



Mr. Paolo Lembo assumes his duties as the UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in Yemen

Mr. Paolo Lembo today assumed his duties as the Resident Coordinator (RC) of the United Nations in Yemen. He is responsible for coordinating all UN entities in the country to ensure that UN's efforts are coherent and aligned with the Government's development priorities and the needs and aspirations of the people living in the Yemen. [Continued on page3](#)



UNDP and UNFPA present \$ 7 mln to support transition in Yemen



Yemen and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) signed here on Sunday an agreement to support the popular participation in making peace and development.

Under the agreement, the UNDP and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) provides about US\$ 7.3 million devoted to support the peace during the transition phase and to promote the popular participation in making peace, development and revising the legal and political amendments approved within the outcomes of the National Dialogue Conference (NDC).

On another hand, the Supreme Commission for Elections and Referendum (SCER) and the UNDP signed the document of the electoral support project (phase II) aiming to strengthen the SCER's capacities in the management and supervision to undertake the coming elections according to the terms of the Gulf initiative.

Benomar describes his recent visit to Yemen as successful

Adviser to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and his envoy to Yemen, Jamal Benomar, described on Tuesday results of his recent visit to Yemen as successful.



Upon departing Sana'a, Benomar said in a statement to Saba that he would submit a report to the UN Security Council on April 24 on his evaluation of the progress in the political process in Yemen. He pointed out that the report would include the extent of compliance with the Security Council's resolutions and the steps that have been taken in this regard, as well as the efforts being made to begin drafting the Constitution.

The report would also deal with the security and economic situation and the challenges and the steps that should be taken by the government, donors and the international community, Benomar added.

Benomar said that he had sensed during his recent visit to Riyadh that the Saudi Arabia is ready to continue to support the political process in Yemen and the experience of the peaceful transition, which he described as a unique of its kind in the region.

The UN envoy revealed the high-level arrangements for the Friends of Yemen meeting to be held in London later this month.

He confirmed that the meeting of the UN General Assembly to be held in New York in September would direct a message of solidarity and support for the efforts of President Abdo Rabbo Mansour Hadi and the political process in support of Yemen in the economic, social and humanitarian areas.



UN agencies agree on joint programming to boost food security in Yemen

The three Rome-based United Nations agencies, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the World Food Programme (WFP) have signed a Letter of Understanding (LoU) on joint action to support efforts by the Government of Yemen to address food insecurity and build resilience in rural areas. “While we each have our separate mandates, we can achieve far more by working closely together, supporting efforts by the Government to improve food security and resilience among the most vulnerable communities in Yemen,” said WFP Country Director Bishow Parajuli. The three agencies will intensify their joint programming and actions in Yemen through common strategies, advocacy

and targeting of food insecure populations. An estimated 10.5 million people are food insecure in Yemen, 4.5 million of them severely food insecure.

“This will enhance our outreach to the rural poor and most marginalized populations and, at the same time, contribute to strengthening their resilience and improving the livelihoods,” said IFAD Country Programme Manager Fathia Bahran.

FAO Representative Salah Hajj Hassan commented: “This will allow us all to strengthen our partnership with the Government of Yemen and ensure that our joint efforts are fully aligned with national development priorities and that we are accountable to the Government of Yemen and

to the rural poor.” The Letter was also signed by Yemen’s Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Farid Ahmed Saeed Mojaour who welcomed the move, which, he said, put cooperation among the three agencies and the Government on a new footing.

FAO is mandated to improve agricultural productivity and the condition of rural populations. It is also the lead agency for technical expertise in food security, agriculture, forestry, fisheries and rural development.

IFAD works to combat rural poverty by creating economic and employment opportunities for poor men and women, working to improve their food security, nutrition, raise their income, and strengthen their resilience.

WFP’s mandate is to

provide food assistance to save lives in emergencies, improve the nutrition and quality of life for the most vulnerable, help build assets and promote self-reliance among food-insecure households.

Under their respective mandates, the three agencies will collaborate with a common vision to address food insecurity on the basis of a “twin-track approach” -- alleviating hunger through immediate food assistance, building resilience and providing social safety nets coupled with joint initiatives aimed at eliminating the root causes of hunger and poverty with long-term support to agricultural development and smallholder farmers.



Humanitarian aid to IDPs in Amran reviewed

Amran governor Mohammed Dammaj met here on Sunday with World Food Programme (WFP) Deputy Country Director Henning Scharpff.

