty to help people make informed and educated decisions. I see a very strong role for the media in this partnership,” he said.

Yemen has to invest in education, to allow individuals and families to make better decisions in their lives. Although he advocates for a good legal system, Cappelaere said that having good legislation but poor implementation is a problem found all over the world. The legal system and its implementation has to extend to providing the best conditions for women, because the condition of children has so much to do with the conditions of mothers.

Although in the past UNICEF-Yemen has not really carried out direct interventions regarding qat, now it will. Cappelaere realizes there is a direct relation between extensive qat consumption and malnutrition among children. First he wants to document and establish this relation through research and then present the resulting information to stakeholders and urge them to take the right action.

One thing Cappelaere promised is that, no matter what the security risks are, UNICEF will always work to protect Yemeni children and will not “pack and leave.”

“Security risks will not stop us from delivering for the sake of children, that is one thing you can count on,” he promised.

Cappelaere is going to dedicate his time as UNICEF Country Representative in Yemen to make the situation of children better. Perhaps his contribution will make Yemen the ‘Arabia Felix’ it used to be in times gone by.



UNICEF is concerned about the mental-health of the displaced, many of whom have suffered traumatic experiences. A team of trained psycho-social support volunteers is screening the population, offering support and counseling to anyone who may need it. Safe spaces for children to play and express themselves are also available.

that we do the best for our children on their behalf. Therefore we have a problem accepting that some of our practices may be harmful to them,” explained Cappelaere.

This is why many parents are not keen to implement programs that support the rights of children, especially when those programs come from abroad. Parents think that it is their responsibility to provide the best environment and treatment for their child, and when someone comes from the outside and says that the parents' practices are harmful, they feel offended and pull away.

“Are you saying that I don't love my child enough? The parents would rightfully ask,” Cappelaere said. The issue is that we have to control our own ego, not allow it to cloud our judgment and realize that yes, there are some cultural practices inherited that are not in the best interest of our children.

Early marriage is obviously one of those issues. It may not be a very easy topic to talk about but we must have the courage to address it, cautiously and wisely.

“And let me remind you here that it is not our role as UNICEF to come to

overnight. But what we should do is make the right decisions today so that, in ten or twenty years' time, all Yemeni children are well-nourished. And all Yemeni children go to school and live a dignified happy life,” he said.

UNICEF has four priorities for its programs in Yemen: mapping the situation of Yemeni children, malnutrition, education for all boys and girls, and child protection.

The agency's current program of cooperation with the Yemeni Government runs until the end of 2011. Cappelaere's overall priority for 2010-2011 is therefore first to help ensuring that this program is indeed fully implemented. The program was planned, based upon a sound assessment of the situation of children here, was reviewed last year and still has the full support of the government.

“It is our duty to keep the many promises the program details, for children and the country,” he said.

Within these current program objectives, Cappelaere wants UNICEF, in the coming months, to scale-up and accelerate its assistance, in particular:

1) Improving our knowledge and understanding of the situation for children

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## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT



The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) invites Yemeni Nationals to apply for the following position with its "National Gender Advisor"

**Title: National Gender Advisor (NGA)**  
**Duration of Assignment: 3 months**  
**Duty Station: Socotra (50 %) Sana'a (50%), Yemen**

### Responsibilities:

- Engage relevant stakeholders, civil society organizations and local authorities (EPA staff, local councils etc.) in participatory training on gender awareness and gender issues related to biodiversity in order to translate learning into practical applications.
- Ensure gender balance in all training and consultative workshops and assist with identification of women and men trainees.
- Review the project document from a gender perspective and suggest entry points for gender mainstreaming
- In coordination with IIDA and LLA review from the gender perspective the current institutional set-up, legal set-up and situation for Socotra governance and biodiversity conservation, including assessment of current capacities, systems, structures, facilities, gender balance in staffing, identification of gender gaps etc.
- Ensure that gender dimensions are integrated in decision making structures and functions of the IWA, in recruitment policies and workplace practices
- Ensure that gender balance in all training and consultative workshops and assist with identification of women and men trainees.
- In coordination with IIDA and LLA, the consultant will conduct 2 consultative workshops for key stakeholders: (I) at the beginning of the mission to explain the intended reform on Socotra local governance, including gender aspects and to obtain initial ideas from the counterparts, and (II) a workshop to obtain feedback on the preliminary draft of the regulations.
- In coordination with IIDA and LLA, the consultant will conduct a final information sharing workshop for stakeholders to present the result of their work and to validate the findings.
- Provide inputs on gender mainstreaming in the IWA and identify capacity building needs in this respect.
- Engage relevant stakeholders, civil society organizations and local authorities (EPA staff, local councils etc.) in participatory training on gender awareness and issues in order to translate learning into practical applications.
- Conduct training workshop for the decision makers and relevant civil society organizations on gender awareness and issues related to institutional development of the IWA.

### Qualifications:

- \* Master degree in Social Sciences, Environment, Institutional Development or related fields.

### Only Online Applications will be accepted

For further details on the job description and online application, please visit our website at <http://jobs.undp.org>  
Response will only be made to short listed candidates  
The deadline for receiving applications is June 17th 2010

## COUNTERPART INTERNATIONAL POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

**POSITION TITLE:** Deputy Chief of Party  
**DIVISION:** Civil Society  
**LOCATION:** Yemen  
**EXPECTED START DATE:** June 30th 2010  
**RESPONSIBLE TO:** Counterpart-Yemen Country Representative

Founded in 1965, Counterpart International is a diverse, non-profit, international development organization dedicated to helping people in need in the areas of civil society, food security, private enterprise, environmental resource management, humanitarian relief, and healthcare. Counterpart does this by building the capacity of local partner nongovernmental organizations, lenders, businesses, governments and other institutions to solve their own self-defined economic, ecological, political, and social problems in ways that are sustainable, practical, and independent.

### SUMMARY:

Counterpart International is seeking a Deputy Chief of Party (DCOP), a Yemeni National for 5 year Responsive Governance Project in Yemen. With the support of Headquarters staff, the DCOP will support the Chief of Party (COP) in their overall project and staff management responsibilities, including financial oversight, donor relations and effective partnership development with local and international organizations. The DCOP should have a fluency and experience in the project areas of: institutional capacity; good governance and transparency; public participation; civil society promotion; advocacy; training program design and delivery; and grant-making.

### DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Through close collaboration with the COP, the DCOP will:

- Manage day-to-day operations of a USAID-funded national civil society assessment and strengthening program.
- Support the COP in oversight of all administrative, contracting, hiring, recruitment, financial and logistical aspects of the program.
- Oversee the identification of additional internal and external resources (e.g. consultants, training materials, books) for capacity building, organizational development and training.
- Create, implement and manage organizational development, trainings for staff/local partners, and capacity building activities.
- Guide and ensure in ensuring the highest quality of project monitoring, evaluation, reporting and communications.
- Assist the COP in the Coordination of activities between office in Yemen and Washington D.C. headquarters.
- Assist the COP in the design of procurement processes and competitive selection of local program partners, consultants and service providers.
- Other duties as assigned.

### QUALIFICATIONS:

- Minimum of 7 years experience working on international good governance, institutional capacity building and advocacy development programs
- A Masters Degree in International Development, Political Science, Public Policy or a similar field.
- Previous USAID-funded program experience, preferably in the Middle East.
- Minimum of 5 years of work experience in the Middle East region.
- Previous work experience in Yemen and a deep understanding of the challenges and opportunities in the country.
- Technical areas of expertise including policy formulation, implementing transparency initiatives, grant making, civil society promotion, training program design, and public-private partnerships.
- Excellent public speaking and writing skills in English.
- Fluency in Arabic.

"Counterpart International strongly believes in equal opportunity for all, without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, citizenship, sex, veteran's status, age, marital status, sexual preference, disability or any other protected personal characteristic."

### TO APPLY:

Individuals interested in working with Counterpart International on this project, should send their resumes and salary requirements to [Yemen@counterpart.org](mailto:Yemen@counterpart.org). Deadline for the application is June 15th, 2010.

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- Liaise with outside parties such as Agents, Suppliers, Banks, consultants etc in a professional manner.
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# JANNAH HUNT Celebrates Staff Achievements and Last Year's Successes



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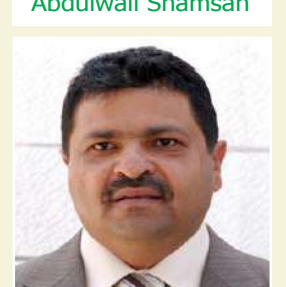
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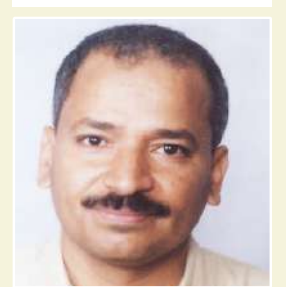
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Nabil Al-Aghbary



Eskander Taher

By : Khaled Abdullah  
Raydan Media Services

**J**annah Hunt Oil Company (JHOC) held its Annual Labor Day Award Luncheon at its Sana'a headquarters this month, as the company celebrates significant achievements in 2009 and gears up for more successes in its operations this year.



A ceremony was held to honor 15 employees with the company's Outstanding Achievement Award in recognition of their exceptional accomplishments, their commitment and their outstanding contribution to realizing the company's goals and objectives.

"We as a company want to recognize their leadership and tireless efforts that they have given to the company over the past year," General Manager Mike Graham said in a speech during the ceremony.

Two more staffers received the Memorial Award, named after the late Deputy General Manager Abdullah Shalamesh, and the General Manager Award.

The winner of the Abdullah Salamesh Award is Nabil Al-Aghbary who is currently our Production Supervisor at Block 5.

This award is given yearly to those individuals that exemplify the standards exhibited by Abdullah Salamesh in recognition of their outstanding contribution towards accomplishing the goals and objectives of the company.

This year's GM Award, which signifies the highest level of leadership and teamwork went to Eskander Taher. Mr. Taher started in 1996 and he is currently the Al-Nasr Plant Supervisor. He works hard to maintain a Jannah Hunt Oil family atmosphere and is good in assisting other personnel in broadening their job skills.

**SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS**  
The past year saw JHOC triumph

despite difficult market conditions across the globe, Graham said in his speech. Exploration played a key role in the company's array of accomplishments, helping it to consolidate its position among Yemen's top oil producers.

"We've had some significant achievements this past year at JHOC," he said.

"We've had a very successful drilling program that has helped us main-



tain our current production levels, which made us one of the top producers in Yemen."

The firm kept operating expenses low, not an easy feat given the worldwide challenges, Graham said.

The company's flagship Block 5 unit, which began operations in 1995 and from which oil is pumped to the Ras Isa Marine Terminal on the

Red Sea, passed the 200-million-barrel production mark earlier this year, he said. Another milestone, the reservoir simulation study at the Al Nasr field, was nearing completion.

"This will help us understand what's going on at Al Nasr," he said.

The company also inaugurated an air strip at its Halewah field so that employees could be transported safely to and from the installation without security concerns.

Graham expressed gratitude to the company's employees for their contribution to JHOC's success.

"In this particular day, we want to thank every employee, from Accounting to Finance, from Field Operations to Admin and HR, and from IT to Purchasing should be proud of these accomplishments because every one of you has contributed to the success of Block 5."

## A BRIGHT 2010

Graham said the company had "big plans" for the current year and that the firm would extend its operations, adding potentially significant reserves to Block 5.

"During the coming year, we still have big plans for our company," he said. JHOC plans to drill seven producing wells in Block 5,

two of which would be basement wells.

"The basement wells project could add significant reserves to operations in Block 5," he said. Graham also said Jannah Hunt's partners had approved funding to build a new gas plant in Halewah.

"That will not only expand our operation, but will add

the much-needed liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) to Yemen's commercial market."