During the meeting, they discussed the humanitarian and food aid the WFP provides for the internally displaced people (IDPs) in the province as well as food aid provided for children and pregnant in health centers to reduce mothers and children's malnutrition rates.

Dammaj pinned hope on increasing the aid provided by the WFP to cover all families displaced from areas of conflicts as well as its activities in various health faculties, especially those are in rural areas.

The governor also urged the Programme to offer further support to help lower-income people to improve their living conditions, valuing highly all previous efforts made by the WFP in Amran.

For his part, Scharpff underlined that the Programme will study the new issues in order to be approved in the current year's plan.



WB, Planning Minister, USAID, discuss support for Yemen

Planning and International Cooperation Minister Mohammed al-Saadi, officials of the United States Agency for International Development and the World Bank on Sunday discussed cooperation and mutual relations and provision of support to Yemen.

Al-Saadi affirmed the importance of strengthening support of development projects in Yemen following the conclusion of the National Dialogue Conference (NDC). Officials of USAID and WB were briefed on achievements made by Yemen, and preparations for a new constitution and electoral registrations.

They affirmed that their organizations would continue supporting Yemen and help it to overcome its hardships.



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Mr. Paolo Lembo assumes his duties....

In addition to his role as the UN Resident Coordinator, Mr. Lembo is the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Resident Representative, guiding the work of UNDP in Yemen. UNDP is mandated to assist the Government of Yemen in reaching its aspiration for a peaceful, sustainable and prosperous future by strengthening governance, fight poverty, speed up recovery, and prevent crisis, particularly in this transitional period.

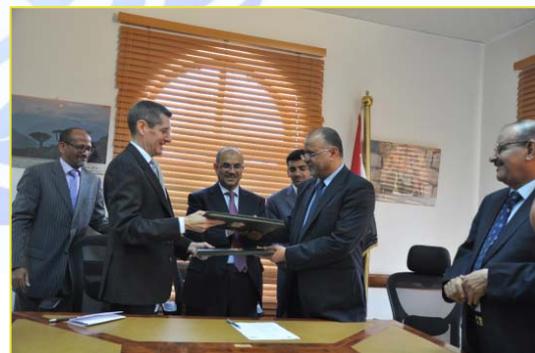
Mr. Lembo will work in partnership with the Special Adviser to the Secretary General on Yemen, Mr. Jamal Beomar, who facilitates the political process. He will also work closely with the Humanitarian Coordinator, Mr. Johannes Van Der Klaauw, who coordinates the urgent and lifesaving assistance in the country. Moreover, he will collaborate closely with the Yemeni people, the Government and other International and Yemeni partners, to ensure that the support of the United Nations in Yemen best serves to realize the future Yemenis want.

Prior to this assignment Mr. Lembo has served the United Nations for almost 30 years in various positions and countries ranging from Afghanistan, Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Egypt, Iraq, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kosovo, Kuwait, Tajikistan, the United Arab Emirates and the West Bank.



UNDP Signs Project Document for Phase II of Support to Elections during the Transitional Period with Government of Yemen

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and its partners, including the UK, Denmark, Sweden, Japan, Netherlands, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, France and Turkey, through the Support to Elections during the Transitional Period (SETP) project extend their support to the Government of Yemen with the aim of reinforcing the electoral cycle and conducting fair, open and inclusive electoral events, as part of the UN's integrated support to the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Transition Agreement. Following the successful conclusion of the UNDP implemented SETP Project Phase I, UNDP and the Government of Yemen now move forward with implementation of the Phase II. H.E. Mr. Mohammed Al-Sa'adi Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, H.E. Judge Mohammed Al-Hakimi (Chairman of the SCER) and Mr. Paolo Lembo (UNDP Resident Representative (RR)) collectively came together to take these efforts forward at a signing ceremony on 6 April 2014 held in Sana'a Yemen.



In partnership with the Government of Yemen (GoY), and the Supreme Commission on Elections and Referendum (SCER), the UNDP implemented SETP Project Phase II aligns technical advisory, procurement, and additional support to focus on creation of a biometric voter registry, an expected referendum on a new Constitution, post-referendum elections, legal electoral reform, as well as public participation and information initiatives.

During the signing ceremony UNDP RR Mr. Paolo Lembo stressed the importance of ensuring that future electoral processes are conducted transparently to help create a positive path towards a peaceful transition in Yemen. Elections that are credible, inclusive and enjoy the confidence of citizens and stakeholders are a cornerstone of good governance and democracy and are fundamental to building a new Yemen that is responsive to the needs of Yemenis.

Humanitarian Coordinator concerned over situation in Amran Governorate

The Humanitarian Coordinator in Yemen has called on parties to the situation in Amran Governorate to avoid further escalation of the conflict and allow humanitarian partners full and unfettered access to people affected, to ensure the delivery of assistance and effective protection of civilians.

The call comes amid reports of high tension in the northern Yemeni governorate, where tens of thousands of people displaced by conflict in recent months remain in need of humanitarian assistance.

“Humanitarian partners in Yemen have scaled-up their presence and response to the needs of those displaced and other people who have been affected by recent violence in Amran,” said Mr. Johannes Van Der Klaauw. “Should current tensions in Amran escalate into violence; humanitarian partners will not be able to deliver much needed assistance, particularly to Amran City.”

“Efforts by the Government to mediate between parties to the conflict in Amran are commendable, but it is important that the truce is maintained so that humanitarian partners can reach all those in need,” the Humanitarian Coordinator added, referring to a temporary truce brokered between Government forces and non-state armed groups. “I urge parties to the conflict to fully observe their duty to protect civilians and to provide unfettered access for humanitarian actors to civilian populations in need.”

By early April, humanitarian partners had delivered food and non-food assistance to almost 13,500 newly displaced people from the area: 11,354 in Amran City and 2,128 in Sana'a. Humanitarian partners are also planning to strengthen livelihood opportunities for the conflict-affected and displaced people in Amran, to address long-term consequences after years of conflict in the Governorate. The Emergency Response Fund, which is managed by UN OCHA, has prioritized funding for projects in Amran, and has approved US\$1.35 million for national organizations supporting displaced people and host communities in the Governorate.



WFP and Lahj Governor Review the Humanitarian Partnership

Lahj governor Ahmed al-Majidi met on Sunday with the delegation of the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) Office in the southern provinces.

During the meeting, al-Majidi praised the existing distinct humanitarian partnership between Yemen and the WFP.

The governor pointed out the examination results of the WFP's impounded flour shipment had proved that it is healthy, noting that the results of lab test will be announced soon.

He also referred that the flour shipment seized on April 10 by al-And checkpoint had been handed over to the WFP's Office in the southern provinces to be retained until the rise of the lab test results.

For his part, head of the WFP's delegation said that the WFP is working in Yemen since more than 20 years, and the lab samples would prove the safety of the seized flour shipment belonging to the WFP.



WB provides \$50 mln to Yemen

The World Bank and Yemen have signed an agreement to grant US\$50 million to the Social Fund for Development's project in Yemen.

The agreement was signed at the conclusion of official talks in Washington between Yemen and the WB over the Social Fund for Development (SFD IV) Project.

The agreement includes activating the infrastructure projects for the poorest societies in the fields of health, water, roads, education and agriculture sectors.

The project aims to improve access to basic services, enhance economic opportunities and reduce the vulnerability of the poor.



UNHCR, Japan Government distribute garments to IDPs



The Japanese Embassy to Yemen and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) on Wednesday distributed more than 200,000 clothes to about 63,000 internally displaced persons in districts of Haja, Amran, Aden and Sana'a governorates.

In the distribution ceremony, the Japanese Ambassador to Yemen Katsuyoshi Hayashi said that these garments are a symbol of friendship between the Yemeni and Japanese peoples.

For his part, the UNHCR resident representative Johannes Van Der Klaauw stressed that the support provided by Japan will alleviate suffers of Yemen's IDPs, pointing out that UNHCR provided assistance to about 200,000 IDPs who have recently come back to their homes in Abyan.

He also said that UNHCR provides aids to more than 240,000 refugees who came from the African Horn, Iraq and Syria to Yemen.



Yemen takes a major first step in reaching marginalized communities

UNICEF and the Social Welfare Fund (SWF) of Yemen's Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour have launched the mapping of muhamasheen communities (locally known as Akhdam) in Taiz Governorate.



In a press release, UNICEF said that the survey is expected to reach some 10,000 households in Yemen's most marginalized population.

There is very little available data on this excluded population. However anecdotal evidence points to huge inequities between muhamasheen communities and the average poor in Yemen. These communities are less likely to have basic social services such as health care, education, safe water, birth certificates or shelter.

"I have seen muhamasheen communities that do not have water or latrines, where children do not go to school and seldom visit health centres" says UNICEF's Representative, Julien Harneis. "This survey will allow us to measure the size of the problem so that we can work together to solve it."