Adel Al-Hamadi, the company's Deputy General Manager, said "Jannah Hunt has an ongoing commitment to recognizing and appreciating those employees who consistently provide excellent services."

### Awardees of the Outstanding Achievement Award:

- Saleh Al-Maweri
- Anwar Al-Maqtari
- Obaid Mohamed Jaffer
- Abdulla Al-Magan
- Ahmed Al-Gazzar
- Gamal Hazem
- Saleh Al-Sumat
- Abdulatif Al-Zandani
- Nasser Al-Ashram
- Nabil Al-Ashwal
- Abdulwali Shamsan
- Rawda Al-Arami
- Hamid Al-Ariqi

### Abdullah Shalamesh Award:

- Nabil Al-Aghbary

### GM Recognition Award:

- Eskander Taher

Then the Deputy General Manager handed over Mr. Graham a very special award from all the employees of JHOC in recognition of his pioneering role in leading the company to achieve its goals and objectives and create an amicable atmosphere among all employees.





# An 'internationalizing' Yemen

Following the confession by Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, the accused would-be bomber of the American airplane heading from Amsterdam to Detroit in the last week of December, that he received training at al-Qaeda camps in Yemen, US President Barack Obama, who pledged to focus more on dialogue and cooperation in the fight against terror in his first days in office, has given signals that he might return to the Bush-era policies he persistently criticized during his election campaign.

By: Samir Salha

Concerns that the Gulf of Aden will be the region's new center of conflict emerged when Obama started pointing his finger at Yemen.

A majority of the Arab-Muslim world didn't react when Washington called for the development of urgent alternative policies against al-Qaeda camps in Yemen. Some Arab regimes even supported the White House. The US administration announced that it would increase its financial and logistical support, which is currently \$150 million, to the Ali Abdullah Saleh administration to use in the fight against al-Qaeda. The Sa'ada and Houthi groups in the north of Yemen are engaged in a prolonged armed fight against the central authority, and Saudi Arabia opened a new front

against these minority groups on grounds that they violated border restrictions, making the situation even worse. For the people in the north, the south is just a gateway for income. But reactions in the oil-rich south, which does not get a share from the budget that is proportionate to its investments, reached their highest point last weekend when the leaders of political parties in the south called for civil disobedience and a general strike. Worried about the increasing power of al-Qaeda, which had organized in the most southern parts of Yemen long before the first attack against the American embassies in Kenya and Tanzania in 1998, the West has started to develop new strategies that include the prospect of military intervention in order to end this situation. All of these are indications of developments that will place the entire region at risk via Yemen.

From this perspective, the implicit messages in Yemeni President Saleh's statement that they are ready for peace if al-Qaeda and the Houthis surrender their arms or that otherwise they will continue to fight against components that threaten world peace and safety until the very end must be read very carefully. For this statement reveals that Saleh is searching for ways to protect his authority even if it means opening the way for Western intervention. The subject of curiosity for the upcoming days is whether the solution against the Yemen-centered problem will come from the Saleh administration or from plans to divide the country, which was split into two prior to 1990.

## Focusing on solutions

It is not surprising that a London meeting to take place on Jan. 28, which was initially planned to discuss development in Yemen, will focus on counterterrorism instead of policies to enable development in the country. A similar meeting was organized in London in 2006 to talk about development in Yemen; it was decided during the meeting to provide \$5 billion to the country for structural support. But only 1 percent of that amount was

given to Yemen, strictly on the condition that it be used to fight against al-Qaeda. If the West is determined to support Yemen then they must realize the error of their ways, look beyond military alternatives to fight terrorism and lead the way in the implementation of projects that will develop the country. Therefore, in order for the Yemenis to obtain peace and stability England, France and Germany especially must escape the US's influence and focus on solutions that will eliminate social injustice and poverty, which fosters terror, and not just on military options to fight against al-Qaeda, and stop making decisions that cause disappointment, such as the decision to close down the embassies in Sana'a.

In particular, the words of US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, who said: "The instability in Yemen is a threat to regional stability and even global stability, and we're working with Qatar and others to think of the best way forward to try to deal with the security concerns. And certainly, we know that this is a difficult set of challenges, but they have to be addressed," have meant that the moves that started with Lebanon under the name of change and that aimed to

internationalize the crises in Pakistan, Afghanistan and Somalia so as to control these countries are now targeting Yemen. However, for Clinton to see a real solution to the problem, it was considerably important that she lent an ear to her German counterpart, Guido Westerwelle, who said Germany had "great interest in a stable Yemen, which does not become a retreat area for terrorists" and noted that as a country that contributes the largest amount of development aid in Europe, Germany is deeply concerned about this matter and supports international efforts to increase for the country's stability.

Nevertheless, the most important question remains whether the West's remedies aim to cure the al-Qaeda gangrene or to send the Yemeni people into a coma. More importantly, we will soon see whether al-Qaeda was luring the West into its trap in Yemen or if the West is trying to control strategic routes through Yemen under the pretext of fighting against al-Qaeda.

While the international public discusses these developments, Turkey should act very carefully. First of all, our country must not become part of any plans to send NATO forces off the coast of Somalia to participate in the

armed conflict in Yemen. As it did in Afghanistan, it should opt for helping the country improve its economic and social development. In this context, our government should support the initiative to strengthen the central government and national unity and territorial integrity as a primary tool in counterterrorism.

In conclusion, while the problem is a top concern for the West, the primary factors in the settlement of this problem are the Arab League, of which Yemen is a founding member, the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), which it joined in 1969, and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), which Yemen is currently in membership negotiations with. Countries that are active in these organizations and that are leading countries in the region, such as Turkey, Saudi Arabia and Egypt, must urgently hold a regional meeting in Yemen and strive to secure an immediate cease-fire and attain a national consensus to find a way to establish a fund for the development of this country. Such a solution will be much more realistic than the West's artificial military recipes.

Professor Samir Salha is an instructor at Kocaeli University.

# Poverty in the Middle East and North Africa: A cause for concern?

By: Farrukh Iqbal and Mustapha Kamel Nabli

The current high price of oil is likely to reinforce a misleading image of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, namely, that it is a rich region that uniformly provides a wide array of subsidized consumption goods and free social services to its citizens financed by revenues from plentiful supplies of oil and gas. For some countries in the region, especially the small oil-states of the Gulf, this is an accurate image. For others, however, the image is misleading. With or without hydrocarbon resources, many countries in the region face significant challenges in fighting poverty and deprivation.

While poverty is not only about command over monetary resources, a monetary measure is a good place to start. To estimate poverty, the general practice is to collect information about income and spending through household surveys. When we review the data available to the World Bank,

what do we find? To begin with, we find that several countries in the MENA region do not collect poverty data at all or, if they collect such data, they do not make the results public. In these countries there is no way of calculating how many people lack sufficient incomes to meet basic food and other expenditure needs. The number of such people may be high or low but the point is that it is not calculated, or if calculated, not reported.

But at least seven countries in the region do collect systematic data on the distribution of incomes or expenditures among their citizens and allow the World Bank access to aggregated versions of the results. These countries include Algeria, Egypt, Iran, Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia and Yemen. A recent World Bank review of country-level household survey data shows that there is much nuance and diversity to poverty patterns and trends in the region.

The available data show that, in recent years, about one in every five persons in the region could be considered poor at the \$2 PPP line (PPP

or purchasing power parity measures the amount of local currency that is needed to purchase the basket of goods and services that would cost \$1 in the US). Furthermore, this proportion stayed roughly constant for most of the 1990s, fluctuating between 20 and 25 percent of the population.

This stagnation in poverty rates mirrors the stagnation in regional economies over this period and highlights the importance of growth-promoting policies for the region.

But the data also show considerable diversity among countries. For example, Egypt and Yemen feature poverty rates that are more than twice as high as the average for the region, reflecting conditions that are far removed from those of welfare states living comfortably off natural resources. On the other hand, Algeria, Jordan, Iran, Morocco and Tunisia feature rates that are bunched between 5 percent and 15 percent.

And while the poverty trend in Egypt, Jordan and Morocco has fluctuated during the last decade, in Iran and Tunisia it has shown a fairly

steady decline. A broadly similar pattern is found even when poverty rates are estimated using national minimum consumption standards.

National poverty lines reveal considerable diversity in poverty rates within countries as well. In most countries, some regions, provinces or governorates have much higher poverty rates than others. To take only one example, the poverty rate in rural Upper Egypt is almost seven times as high as that in the big cities or metropolitan areas.

Substantial intra-country variations are common and indicate that the fruits of past growth and public spending have not been equally shared. Clearly, issues of inclusion and equal opportunity continue to be a challenge for MENA.

Will the oil-price boom that has prevailed for the last few years carry the region out of poverty? This depends on several considerations. Not all the countries in the region have large hydrocarbon resources. While high oil prices are a boon for some countries, they could bring hard times for large net importers of oil. In these countries, high oil prices increase production costs for businesses and generate fiscal pressures on governments. However, some countries can also benefit from flows of migration and remittances that exist within the region. For example, Egypt, Jordan and Yemen have historically benefited from such links with the oil-exporting countries of the Gulf. Will history repeat itself? So far, the evidence suggests that the present oil-boom is not producing regional spillover effects that are as strong as those witnessed in the previous oil boom of the 1970s and early 1980s.

While it is appropriate to remain concerned about the challenge of income poverty, mention should also be made of experience with non-monetary aspects. Here the region has made tremendous progress. For example, between 1985 and 2000, literacy spread to 69 percent of the population from an initial level of 47 percent, average years of schooling (for those above 15) rose from 3.4 years to 5.2 years, the mortality rate

for children under five years of age fell dramatically from 108 per thousand live births to only 46 per thousand and life expectancy rose from 61 years to 68 years. Indeed, by the year 2000, the MENA region had caught up with middle income countries in many conventional human development indicators.

This remarkable result begs a question. Why was MENA's economic performance so poor in the last two decades or so despite rising levels of health and education? At least two inter-related possibilities can be considered for the case of education. First, rising education levels may have contributed positively to the economic performance of the MENA region but the impact may have been overshadowed by the negative effects of other factors such as the decline of public resources (and related infrastructure spending) due to weak prices for hydrocarbons and debt burdens carried over from a more profligate past, poor macroeconomic management, and lack of movement on key structural reforms such as opening the economy to the private sector and to international trade. Second, the returns on human capital may be low in MENA because of deficiencies in the quality and relevance of education. Or returns to education may be low because of the lack of integration with world markets. Both these possibilities are consistent with available data on rates of return and unemployment. The MENA region exhibits low rates of return to education, ranging from 2.5 percent to 10 percent for different levels. The region also has high rates of unemployment, averaging about 13 percent, but even higher among the educated and the young.

Looking to the future, we may emphasize three considerations. First, as already mentioned, the region needs higher and sustainable growth. If growth comes from a broad economic base and is sustained at around 3 percent per capita per annum, the poverty situation will improve dramatically over the next ten years. Calculations done by World Bank staff suggest that, in such a scenario, the poverty rate for the region could decline to 7 percent, or almost 13

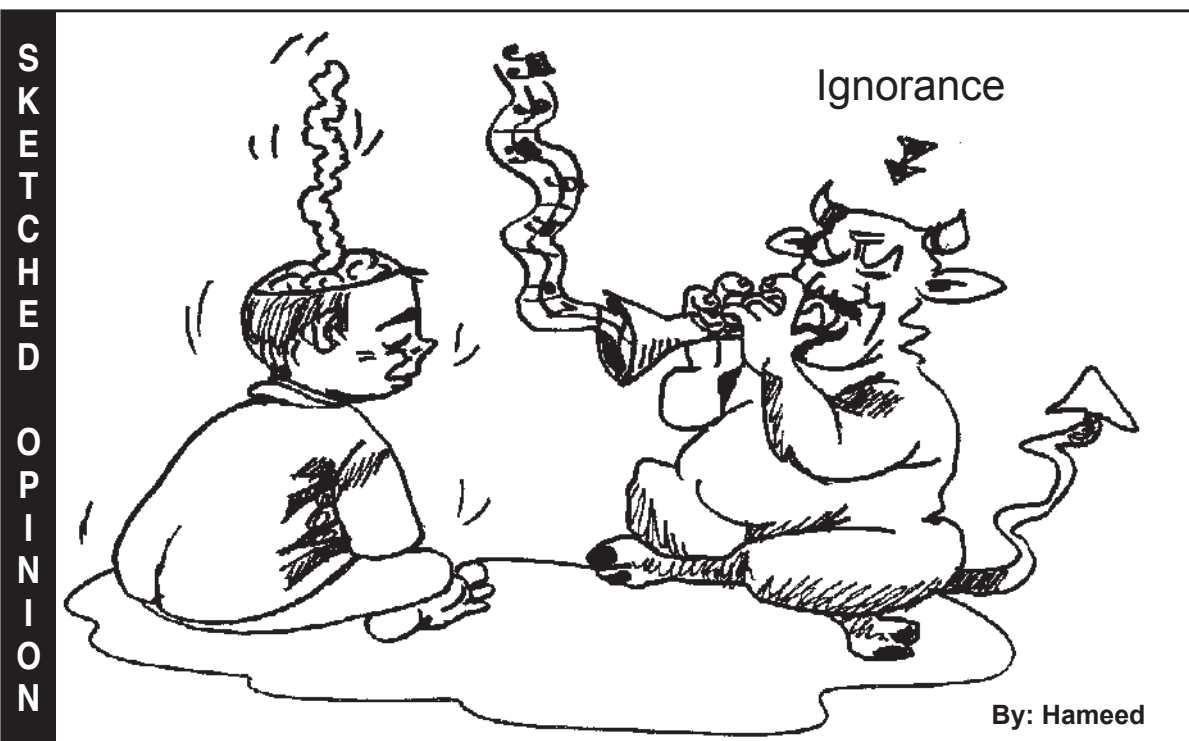
percentage points lower than recently recorded levels.

Second, something must be done to improve the returns to education. The most promising option is to shift the focus of education policy from quantity to quality. Many MENA countries, though not all, have successfully met the initial challenge of putting children in school. Now the emphasis must shift to making sure that schools provide higher quality learning. As MENA economies move towards producing more for world markets, they will need to compete with other countries to secure larger market shares in both goods and foreign investment. The more skilled their workforces, the better equipped they will be to compete internationally. A shift towards better quality will help strengthen the education-income link in the region.

Finally, we must look at the larger picture concerning equality of opportunity. Economic, political and social inequalities tend to trap disadvantaged people at the bottom of society for generation after generation. This is not only unfortunate for those at the bottom it is also an impediment to higher economic growth over the long run.

When those with ability are denied the opportunity to contribute fully to the economy, the economy suffers. Most MENA countries have taken big strides towards equalizing opportunities through providing better health and education to their citizens. But opportunities do not flow from better education and health services alone. They are affected as well by the scope for political voice, by a leveling of the political playing field together with the economic playing field. Here the countries of the region have a long road to travel.

This article has been contributed by Mustapha Nabli, Chief Economist of the Middle East and North Africa Region of the World Bank and Farrukh Iqbal, Lead Economist and author of the World Bank publication: *Sustaining gains in Human development and Poverty Reduction in the Middle East and North Africa Region*.



By: Hameed

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FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

## Job Vacancy

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) announces for immediate job opening within its organization.

**“Senior Livelihoods Advisor”**

The USAID/Yemen Senior Livelihoods Advisor will support the Foreign Service National (FSN) team leaders within the Mission’s Office of Technical Programs to ensure that livelihoods initiatives are well integrated throughout the implementation portfolio. The office to which the incumbent is assigned is responsible for USAID’s implementation of health, education, economic growth, governance, and conflict mitigation projects in Yemen. The incumbent will directly report to and be supervised by the Deputy Director of the Office of Technical Programs at USAID/Yemen. The incumbent has no formal day-to-day personnel supervisory responsibilities other than those associated with acting as the deputy office director during that officer’s absences, though mentorship of Yemeni staff will be a critical function of the incumbent.

The incumbent will be expected to work independently, take initiative, and be responsible for advising on all aspects of USAID and some U.S. Government (USG) supported development activities across all technical implementation areas. In carrying out specific assignments, the incumbent will work closely, as requested, with representatives from the USAID team, Republic of Yemen Government (ROYG), international donor organizations, local and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and USG officials at the US Embassy/Sana’a, USAID/Egypt, and USAID/Washington. S/He also will be expected to coordinate and collaborate with a number of interagency colleagues, including but not limited to the U.S. Embassy’s Public Diplomacy section, POL/ECON, POL/MIL, the Department of Defense teams, Department of Justice, and the Department of State’s Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI).

**Grade/Salary:** Ordinarily Resident: (Position Grade: GS-14 range between \$84,697 and \$110,104)

**Detailed Position Description is available at** [HYPERLINK "http://yemen.usembassy.gov/yemen/vacancies.html"](http://yemen.usembassy.gov/yemen/vacancies.html)

**Applicants who responded to the previous Vacancy Announcement need not reapply as their applications will be considered.**

**How to apply:**  
Interested applicants should complete OF-612 or submit a current C.V. (with awards, recommendation letters, copies of degrees earned). All applications also must include a letter which explains the candidate’s past experience and how it relates to the required qualifications, and send it to the Human Resources Office, American Embassy, Dhahr Himyar Street, Sanaa or via Fax No. 303-182 or through e-mail address: [HYPERLINK "mailto:hrosanaa@state.gov"](mailto:hrosanaa@state.gov) [hrosanaa@state.gov](mailto:hrosanaa@state.gov) no later than June 15, 2010.

**NOTE: ALL ORDINARILY RESIDENT APPLICANTS MUST HAVE THE REQUIRED WORK AND/OR RESIDENCY PERMITS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR CONSIDERATION.**



### JOB OPENINGS

#### SAFER EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION OPERATIONS COMPANY (“SEPOC”)

SEPOC is the Republic of Yemen’s leading national Oil and Gas Company. It is the upstream Operator of Yemen’s premier Marib Block (18).

SEPOC is currently seeking to recruit for the following vacancies talented, qualified and dedicated professionals who desire a fulfilling and rewarding career with a growing and outstanding organization:

#### 1. Job Title: Marine Materialsman

##### Description:

Issuing Purchase requisitions, warehouse material receiving, labeling, storing, distributing and inventory update.

##### Requirements:

<b>Academic:</b>	Secondary school or above.
<b>Additional Training:</b>	Computer skill in data base, Oracle, material handling and store keeping
<b>Related Work Experience:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum of three years experience in a large commercial warehouse.</li> <li>• Willing to work independently and at remote stations.</li> <li>• Good knowledge in material handling, labeling and storage.</li> <li>• Understanding MSDS</li> <li>• Must possess a strong work ethic with a "can do" attitude.</li> <li>• Must have good knowledge of safe work practices</li> </ul>
<b>Language &amp; PC Skills:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good reading and writing of English and Arabic.</li> <li>• Proficient in using computers including Microsoft office applications and data base.</li> </ul>

#### 2. Job Title: Marine Office Administrator

##### Description:

General Marine office administrator, coordinating with FSO Master, pilot, shipping agents, helicopter, local authorities. Standing watch at weekends and holidays as duty administrator for the support of the FSO SAFER. Processing invoices and general clerical work, typing, etc.

##### Requirements:

<b>Academic</b>	Business related Diploma after Secondary school or above.
<b>Additional Training:</b>	Computer and accounting skills.
<b>Related Work Experience:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two + years experience in administration and Accounting related work</li> <li>• Willing to work independently and at remote stations.</li> <li>• Good knowledge in shipping activities</li> <li>• Must possess a strong work ethic with a "can do" attitude.</li> <li>• Must have good knowledge of safe work practices</li> </ul>
<b>Language &amp; PC Skills:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good reading and writing of English and Arabic.</li> <li>• Proficient in using computers including Microsoft office applications and data base.</li> </ul>

#### 3. Job Title:- HSE Supervisor

##### Description:

HSE Supervisor scope includes safety related activities of all production operations facilities, drilling and work-over rigs, CMG workshops, Pipeline and pump stations, and contractors.

##### Requirements

<b>Academic requirements &amp; Experience:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Degree or diploma in engineering, science or safety.</li> <li>• Minimum 7 years work experience preferably in oil and gas industry.</li> </ul>
<b>Job Knowledge and Skill Requirement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HSE Policies and strategic objectives.</li> <li>• Elements of HSE Management system, safety rules and procedures.</li> <li>• HSE in oil and gas exploration and production activities.</li> <li>• Hazards and risk management.</li> <li>• Crisis management.</li> <li>• Permit to Work system.</li> <li>• Job Hazards Analysis (JHA) and Hazards and Operability (HAZOP).</li> <li>• Incident investigation and reporting.</li> <li>• Emergency response planning.</li> <li>• Environmental and waste management.</li> <li>• Interpersonal communication and leadership skill.</li> <li>• Knowledge of gas plant operation related to process safety such as emergency shutdown etc.</li> <li>• Proficiency in English and report writing.</li> <li>• Strong knowledge of computers and soft ware applications.</li> <li>• Defensive Driving</li> </ul>
<b>Competency Requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Train the Trainer competency certificate.</li> <li>• Incident investigation certificate.</li> <li>• Risk assessment &amp; management.</li> <li>• HSE audits.</li> <li>• NEBOSH international certificate of safety competency</li> </ul>

Other job details of the above positions are posted on ‘Careers’ at SAFER’S Website:

[www.sepocye.com](http://www.sepocye.com). To apply and process your application and CVs for the above positions, please visit SAFER’S Website.

Applications must be submitted **online** no later than **June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010**. Faxed, mailed, or handed applications **will not** be considered.

**ONLY** shortlisted candidates will be contacted.



# YEMEN TIMES

Match	Group	Date	Time	Country	Score	Country
1	A	11-Jun	17:00	South Africa		Mexico
2	A	11-Jun	21:30	Uruguay		France
3	B	12-Jun	17:00	Argentina		Nigeria
4	B	12-Jun	14:30	South Korea		Greece
5	C	12-Jun	21:30	England		USA
6	C	13-Jun	14:30	Algeria		Slovenia
7	D	13-Jun	21:30	Germany		Australia
8	D	13-Jun	17:00	Serbia		Ghana
9	E	14-Jun	14:30	Netherlands		Denmark
10	E	14-Jun	17:00	Japan		Cameroon
11	F	14-Jun	21:30	Italy		Paraguay
12	F	15-Jun	14:30	New Zealand		Slovakia
13	G	15-Jun	17:00	Côte d'Ivoire		Portugal
14	G	15-Jun	21:30	Brazil		North Korea
15	H	16-Jun	14:30	Honduras		Chile
16	H	16-Jun	17:00	Spain		Switzerland
17	A	16-Jun	21:30	South Africa		Uruguay
18	A	17-Jun	21:30	France		Mexico
19	B	17-Jun	17:00	Greece		Nigeria
20	B	17-Jun	14:30	Argentina		South Korea
21	D	18-Jun	14:30	Germany		Serbia
22	C	18-Jun	17:00	Slovenia		USA
23	C	18-Jun	21:30	England		Algeria
24	D	19-Jun	17:00	Ghana		Australia
25	E	19-Jun	14:30	Netherlands		Japan
26	E	19-Jun	21:30	Cameroon		Denmark
27	F	20-Jun	14:30	Slovakia		Paraguay
28	F	20-Jun	17:00	Italy		New Zealand
29	G	20-Jun	21:30	Brazil		Côte d'Ivoire
30	G	21-Jun	14:30	Portugal		North Korea
31	H	21-Jun	17:00	Chile		Switzerland
32	H	21-Jun	21:30	Spain		Honduras
33	A	22-Jun	17:00	Mexico		Uruguay
34	A	22-Jun	17:00	France		South Africa
35	B	22-Jun	21:30	Nigeria		South Korea
36	B	22-Jun	21:30	Greece		Argentina
37	C	23-Jun	17:00	Slovenia		England
38	C	23-Jun	17:00	USA		Algeria
39	D	23-Jun	21:30	Ghana		Germany
40	D	23-Jun	21:30	Australia		Serbia
41	F	24-Jun	17:00	Slovakia		Italy
42	F	24-Jun	17:00	Paraguay		New Zealand
43	E	24-Jun	21:30	Denmark		Japan
44	E	24-Jun	21:30	Cameroon		Netherlands
45	G	25-Jun	17:00	Portugal		Brazil
46	G	25-Jun	17:00	North Korea		Côte d'Ivoire
47	H	25-Jun	21:30	Chile		Spain
48	H	25-Jun	21:30	Switzerland		Honduras

## FIFA WORLD CUP GROUPS

<b>A</b>	South Africa Mexico Uruguay France	<b>C</b>	England United States Algeria Slovenia	<b>E</b>	Netherlands Denmark Japan Cameroon	<b>G</b>	Brazil North Korea Cote-d'Ivoire Portugal
<b>B</b>	Argentina Nigeria South Korea Greece	<b>D</b>	Germany Australia Serbia Ghana	<b>F</b>	Italy Paraguay New Zealand Slovakia	<b>H</b>	Spain Switzerland Chile Honduras



Group A	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
South Africa							
Mexico							
Uruguay							
France							
Group B	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Argentina							
Nigeria							
South Korea							
Greece							
Group C	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
England							
United States							
Algeria							
Slovenia							
Group D	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Germany							
Australia							
Serbia							
Ghana							
Group E	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Netherlands							
Denmark							
Japan							
Cameroon							
Group F	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Italy							
Paraguay							
New Zealand							
Slovakia							
Group G	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Brazil							
North Korea							
Cote-d'Ivoire							
Portugal							
Group H	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Spain							
Switzerland							
Chile							
Honduras							

P: Played	L: Lose	Pt: point
W: Win	F: Goal scored for	
D: Draw	A: Goal scored against	

### Quarter Finals

57	2-Jul	17:00	Match 53 Winner	Match 54 Winner
58	2-Jul	21:30	Match 49 Winner	Match 50 Winner
59	3-Jul	17:00	Match 51 Winner	Match 52 Winner
60	3-Jul	21:30	Match 55 Winner	Match 56 Winner

### Semi Finals

61	6-Jul	21:30	Match 57 Winner	Match 58 Winner
62	7-Jul	21:30	Match 59 Winner	Match 60 Winner

### Match for Third Place

63	10-Jul	21:30	Match 61 Loser	Match 62 Loser
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### Final

64	11-Jul	21:30	Match 61 Winner	Match 62 Winner
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## Round of 16

49	26-Jun	17:00	Group A Winner	Group B Runner Up
50	26-Jun	21:30	Group C Winner	Group D Runner Up
51	27-Jun	17:00	Group D Winner	Group C Runner Up
52	27-Jun	21:30	Group B Winner	Group A Runner Up
53	28-Jun	17:00	Group E Winner	Group F Runner Up
54	28-Jun	21:30	Group G Winner	Group H Runner Up
55	29-Jun	17:00	Group F Winner	Group E Runner Up
56	29-Jun	21:30	Group H Winner	Group G Runner Up



# YEMEN TIMES

البلد	الاهداف	الوقت	اليوم	المجموعة	الترتيب
جنوب أفريقيا		عصراً	٦/١١	A	1
اوروجواي		٩:٣٠ مساءً	٦/١١	A	2
الأرجنتين		عصراً	٦/١٢	B	3
كوريا الجنوبية		٢:٣٠ ظهراً	٦/١٢	B	4
انجلترا		٩:٣٠ مساءً	٦/١٢	C	5
الجزائر		٢:٣٠ ظهراً	٦/١٣	C	6
المانيا		٩:٣٠ مساءً	٦/١٣	D	7
صربيا		عصراً	٦/١٣	D	8
هولندا		٢:٣٠ ظهراً	٦/١٤	E	9
اليابان		عصراً	٦/١٤	E	10
ايطاليا		٩:٣٠ مساءً	٦/١٤	F	11
نيوزلندا		٢:٣٠ ظهراً	٦/١٥	F	12
ساحل العاج		عصراً	٦/١٥	G	13
البرازيل		٩:٣٠ مساءً	٦/١٥	G	14
هندوراس		٢:٣٠ ظهراً	٦/١٦	H	15
اسبانيا		عصراً	٦/١٦	H	16
جنوب أفريقيا		٩:٣٠ مساءً	٦/١٦	A	17
فرنسا		٩:٣٠ مساءً	٦/١٧	A	18
اليونان		عصراً	٦/١٧	B	19
الأرجنتين		كوريا الجنوبية	٦/١٧	B	20
المانيا		صربيا	٦/١٨	D	21
سلوفينيا		امريكا	٦/١٨	C	22
انجلترا		الجزائر	٦/١٨	C	23
غانا		استراليا	٦/١٩	D	24
هولندا		اليابان	٦/١٩	E	25
الكاميرون		الدنمارك	٦/١٩	E	26
سلوفاكيا		البارجواي	٦/٢٠	F	27
ايطاليا		نيوزلندا	٦/٢٠	F	28
البرازيل		ساحل العاج	٦/٢٠	G	29
البرتغال		كوريا الشمالية	٦/٢١	G	30
تشيلي		سويسرا	٦/٢١	H	31
اسبانيا		هندوراس	٦/٢١	H	32
المكسيك		اوروجواي	٦/٢٢	A	33
فرنسا		جنوب أفريقيا	٦/٢٢	A	34
نيجريا		كوريا الجنوبية	٦/٢٢	B	35
اليونان		الأرجنتين	٦/٢٢	B	36
سلوفينيا		انجلترا	٦/٢٣	C	37
امريكا		الجزائر	٦/٢٣	C	38
غانا		المانيا	٦/٢٣	D	39
استراليا		صربيا	٦/٢٣	D	40
سلوفاكيا		ايطاليا	٦/٢٤	F	41
البارجواي		نيوزلندا	٦/٢٤	F	42
الدنمارك		اليابان	٦/٢٤	E	43
الكاميرون		هولندا	٦/٢٤	E	44
البرتغال		البرازيل	٦/٢٥	G	45
كوريا الشمالية		ساحل العاج	٦/٢٥	G	46
تشيلي		اسبانيا	٦/٢٥	H	47
سويسرا		هندوراس	٦/٢٥	H	48

فيفا	مجموعات كأس العالم
<b>A</b> جنوب أفريقيا المكسيك اوروجواي فرنسا	<b>C</b> إنجلترا امريكا الجزائر سلوفينيا
<b>E</b> هولندا الدنمارك اليابان الكاميرون	<b>D</b> ألمانيا استراليا صربيا غانا
<b>G</b> البرازيل كوريا الشمالية ساحل العاج البرتغال	<b>F</b> ايطاليا البارجواي نيوزلندا سلوفاكيا
<b>B</b> الأرجنتين نيجريا كوريا الجنوبية اليونان	<b>H</b> اسبانيا سويسرا تشيلي هندوراس



النقاط	عليه	له	خسر	تعادل	فاز	لعب	المجموعة A
							جنوب أفريقيا
							المكسيك
							اوروجواي
							فرنسا
النقاط	عليه	له	خسر	تعادل	فاز	لعب	المجموعة B
							الأرجنتين
							نيجريا
							كوريا الجنوبية
							اليونان
النقاط	عليه	له	خسر	تعادل	فاز	لعب	المجموعة C
							انجلترا
							امريكا
							الجزائر
							سلوفينيا
النقاط	عليه	له	خسر	تعادل	فاز	لعب	المجموعة D
							المانيا
							استراليا
							صربيا
							غانا
النقاط	عليه	له	خسر	تعادل	فاز	لعب	المجموعة E
							هولندا
							الدنمارك
							اليابان
							الكاميرون
النقاط	عليه	له	خسر	تعادل	فاز	لعب	المجموعة F
							ايطاليا
							البارجواي
							نيوزلندا
							سلوفاكيا
النقاط	عليه	له	خسر	تعادل	فاز	لعب	المجموعة G
							البرازيل
							كوريا الشمالية
							ساحل العاج
							البرتغال
النقاط	عليه	له	خسر	تعادل	فاز	لعب	المجموعة H
							اسبانيا
							سويسرا
							تشيلي
							هندوراس

مباريات الدور الثاني (الدورة ال ١٦)				
الثاني في المجموعة B	الأول في المجموعة A	عصراً	٦/٢٦	49
الثاني في المجموعة D	الأول في المجموعة C	٩:٣٠ مساءً	٦/٢٦	50
الثاني في المجموعة C	الأول في المجموعة D	عصراً	٦/٢٧	51
الثاني في المجموعة A	الأول في المجموعة B	٩:٣٠ مساءً	٦/٢٧	52
الثاني في المجموعة F	الأول في المجموعة E	عصراً	٦/٢٨	53
الثاني في المجموعة H	الأول في المجموعة G	٩:٣٠ مساءً	٦/٢٨	54
الثاني في المجموعة E	الأول في المجموعة F	عصراً	٦/٢٩	55
الثاني في المجموعة G	الأول في المجموعة H	٩:٣٠ مساءً	٦/٢٩	56

مباريات الربع النهائي (دور الثمانية)				
الفائز في المباراة رقم 54	الفائز في المباراة رقم 53	عصراً	٧/٢	57
الفائز في المباراة رقم 50	الفائز في المباراة رقم 49	٩:٣٠ مساءً	٧/٢	58
الفائز في المباراة رقم 52	الفائز في المباراة رقم 51	عصراً	٧/٣	59
الفائز في المباراة رقم 56	الفائز في المباراة رقم 55	٩:٣٠ مساءً	٧/٣	60
مباريات النصف النهائي				
الفائز في المباراة رقم 58	الفائز في المباراة رقم 57	٩:٣٠ مساءً	٧/٦	61
الفائز في المباراة رقم 60	الفائز في المباراة رقم 59	٩:٣٠ مساءً	٧/٧	62
المباراة لتحديد المركز الثالث والرابع				
الخاسر في المباراة رقم 62	الخاسر في المباراة رقم 61	٩:٣٠ مساءً	٧/١٠	63
المباراة النهائية				
الفائز في المباراة رقم 62	الفائز في المباراة رقم 61	٩:٣٠ مساءً	٧/١١	64



# SAFER celebrates the national unity day and honors staff

On the occasion of Labor Day and the 20th anniversary of the Yemeni Unity and under the patronage of the Minister of Oil and Minerals Amir Salem Al-Aidaros, Safer Company for Explorations and Production held a celebration at the Movenpick Hotel to honor its distinguished employees.



H.E. Minister of Oil and Minerals

**Mr. Amir al-Aydrous**, delivered a speech in which he praised the company. "I have the honor to deliver a few words to an exceptional national team of professionals, most of whom are present here today. I would like to present my warmest congratulations to those who are striving under extreme conditions in the oil fields and to all SAFER's staff on the occasion of the Unity Day. I am pleased to see the distinguished presentation given by Mr. Sharif introducing SAFER to us all over again. A good company, like SAFER, working in the Block 18 in Marib province, has achieved success by supplying oil to Ras Easa and gas to Belhaf from a one point. The presentation given today shows that Safer, in addition to producing oil and gas, is also supplying oil resources to the two main refineries in Marib and Aden. May SAFER have a long prosperous future multiple purposes other than producing oil. I would like to shed light on something important mentioned in the presentation which is the strategic envision for SAFER developed through a modern techniques that come in line with the company's tasks, capacities, and plans for future. This approach should regulate SAFER's aim and give it more power in addition to expanding the company's activities in that it is not confined in the block 18; it shall grow outside its current location to be worldwide and I am sure it has the ability to do so. As long as the company maintains its current level of progress in a scientific and organized way, I believe it will definitely be the pioneering national company capable of tackling the problems and concerns in the oil industry of Yemen. My heartiest thanks to all those individuals who are contributing in serving our nation," said, Mr. Amir al-Aydrous.

For his part **Mr. Abdu Mohammed al-Hakeemi**, deputy minister of ministry of social affairs and labor praised SAFER for caring about its employees and said, "This day is an annual convention in which SAFER honors its employees at all its branch nationwide. Because you have worked hard, you are now being rewarded for it. Although Labor Day is celebrated all over the world,

ours is exceptional in that it coincides with a special occasion loved by everyone, the Unity Day. I hope that by next year, a lot more will be accomplished. This honor is not a bestowal by the company; you have earned it with your efforts. Congratulations to everyone nominated today," said al-Hakeemi.

**E. Mohamed Hussein Al-Haj**

Executive Director of the Company delivered a remark in which he said "I am pleased to welcome you here today for the various reasons that we are celebrating. The first of which is the establishment of the Republic of Yemen and the reunification of the two parts of Yemen, an occasion cherished by all. It is because of this valuable episode in the history of Yemen that made SAFER's existence a reality, and established it. Our staff, since then have been our most valuable asset and who have sustained SAFER's prestige all along by investing their efforts and carrying on the work bestowed upon them responsibly. Accordingly, SAFER is honoring these employees in key roles for the fifth time now. This occasion also recognizes those who worked side by side, and behind the scenes. This occasion is exceptional and very special to us as it was once a challenge that SAFER would not last longer than 2 weeks; we are now in the fifth year of operation. It is true that there have been challenges and the ministries of oil and finance have participated along side in supporting SAFER during these hard times in terms of forming the steering committee to hand us Block 18 and also helping SAFER to achieve its goals. We have emerged from our hard time and we thank God for this. I would once again like to thank H.E., President Saleh, the oil ministry, and political leadership for their continuous support. I am pleased to introduce to you One of my dearest sons in the company, Saif al-Sharif who is also, one of the engineers who have taken the responsibility in one of the departments. He has left his work in U.A.E. and came here to manage over the Exploration and Development Department. I have always mentioned that this department holds mass importance in building a Yemeni

professional class. Saif will summarize some of the company activities for the past period. Until then, we have to concentrate on the companies, either in Yemen or abroad, working in the oil industry sector, which is an aim Safer is working on. We are in contact with some companies who have been in the oil industry for more than 50 years and make deals with them, in order to make use of their long experience in the oil industry. We would like to thank all the oil companies currently working in Yemen and continuously cooperating with us to improve SAFER Company", said Mr. Haj in his speech.

In his remark **Mr. Hassan al Hindi**, president of general union of oil and mining syndicate said

"I would like to extend my heartiest greetings to you all on this special gathering. I would like to state that this ceremony aims at motivating employees by honoring them for their endless efforts. I would also like to point out that the oil and mining syndicate is trying to build cooperative and trustful bridges among all administrative leaderships in the oil sector. The oil minister has worked at improving the employees' living standards and granting them their rights in line with sustainable productivity. I would like to thank SAFER's leadership represented by Mr. Mohammed Hussain al-Haj for the endless efforts to serve the company and its staff. What Safer has done today by honoring its staff is a clear evidence of the exceptional spirit of SAFER that links the staff with its leadership. Despite its era with Yemeni leadership, SAFER has achieved commendable and distinguished success. Safer has proved to the world that the Yemen can make such a success in the oil and gas sector. On this great occasion of 20th anniversary of the national day, I would like to congratulate the political leadership represented by H.E. President Ali Abdullah Saleh", said Mr. Hassan al Hindi, president of general union of oil and mining syndicate.

## Introduction about Safer Company

**Saif al-Sharif**

When we talk about Safer, it means that we are talking about one of the most strategic and dynamic partner, which is one of the essential tributaries of national economy. Safer company is oil and gas producer which exports daily over 45,000 barrels of crude oil to Ras Isa port, as well as 70,000 barrels through its pipe line extending from Marib to Ras Isa from the neighboring production blocks (block 5, block S1, block S2, and block 9.) Safer is also the only producer and exporter of natural gas to Belhaf port. The company deliver approximately 190,000 of equivalent oil barrels in a daily base, corresponding to one billion cubic feet per day. Safer is also the sole exporter of LPG, cooking gas, in the Republic of Yemen whether through direct export (24,500) thousand barrel per day of gas from the gas processing units in Marib or indirectly through Aden refinery, which receives oil from Ras Esa. The company is also the sole exporter of 60 million cubic feet of gas used to produce electricity from Marib Power Station, which is about 16,000 equivalent oil barrels per day. Safer is the only source of 10,000 crude oil to Marib refinery, which means that the total production of Safer company in several vital hydrocarbon sectors is approximately 275 500 barrels of oil and oil equivalent in a daily bases. This is an important number in supplementing our national economy. As we are celebrating the 20th blessed anniversary of the unification, lets get out a little from the technical issues and to say that Safer company with its vital work in block 18 reflects the national unity when Hudeidah governorate embraces Marib governorate by its oil production through several other governorates, such as the Governorates of Sana'a and Dharmar. Similarly when Shabwa Governorate embraces Marib at its port of Belhaf with its gas production through Safer

Company.

- In shifting to the Safer Company's achievements from November 15, 2005 to March 31, 2010:
- Establishing the technical and logistical database of Block 18.
- Re-mapping several layers of oil and gas fields.
- Conducted full field development studies for several fields.
- Carried out geological study of basement in Block 18.
- Evaluated the remaining oil and gas reserves.
- According to these reserves a plan has been developed for delivering LNG feed gas for 20 years to the exporting port in Belhaf and the delivery already started.
- A plan had been prepared for delivering one trillion cubic feet of gas to the Marib gas power station-1 and delivery has already started.
- 68 wells have been drilled 8 of them exploration wells and 60 development wells in several areas in block 18.
- 94 million barrels of crude oil have been produced from block 18.
- 35 million barrels of LPG (domestic cooking gas) have been produced.



Amir Al -Aydrous  
Minister of Oil and Minerals



Abdu Mohammed Al-Hakimi  
Deputy Minister of Social Affairs and Labor



Ali saleh Ali Agar  
ADMINISTRATION



Fatima Ahmed Mohamed  
ADMINISTRATION



Khalid Ali Nasser Muhyideen  
ADMINISTRATION



Abdul-Ellah Ali Muharram  
COMMUNICATIONS&IT



Ibrahim Abdulla Al-Ghosin  
COMMUNICATIONS&IT



Abdul Khalek Saleh al-Ojily  
EXPLORATION & DEVELOPMENT



Amin Noman Al- Maktari  
EXPLORATION & DEVELOPMENT



Ali Abdulla Hameed  
F S O SAFFER-MARINE



Ahmed Mokbel Ali Alyan  
SUPPLY CHAIN



Mohammed Musaid Alawi  
F S O SAFFER-MARINE



Qassim Saeed Al- Hakimi  
F S O SAFFER-MARINE



Radwan Ahmed Al-Shami  
Finance



Sharaf Hussein Al- Kibsy  
Finance



Saleh Ahmed Al-juhaily  
PIPELINE



Abdulla Hashim AL -Nahiri  
PIPELINE



Jala Hizam othman hakeemi  
PIPELINE



Sultan Ali Othman ghalib  
SUPPLY CHAIN



Ahmed Abdulkareem Mohammed  
SUPPLY CHAIN





Mohammed Hassan Al-Haj  
Executive Director of the Company



Saif al-Sharif  
Director of Exploration and Development



Hassan Ibrahim Al-Hindi  
President of general Union of Oil and Mining Syndicate



EGM-Special Award(Drilling Dept.)  
Received By Eng.Ahmed AL-Haj



**SAFER**

شركة صافر لعمليات الإستكشاف والإنتاج  
Safer Exploration and Production  
Operations Company (SEPOC)



Abdul Rahman Samir Al-Shamiri  
SEPOC-SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Fadel Abdorabo Ahmed AL-Masri  
SEPOC-SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Hisham Yahya Hussien al-Arashi  
SEPOC-SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Naji Salem Abood Al-sharif  
SEPOC-SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Rashad Ali Mohamed Al-Kubaty  
SEPOC-SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

**The distinguished employees who got special awards for outstanding excellence performance who have been selected by the Executive Director of the Company**

- Daily 700 million cubic feet of gas in a daily base are being delivered to Belhaf facilities for liquefaction and export.
- Provided Marib refinery with 18 million barrels of crude oil.
- Exporting 200 million barrels of crude oil to Ras Isa, 45 percent of them from block 18 and the rest from the adjacent producing blocks.
- A 3D seismic survey has started since July 2009 and 1300 km<sup>2</sup> has been acquired so far.
- Finished expansion of Raydan production facilities.
- Finishing the modifications of the first stages of the Asa'd al-Kamil facilities as well as increasing delivering of the amount of liquefied gas to Belhaf facilities in June 28, 2009, despite the difficulties that faced the company.
- Finished the engineering works and starting the detailed designs for CPU and KPU modifications of the production facilities in order to decrease the loss of LPG (the domestic cooking gas) while delivering the natural liquefied gas

to Belhaf facilities.

- A plan has been developed for raising the technical and managerial skills of the company staff through gap analysis program, and develops a suitable training program for bridging this gap.

**Summary of the reviewed achievements in numbers:**

- The total amount of the crude oil production in block 18 raised Safer's total income to about \$6.7 billion. This does not include the cooking gas value. The production cost was about \$715 million, which means a net income of about \$6 billion.
- By the way for the sake of comparison, if the previous operator has continued in operating the block since November 15, 2005 to March 2010, it would have been entitled to oil value of approximately \$1.96 billion. This means that the operational cost in addition to the previous operators share would have been 40 percent of the block's income and the state's share would have been 60 percent, while in Safer's case the government share is 89 percent and the production costs

are 11 percent, but these costs are not only operational costs, but also they are operational costs in capital cost as well.

Al-Sharif also reviewed digital comparisons between Safer Company and other companies return values operating in main producing blocks in Yemen, which showed Safer's company distinction in terms of revenues.

**The most important projects under implementation in block 18:**

**3D seismic survey:** It was inaugurated by the company in July 2009, for exploration opportunities and development through the three dimensional seismic surveys, al-Sharif said, « before continuing in this issue I would like to correct erroneous information repeated by some people which alleges that block 18 was not fully explored except for a limited area by the previous operator. This information is not true.» al-Sharif says that 18500 km<sup>2</sup> of two-dimensional seismic surveys were carried out all over block 18 by the previous operator and drilled about 105 exploration wells all over block 18. However Al-Sharif added that the discovery mechanism was not effective and the three dimensional seismic

survey is the best and most effective tool in exploration and development activities, explaining that the previous operator had carried out 3D seismic survey only in two small areas: the first was 450 square kilometers in 1994 and other in 2004 which covered only 500 square kilometers, that is why Safer had decided to cover most of block 18 by 3D seismic survey for better exploration and development operations.

So far 1300 square kilometers have been surveyed in the central and northeastern areas of block 18. The seismic teams will move to the third southern and southeastern area of the block. This takes two months, before moving to the western area. Seismic surveys in areas that have been completed have been processed and interpreted, and on light of the new interpretations of these 3D survey results Safer Company has prepared a first geological map. The first drilled well according to that map was tested last week and has been successful it produces 400 barrels and is now on the production line. We have also drilled the second well, and it will be tested within the few coming days.

**The second project:** Ras Isa oil storage tanks and Port. The importance

of this project is the fact that the life of the floating port (Safer Ship) outdated. Fifty-five companies have applied for implementation and 11 of them were qualified. The tender documents were prepared and submitted to the Higher Committee for Tenders and the committee had approved them. Safer company is now reviewing options for the implementation and funding the project.

**The third project:** Modification of gas processing plants in CPU and KPU. The main objective of this project is to increase plants capacity of extracting liquefied petroleum gas from 54 to 86 percent which will result in keeping an approximate amount of 40 to 50 million barrels of the cooking gas that will go with the exported natural gas to Belhaf port in the next 20 years of exporting. Sharif said.

**The fourth project:** The fourth project is upgrading the company staff skills. The company has contracted a consulting firm for this purpose through technical skill gap analysis. The first groups training programs consisting of 85 nationals, and it is now in the implementation stage. Preparations are currently under way for the second batch to join the training process for upgrading the company staff skills to the level of international oil corporate expertise.

What is SAFER's future vision: The company has organized a number of workshops, interposed by brain storming sessions for setting a strategy of the company. The company has prepared its strategic plans and they are now under implementation. Safer company has developed its vision: "

**TO BE THE PREMIER OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION COMPANY IN YEMEN".**



Abdulla Saleh Al-Hashedi  
HUMAN RESOURCES & TRAINING



Saleh Moh d al-Sawadi  
SAFETY



Saud Saleh al-Bakari  
PRODUCTION AND OPERATIONS



Rashad Haza Mahyoub  
PRODUCTION AND OPERATIONS



Abdul Hadi Ali Masoud  
PRODUCTION AND OPERATIONS

Abdul Wahid Mohamed Sinan  
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Abdulla Ahmed Al-Azani  
PRODUCTION AND OPERATIONS

Ahmed Abdu al-Syad  
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Ahmed Alkhair A. R.Luqman  
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Edrees Yahya Al-Shami  
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Khalid Hussien Al-Nahari  
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Khalid Muhielidin Al-Ansi  
PRODUCTION AND OPERATIONS

Lutfi ahmed Moh d Aw  
PRODUCTION AND OPERATIONS

Mehsen Ahmed Al-Amudi  
PRODUCTION AND OPERATIONS

Mohsen Aahmed Agu  
PRODUCTION AND OPERATIONS



# The future of Yemen is in tourism

He is one of the few Yemeni businessmen who maintain a close relation with their communities and remain humble despite their self-made wealth.

Alwan Al-Shaibani founder and director of Universal Group has a hearty talk to Nadia Al-Sakkaf on his career and more.

Interviewed by: Nadia Al-Sakkaf

As a child, I started working in a small restaurant in Aden and then travelled to Ethiopia in 1950. There I worked as a cashier and waiter in a small restaurant, until 1954, when I returned to my village in Bani Shaiba, Taiz governorate. In 1956, the Shaibani Association in Aden gave me the opportunity to continue my studies in Egypt. Then I travelled to the United States to pursue undergraduate education, where I managed to work and study at the same time.

My real career started in 1970, in the Economic Organization for Public Sector and National Planning, in Aden, and later as a commercial director and board member for Yemen Airways until 1980.

In 1982, I started my journey in the amazing private sector, where I experienced and faced many challenges and a stormy business climate. Thanks to God, with the creative thinking, great sacrifices and commitment of our professional employees, not only are we still surviving, but we are even expanding our business.

Coming from a modest background myself, I believe in giving back to the community. The Universal Group has a strategic objective regarding corporate social responsibility. However, this was not enough I felt, so I decided to establish something more sustainable and hence I helped to create the Yemen Education for Employment Foundation (YEFE) in cooperation with leading Yemeni businessmen and the American Foundation for Education and Employment (EFE). This local and non-profit foundation trains Yemenis

for free on marketable skills and facilitates their access to the labor market.

In a similar venture, Universal Group has initiated Al Khair Foundation for Social Development to empower Yemeni youth, especially those from isolated and neglected regions, such as Marib, Shabwa and Al Jawf. The second batch of them consists of 60 trainees from the three governorates. They will soon start their six months training in English Language, driving, tourism guiding and Business Edge.

The Universal Group continuously works to support young men and women. At Universal, we give great attention to the empowerment of women. Some of them have been promoted to supervisory and managerial positions. It is worth mentioning that young females in our companies have proved to be very efficient and, in certain jobs, even more productive than their counterparts.

## Insecurity is tourism's worst enemy

Everyone knows that when a security incident happens in Yemen most of the world's governments issue a travel warning, advising its citizens against coming to Yemen. Then, automatically, the number of visitors to Yemen is affected dramatically and that causes great damage to the tourism industry.

As a counteraction we try to activate a network of local and international journalists who are interested in Yemen and get them to publish positive stories in order to shed some positive light on Yemen and achieve some damage control.

Moreover, while still admitting the security problems, we have to speak up for the security and safety measures carried out by the Yemeni government to fight terrorism. It is true that we

have a security problem but there are efforts for improvement which must be recognized.

This is probably also an opportunity to call on western countries to be more careful in the way in which they warn against visiting Yemen. They should decrease the level of warning as anyone who visits Yemen realizes that the security issue, as reported worldwide, is exaggerated.

The impact of bad publicity has not only affected individual visitors, but furthermore many international tourism companies have had to cancel their packages to Yemen because of such restrictions.

## Never give up

Despite this, we are continuously promoting Yemen to the world whether as a tourist destination or as a land full of investment opportunities. Sometimes I feel like a person rowing a small boat against the tide, but if we just give up we will be washed down by the current and it will be much harder to row upstream again.

However, the tourism industry, if managed smartly could provide Yemen with a huge income and Yemenis with so many job opportunities. I am confident that tourism is the future of Yemen.

Sometimes the trick is a small project in which we invest today and which will lead to a significant improvement in tourism. Sometimes it is about better transportation routes to tourist sites. Other times it is about adding a restroom and refreshments shop on a route to a historic landmark.

Even if we have no international tourists at all, and I could never imagine a time when no one is any longer interested in Yemen, even then we can continue to encourage local and regional tourism. Yemenis should learn more about their country and by travelling and enjoying the various beautiful landmarks of the country not only do they have a good time, but also devel-



op sense of loyalty.

My advice to ambitious Yemenis is: Hard work, dedication, business ethics and proper investment of time, skills and social contacts are the main factors leading to success. Definitely, Qat chewing is not among them.

## Don't put all your eggs in one basket

The global economic crisis has affected Yemen's tourism industry severely. In order to survive we have branched out and invested in other fields such as travel and tourism services, courier services, car rental and other fields that could support other sister companies in the down turn period.

This is perhaps something that many companies in Yemen and other countries are doing and frankly speaking it

is a sound management decision. After all, the saying "don't put all your eggs in one basket" did not come from a vacuum.

Also we have created partnerships and joint ventures with other companies to create synergies. We believe in the added value of cooperation between projects especially for those working in the same field and whose interests meet.

Obviously to be successful in the business sector one has to be competitive, but at the same time one should not adopt blind competitiveness as this blinds one to opportunities and common interests.

Moreover, one mustn't forget that making good use of existing resources is also a strategic business move. For example we renovated some old, tradi-

tional Yemeni buildings and turned them into boutique hotels such as Al-Hawta Palace Hotel in Hadramout and Bir Al-Azab Hotel in Sana'a which will open in 2012. In this way we are preserving heritage and at the same time giving our guests the opportunity to experience history and tradition in a very special way.

However, one of the problems of the hotel business in Yemen is that a grading system is almost nonexistent, so it becomes hard to classify whether this is a two or four star hotel. I am the president of the Hotel Union, and I admit that we have not achieved much so far in that respect.

Politics or rather politicizing businesses is one of the main obstacles that the Yemeni private sector is suffering from. Sometimes, political and tribal

## Excellence is in the blossom not sugar, say Wesabi beekeepers

Wesabi Sedr honey is golden red in color and has a floral fragrance. Its taste, recognized by experts, lingers in one's mouth longer than other types of honey. But its producers complain that lesser counterfeit versions are damaging its reputation.

By: Yemen Times correspondent  
For the Yemen Times  
Sedr honey is the best kind produced in Wesab Al-Safel, Dhamar, 280

km south west of Sana'a, according to Sharyan Qayed Abdu, a beekeeper trained by the Ministry of Agriculture.

It takes three months to produce. Bees start collecting the pollen from the flowers of the Sedr tree during August, or at the end of October if the rain season came late.

But producers of Wesabi honey, including that from the Sedr tree, say that this year production is low, which has created the opportunity for imported honey falsely labelled "Wesabi honey" to damage the honey-produc-

ing area's image.

Beekeepers in Wesab can have up to 1,000 beehives each, which on average produce 3,000 liters of honey a year. But production has been declining for the last decade due to drought, according to Abdu.

Although in the past one beehive used to produce more than five liters, now it only produces one. Abdu attributes this also to an increase in beekeepers from other areas looking to produce Wesabi Sedr honey as it is lucrative business.



Wesabi honey now costs up to USD 80 per one kilogram in Wesab, while it is even more expensive in places where it is harder to get it.

Among the three different types of honey produced in Wesab, the Sedr honey improves with age. The longer it is stored, the better its quality and the higher its value. A cool climate is best for storing such as that in Sana'a and Dhamar.

Another feature of Wesabi Sedr honey is that it cannot be mixed with other kinds of honey as the difference is easy to notice, Abdu told the Yemen Times. But, he said, some are importing cheaper honey and marketing it as Yemeni or Wesabi honey.

This negatively affects the reputation of the Yemeni and Wesabi honey.

Abdullah Saeed, a beekeeper in Wesab, told the Yemen Times that in some of the many new honey shops across the country, some salespersons sell imported honey but label it as Wesabi honey.

He added that Wesabi honey is only sold in specific shops because beekeepers in Wesab deal only with some specific agents who take care of Wesabi honey and appreciate it.

Bees make excellent honey from flowers not from a mixture of water and sugar, he said.

Beekeepers in the Wesab usually move their hives to green areas especially in winter as bees are in an urgent need for food to resist low temperatures and sustain their activities, according to Hassan Omar, a beekeep-

er in Wesab. He added that beekeepers often move their hives to the areas where it rained most recently as flowers blossom there.

He explained that some beekeepers during drought mix water with sugar for their beehives, which produces honey that is not good.

Omar added that beekeepers in the area face many challenges as some Yemeni traders import honey from Kashmir and sell it in the Yemeni market or export it abroad as a Wesabi honey.

Different blossom, different honey  
The beehives in Wesab produces different honey three times a year, apiculturist Abdu told the Yemen Times. The second kind of honey produced in the area after the Sedr variety is the Asaq honey from the Asaq tree.

The Asaq tree blooms immediately after the rain between March and June. Its honey is harvested before the Sedr tree flowers to make sure the honey is purely from that tree. Asaq honey is yellow, similar to the color of ghee. Its color turns red if it is stored for a long period and its taste changes if it was stored more than a year.

Abdu said that beehives in Wesab also produce another kind of honey called Dabaya honey from the Dabaya tree.

It is produced in winter when the season of the Sedr has been completed. It is yellow white and it has the similar quality of the Asaq honey. It is less demanded though, and is mostly consumed locally.



Algeria Street 38  
Building No. 2  
P.O. Box 12093  
Sana'a, Republic of Yemen

### INVITATION TO BID (ITB) Supply of Agro Net Materials (ITB/HCR/BO/10/SUP/05)

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), based in Sana'a, Republic of Yemen, has an international mandate to protect refugees and to seek durable solutions to their problems. UNHCR plays a major role in coordinating aid to refugees, returnees and displaced persons of concern.

UNHCR Branch Office in Sana'a intends to establish a Contract for the supply of Agro Net Materials for the provision of tent shading.

UNHCR invites sealed bids from eligible companies with performance experience to make a firm offers.

One sample of each item required must be sent to the above mentioned address on a Delivery Duty Paid (DDP) / franco-domicile basis no later than the closing date of the ITB.

Bidding documents are available at UNHCR Supply Unit, Sana'a, at the above-mentioned address. Tel: 01 469 771; 01469 772

Sealed bids must be received by UNHCR Branch Office Sana'a at the above-mentioned address on or before **10th June 2010, latest at 16:00 hours.**

Bids received after the deadline or sent to another address will be rejected.



Algeria Street 38  
Building No. 2  
P.O. Box 12093  
Sana'a, Republic of Yemen

### INVITATION TO BID (ITB) Supply of Construction Tools (ITB/HCR/BO/10/SUP/06)

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), based in Sana'a, Republic of Yemen, has an international mandate to protect refugees and to seek durable solutions to their problems. UNHCR plays a major role in coordinating aid to refugees, returnees and displaced persons of concern.

UNHCR Branch Office in Sana'a intends to establish a Contract for the supply of Construction Tools for the IDP Return Programme.

UNHCR invites sealed bids from eligible companies with performance experience to make a firm offers.

One sample of each item required must be sent to the above mentioned address on a Delivery Duty Paid (DDP) / franco-domicile basis no later than the closing date of the ITB.

Bidding documents are available at UNHCR Supply Unit, Sana'a, at the above-mentioned address. Tel: 01 469 771; 01469 772

Sealed bids must be received by UNHCR Branch Office Sana'a at the above-mentioned address on or before **10th June 2010, latest at 16:00 hours.**

Bids received after the deadline or sent to another address will be rejected.





Beijing, May 30  
Girls learn self defense in a Wushu school in Beijing where more and more children are interested in learning traditional martial arts to build their confidence and physical fitness.



Chicago, May 26  
Flowers made of jelly displayed at the Chicago Sweets & Snacks Expo which attracted 450 companies and 1400 visitors from 69 countries and areas.



New Orleans, May 24  
Employees from the British Petroleum Company clean oil spill caused by the collapse of a BP drilling rig in the Louisiana Gulf.



New York, May 31  
Turkish foreign minister Ahmet Davutoglu addresses the emergency UN meeting on Israeli attack against the flotilla carrying aid to Gaza.



After a volcano eruption and tropical storm Agatha, there are so far 64,383 people in temporary shelters, 152 dead, 87 injured, 100 people still reported missing. Up to 128,149 people suffered damages. 5,872 houses are at risk and at least 21,927 houses were damaged.



Ecuador, May 29  
Tungurahua volcano erupts in Cotalo, some 170km south west from Ecuador's capital Quito. Ecuadorian authorities ordered the evacuation of thousands of residents near the slopes of the volcano.



Beirut, June 1  
Thousands of protestors demonstrate in front of the UN office in Beirut condemning the Israeli attack on aid ships which caused the death of 19 people.



Gaza, June 1  
Palestinian citizens demonstrate against the Israeli attack on the international aid sea vessels.





## Your Excellency Mr. President

We take pride in your wise leadership of the country and your historical achievements on top of which is the Yemeni Unity. We confirm that our great nation that sacrificed dearly for reuniting Yemen will not allow this progress to revert.

May God give you wisdom and enlighten your path to the righteous deeds and many happy returns of the occasion.



## Acknowledgements

We are grateful to the leader of development and investment in Yemen H.E. President Ali Abdullah Saleh. We present our appreciation to his blessed visit which he paid to our factory... Union Cement Co. Ltd.

at Batis district in Abyan governorate to launch the production line.

This visit has made us optimistic and filled us with hope for a bright future and will be a reason for us to show further commitment and dedication to make this project a success. In order to serve the national development and economy.



Shiekh Ali Abdullah Al-Esayi  
Chairman Board of Directors  
Union Cement Co. Ltd.

Through our unity we build a nation





## UNION CEMENT Co. Ltd

# Realizing the Dream

**220 million USD in cost; December 2007 construction works started; May 2010 commencement of production.**

It was not an easy task.. Union Cement Co. Ltd. started as an idea by Sheikh Ali Abdullah Al-Esayi three years ago during which a lot of efforts and continuous works exerted to transform this idea into reality. With the strong arms of men and the resolution of youth on the land of

Abyain governorate, this strategic industrial edifice rises very high telling the story of its construction. It is a new achievements of this great nation that has moved forward towards development to change dreams and hopes into facts and actions.

The total cost of this project is 220 million USD and covers an area of 9 million square meter in Abyan governorate at Batis province, 89 km east of Aden governorate. Batis is very close to Zenjibar, the capital of Abyan governorate on the Arab Sea. Abyan is considered one of the important cities in Yemen that have high quality cement raw materials.

The factory's production capacity is 1,100,000 ton annually. Construction works started in December 2007 including land leveling, foundations excavation (January 2008). Works continued with high momentum until the official inauguration of the factory in 12 May 2010 when the first delivery of cement was dispatched into 15 governorates all across Yemen. On Saturday 15 May 2010, his Excellency president of the republic Ali Abdullah Saleh paid a visit to the factory during which he cut the inauguration ribbon. He was accompanied by some ministers, members of the parliament and Shora Council and Abyan governor Mr. Ahmed Al Maysari.

### High Quality Products

The company produces Portland cement in accordance with the American standards (ASTM-C150) and the European standards (N42.5 CEN I 1-197 EN), pressure (42.5). The factory will also, later on, produce resisting cement according to its production schedule. The factory is one step a head of all other cement factories in Yemen due to the fact that it is the only cement factory that is designed to produce Portland and resisting cement from the first day.

The factory packs cement in 50kg paper packs as well as bulk cement. Shortly, the factory will put into the market Jumbo plastic bags (1 ton, 1.5 ton, 2 tons) or their equivalent 20 sacks, 30 sacks and 40 sack of 50kg. Thus, Union Cement Co.Ltd will be the first to put these sizes into the Yemeni market. We are also developing other sizes.

Our product has been tested and examined to ensure that it is in conformity with the international technical standards. The company applies very strict quality control standards that are in line with the international standards and specifications. There is a state of the art laboratory that is equipped with testing and quality control equipments. The lab is run by very skilled and well qualified technicians. In addition, there is an analysis appliance that works 24 hour with the production line and tests raw material 100% before they are delivered into the warehouses to ensure the required quality. It is automatically connected with the central monitoring and control room to take immediate actions with regard to the percentage of the mixture if necessary.

### The environment

The environment and its protection are of high importance at Union Cement Co. Ltd. Therefore, we given the environment a very especial interest because it is the source of our life and the coming generations. Hence, to protect the environment we have taken the following steps:

We have chosen environment friendly machines in accordance with the European standards. Second, we limit the amount of exhausts by processing and filtering them using state of the art machines. We also periodically maintain these machines to keep them in an efficient and effective situation. In addition, we use environment friendly inputs at all stages of production. Further, green areas spread all around the factory as well as many other fruitful plants that were brought in coordination with the Ministry of Agriculture. This experiment will be used in other areas close to the factory in order to create sustainable environment friendly. Moreover, we have established a cleaning and refining station for sewage water to reuse it for irrigation. Environmental surveys are conducted in coordination with the competent authorities and civil organizations that have environmental interests.



The factory shall also support research on the reuse of waste at all levels of production. We are also studying the possibility of using recyclable packaging materials, develop the usages of bulk cement as it reduces the use of paper packs.

### The project's economical and social advantages:

The strategic and economical aim of this project is based on the economical and social benefits that can be reflected on the area in particular and the country in general. The project's are has now been transferred into an industrial and vital area as it was a barren land that lack all fundamental infrastructure. The factory provides the neighboring areas with the necessary requirements of developments such as education center, water station, health centers, playgrounds, and give priority to the local in employment. The company contributes to combating poverty and providing work opportunities. There are 450 employee and this number will increase to 700 in the future.

In addition, the factory provides 5000 indirect jobs at the project site and the neighboring areas and the areas where its products are delivered. Thus, every social class is benefiting from this vital project which we hope to last for century.

Other service projects will be established in the area and they will attract population to settle down in this area. Thus, the factory will promote others to start projects like gas stations, shops, residential complexes and other vital services.

Local councils directly benefit from the factory as we deduct a certain amount from the cost of each cement bag for local councils, cities improvement funds, youth and sports fund, skills development fund and the heritage and cultural development fund. Thus, every one is benefiting from this economical project.







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## Are we really united?

By: Naji Gazali  
naji734@gmail.com

The most recent unification of two independent countries in this century was the German unification and our unification. The Berlin wall separated the German people physically and politically. It was destroyed piece by piece by the German people on both side of that wall. So, the symbol of separation was destroyed by the people and not by the government officials.

Yet we as Yemenis we have not destroyed the wall that have separated us as a people. We relied on the government official to do that; we are not really united.

The government on both side decided to gather in a moment of celebration declaring our unity without any real progress in our part. To put it in simple term, our unity was hijacked by both governments (YAR and DRY). Twenty years later, we decided to show our opinion about this unification. One side (YAR) or the northern defend unity and the other side (southern) defends disunity. Again, our mere opinion on evaluating our unity is hijacked again by government official; the one who has benefited from unity and those who have not.

We were marginalized when unity was created as a people, and now we just follow each side blindly without expressing our deep feeling about our unity. It is not our fault because; we were raised to believe that government decided for what to do and how to feel about unity and disunity.

It time to take matter to own hand and celebrate our unity differently, we need to really destroy the wall that is separating us; it is the government who claimed it is protecting us and our unity. Since our unity, govern-

ment official have made a fortune of our unity. Many government official saw unity in grabbing lands, property that they never own in their past. Unity gave them the right to claim ownership. We as the people of south Yemen watched this continuous larceny going on for twenty years.

We in the north careless about these larceny, we have our own suffrage as well. We need not just to reclaim our unity; we need to remake it our way. The way were we are valued and accounted for, and the way that we are benefited directly by it and not being used or hijacked by our own leaders. Leaders must be there to serve us, like a server at a restaurant whose job is to cater for our need and not to tell us what to eat or order.

I want to celebrate our unity but not by having a military parade or singing national song that is empty in its meaning and dry in its message. I want to celebrate our unity when we in the south and the north think and feel that we are different yet unified. I want to celebrate our unity when we can be liberated and speak our mind and feeling without being persecuted. I want to celebrate our unity when rights are not giving by government order but rather by natural order. I want to celebrate our unity when government officials vacate their villas, lands, property, bossiness that they took without paying cents for it.

I want to celebrate unity when patriotism is not an investment rather disinvestment and loss of wealth and life. To be patriotic you must give in and never take in. I want to see government officials broke like alzubieri and Numan who were really represent unity at its best. To those who will show up for the unity-circus in Taiz, please do not send me an invitation letter because I hate to be there when the rest of all of us (Yemenis) are not invited.

## A Welcome letter from students to their dean

By: Suleiman Raise Bauzer  
Al-amal-insitute@hotmail.com  
Al-ahgaff Univ. Eng. Depart. 3rd level

Dear our dean, Sheikh Ahmed Badaway.

On the behalf of my classmates, We are extremely grateful to you, that you were as a dean as well as a teacher at Al-ahgaff University in English Department and Humanities. Therefore, we would like to thank you very much not merely of being a teacher or a dean, but as a father who cares for his kids, at the same time as a great example for us, who passed through the seas to exploit his time and effort to deliver us a clear message that how people like him, doesn't forget his grandfathers' home to improve it, people like you who came to learn and teach people

Moreover, staying as an expatriate

individual faraway from his home, kids and his people only for helping us.

From the things, which made your department distinguished and astonished others, is going on trips, which is the most powerful opportunity to practice our English with a near-native English speaker, however as an expert teacher who explains the language's secrets, ambiguities and answering difficult questions in the time where is none or hardly to us to find someone to speak or to ask.

The other aspire, that you encouraged students to write for those trips that we have gone to in order to gain the writing skill and this resulted in so many students wrote for newspapers like Yemen times Newspaper.

So several trips outside Hudrmout governorate or else around Mukalla cities and while those regular trips speaking English all the time, gave some students a strong push to speak

English confidently, consequently practice English language with practical life. All things our dean which you made, beside discuss about things inside the English language the proper language usage thesauruses and grammar. Plus, general information about the life, and that's why these extraordinary characteristics distinguished you as a successful dean among the others. Why not a dean like you, who took his degrees from a country known by its learning when Cambridge and Oxford had been established and built as the source of learning, who gained the original formal language from the foundation.

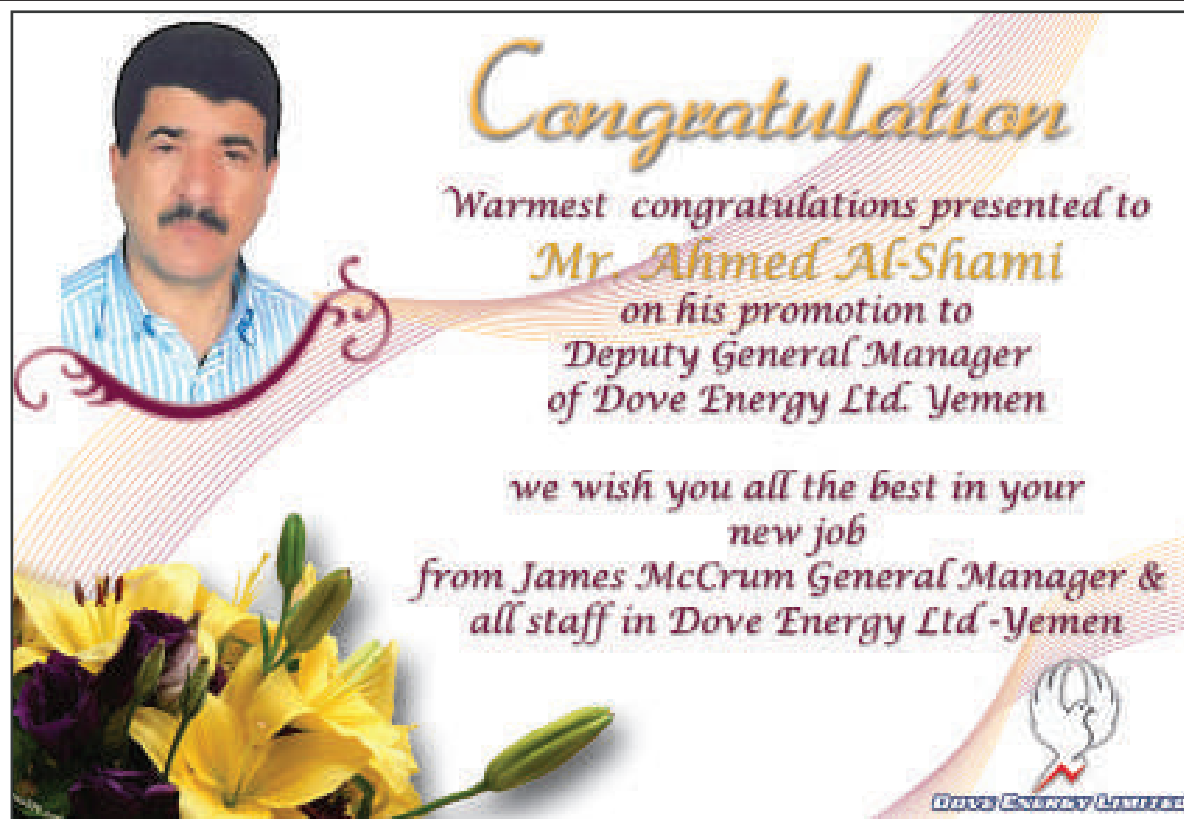
Although, I won't forget myself even the new ideas that you don't mean to give to your students as an expert teacher, on other hand lending your own books to your students and other materials which we can't find it here in Yemen. Why I shall say and write

this? I guessed and that was the answer to me, because what have you just read above are facts, so no one can deny the facts or good things that other people did or offered. Muslims all over the earth who did great contributions to others, they must be honored. It is true when they say "who doesn't thank people, in turn he/she will not thank Allah". therefore my heart wants to express and remembered the great previous days with you, who subjugated his time and effort for his girls and boys hoping that someone of them would be a great teachers, translators, or saleable in their lives. Accordingly, it was an unusual moment when we had said goodbye you last year, but the time have come to say welcome again and again for your second home and for your colleagues, Welcome with your new ideas, notions and courses. Or let me say it is an honor to have you here, sir.

### Art is a healthy form of expression

By: Khalil Farhan  
xfb\_99\_99@hotmail.com

Whether you are angry, sad, depressed, cheerful - there really is no better way to express yourself than through art. Because art is permanent, it allows you to fixate your current emotional state into a physical one. It allows you to translate your current emotional state into an outlet of expression. For one's mental health, this is a fantastic method of realizing your internal struggles and emotions and confronting and relieving them in an external method. This does not mean, though, that you have to create the art yourself. It is possible that you can find another artist's works, delve through his or her imagination on canvas, and discover solutions in the same way!



Majestic & Different  
**MONACO**  
Village



قرية  
**مونكو**  
فخامة وتميز



## Monaco Village: investment project to provide ultimate luxury

On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of Yemen, Mohammed Rizk al-Sormi, Under-Secretariat of the capital, opened on Wednesday a chain of the Monaco Village Restaurants located in Hadda area. The event was attended by members of the diplomatic corps in Sana'a along with businessmen and foreign companies.

Al-Sormi stated to the media about the large investment project, stressing that it is an important tributary to the national economy and a promotion for investment in Yemen.

Al-Sormi pointed out that the Secretariat is working closely with the investment authority in translating the president's vision to providing facilities for investors and working through the one window investment system.

Mr. Robert Kormoczi, the General Manager of Monaco Village, thanked the investment authority and the Secretariat for their cooperation in achieving such a big project.

Mr. Kormoczi pointed out that the project is designed according to the latest engineering technology and that the venue of the project has a quiet and elegant atmosphere.



Al-Sormi



Kormoczi

"This wonderful and beautiful design is accompanied with excellent services provided by the staff of Monaco village which makes it the perfect place to set up conferences and events for companies and the diplomatic corps as well as government agencies," said Mr. Kormoczi.

He added that the conference room was equipped with the latest modern technology.

The cost of the project, according to Mr. Kormoczi, amounted to \$1,200,000.

The project consists of a fine dining and BBQ restaurant, lobby lounge, VIP meeting rooms and a gourmet shop.

"Monaco Restaurant provides guests with a distinguished high-end dining with the best and

most talented chefs," he added.

Monaco Lounge offers a superb range and variety of the best soft drinks and fresh juices from the best fruits, which have been carefully selected.

The tent of Monaco is one of the most important outlets where guests are received and provided with specialties of Eastern and Western barbecued meats as well as Lebanese food.

The tent is characterized by slow and inviting music that gives you a sense of well-being and real fun.

The Monaco project includes private rooms, which is a set of rooms and suites prepared for senior guests. Sophisticated decor features suites and modern furniture as well as light meals that make it magnificent and luxurious.

Monaco Village is equipped with wireless Internet and a meeting room equipped with computers and fax through which businessmen follow up their business easily and smoothly. The manager of the Monaco village revealed the company's intention to open new branches of the Monaco village in the capital Sana'a and other governorates.





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معهد بالي ت: ٤٤٨٠٣٩-٤٤٨٢٧/٤٤٥٤٨٢ فاكس: ٤٤٨٠٣٧  
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**مدارس**

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# Flute tunes on Jamal Street

By: Sumaiya Alkebsi

On Thursdays, a cheery tune of "Belady Belady Belady Al-Yemen" can be heard on a side road of Jamal Street thanks

to a man called Abu Al-Khather.

A man of 50, or 60, according to him, Abu Al-Khather has been playing a makeshift flute from a young age. His fingers are permanently marked by the flute. He now can play over 1,000 songs.

Once a shepherd, Abu Al-Khather made flutes to pass his time. He came up with the idea while chewing qat and makes them to this day while feeling the qat-chewing relaxation.

Abu Al-Khather makes these flutes out of aluminum and plastic water pipes. However, he says that the plastic ones have a better sound. The aluminum ones cost YR 1,000 and the plastic ones cost YR 500.

Abu Al-Khather also says that making the flutes is a science. It takes him about two to three days to make each one. If the measurements are off, then

the sound will be off-key. The length of the flute should be the width of his hand, from his thumb to his pinky finger, along with the width of three fingers.

He only sells two or three aluminum ones a day, depending on traffic, but sells more plastic ones. However, he says that it is not enough to support his family although he tries his best.

Abu Al-Khather also sells tapes of him playing brass instruments as well. He says that they are from YR 300-500, and can even make tapes

by special request. He also plays for events.

To bring home as much as possible, Abu Al-Khather ranges his schedule to different hotspots in Sana'a.

On Saturdays, he can be found in Hadda Al-Sakaniya. On Sundays, He plays in Tahreer Square and Al-

Zumur. On Mondays, his flutes are in Taiz Street and Bab Al-Yemen.

On Tuesdays, he stays in Bab Al-Yemen and also goes to Mujahid Street. Wednesdays are Al-Zubari Street and Thursdays are Jamal Street.

But on Fridays, Abu Al-Khather stays home to relax and chew qat.



## Press Release



### OMEGA Constellation Co-Axial 35 mm "Logo Dial"

The OMEGA Constellation Co-Axial 35 mm "Logo Dial" is an intriguing member of the recently redesigned Constellation family. It is enhanced with a pattern of OMEGA logos tightly-arranged in a corporate disposition on a silvery dial which is highlighted by eleven single-cut diamond indexes and a date window at 3 o'clock.

The watch is available in a choice of five brushed case metal combinations: 18 Ct red or yellow gold, in bicolour blends of 18 Ct red or yellow gold with stainless steel or in stainless steel. The bracelets, which feature butterfly clasps, are fashioned from corresponding metals and feature brushed links and polished bars. The iconic Constellation claws are polished.

The OMEGA Constellation Co-Axial 35 mm is equipped with the exclusive OMEGA calibre 2500, the movement that signalled the revolution in mechanical watchmaking which began in 1999.

The sapphire caseback makes it possible to observe the performance of the Co-Axial movement at work.

The Constellation Co-Axial 35 mm with its distinctive dial is a fashionable, expressive part of the redesign of one of OMEGA's most popular watch lines.



### OMEGA Constellation Quartz 27 mm "Logo" with random disposition

One of the most provocative members of OMEGA's redesigned Constellation family is the Constellation Quartz 27 mm watch whose white mother-of-pearl dial is decorated with a random distribution of the brand's famous logo.

The watch is available in a choice of five brushed case metal combinations: 18 Ct red or yellow gold, in bicolour blends of 18 Ct red or yellow gold with stainless steel or in stainless steel. The bracelets, which feature butterfly clasps, are fashioned from corresponding metals and feature brushed links and polished bars. The iconic Constellation claws are polished.

The polished bezel is set with 32 full-cut diamonds and the radical dial is enhanced with twelve diamond hour markers. The combination of the diamonds and the pattern of randomly distributed OMEGA logos on the dial makes the watch at once elegant and playful.

The screw-fixed caseback is vertically brushed and each one is stamped with the famous Observatory medallion.

The Constellation Quartz 27 mm wristwatch is powered by the OMEGA quartz calibre 1376 which has a battery life of 32 months. A 24 mm version of the watch is also available with the same features and 28 diamonds on the bezel.

The OMEGA Constellation Quartz 27 mm perfectly combines the elegance of diamonds with a dial whose randomly distributed OMEGA logos is dedicated in equal parts to fashion and fun.

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