Over six weeks, the project will identify the geographic locations and key household characteristics of muhamasheen, including children. This first phase will cover nine of the 23 districts in Taiz Governorate.

The second phase will look at what programmes need to be introduced in the various locations, guided by the results of the mapping. This will include raising awareness of families on 'saving up for children'; linking households to basic social services; and social protection measures such as cash transfers.

The third phase will include empowering muhamasheen to claim their rights.

The mapping exercise will be implemented by SWF in Taiz, with technical support from a national research institution. So far 45 SWF staff members have been trained on data collection using tablet computers, which allows them to send household data immediately after completing field interviews. UNICEF expects the mapping and related programming will promote social inclusion for the muhamasheen. It will enable them to have access to social protection systems and to participate in the country and district level decision-making processes which affect them.

FAO is Seeking to reduce the food gap and address the imbalances of development in Yemen



In a workshop on a draft country action plan presented by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Mujawar said that his ministry is seeking to use modern agricultural technologies, which aim to reduce groundwater depletion and increase production. He pointed out that the recent use of greenhouses by some farmers and investors has increased to 30,000 greenhouses, producing various vegetables. The Resident Representative of the United Nations in Yemen Paolo Lembo said that Yemen has distinctive agricultural properties which should be benefited in order to strengthen the economic sector in the country, achieve a better living for citizens and create employment opportunities. He called attention to the agricultural sector and water resources in Yemen, stressing the UN's readiness to support the Yemeni government's efforts to improve the agricultural sector and enhance food security.

For his part, the Resident Representative of the FAO in Yemen Dr. Salah Haj Hassan pointed out that everyone is aware of the critical stage Yemen is currently undergoing, particularly in development sector, where it faces several economic, political, security and development challenges, adding local, regional and international efforts should be concerted for addressing these challenges.

Hassan praised the efforts have been made by the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and other official bodies involved in the development of the agricultural sector and other sectors, although there are obstacles faced by these sectors.

The FAO official also said the organization is seeking to reduce the food gap and address the imbalances of development in Yemen, based on its strategic goals, including the eradication of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition.

In addition, Hassan revealed a team of international experts had arrived in Yemen to prepare the FAO action plan with the help of a team of Yemeni specialists from various ministries

Agriculture and Irrigation Minister Fareed Mujawar has said that groundwater depletion is the greatest challenge being faced by agricultural development in Yemen, as well as excessive and indiscriminate use of pesticides in the agricultural sector.



Young migrants tell their stories

In 2010, there were 27 million international migrants aged 15 to 24 in the world and when migrants in the 25 to 34 age group are included, young migrants make up almost one-third of all international migrants, according to the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA).

A newly launched UN World Youth Report on Youth & Migration, produced by UNDESA, explores the current situation of young migrants through their own personal stories. The report was marked during a special event at UN headquarters in New York featuring inspiring performances by young poets, musicians, actors, and dancers.

The performances were part of a new initiative, “I Sell the Shadow”, which was curated by Emmy Award-winning filmmaker Lisa Russell. “I was given the opportunity to bring some of the most powerful young voices I know of in New York City to a stage at the United Nations,” says Russell. “These artists have their own personal experiences about migration and it is an opportunity to retell these stories through poetry, music, film, dance and theatre.”

Since the report’s goal was to explore youth migration through the stories of young migrants

themselves and how migration has personally affected them, the research was based on a variety of participatory consultations with young migrants—a five-week e-consultation process, a survey on youth migration and development, and a call for youth to create visual artwork depicting the daily life of young migrants.

“The literature on youth migration and its development impact in countries of origin and destination is sparse. This report attempts to fill this gap and offers a comprehensive account of the life experiences of young migrants,” says the report. The report explores the different phases of migration—the preparation, journey, human rights challenges faced in the destination country, as well as the engagement of young people on migration issues. According to the report, misconceptions surrounding migrants can result in dangerous stereotyping, anti-migrant discrimination and violence, xenophobia, social exclusion, and the abuse of migrants’ human rights. This can also interfere with their social and economic integration and limit their opportunities to benefit from development. Some young people also

cited experiencing substandard housing, poor sanitation, and food deprivation, which can take its toll on their physical and mental health. Young migrants in irregular situations may not be able to access healthcare or other essential services, because of legal barriers to access or because they fear arrest and deportation.

The report features several personal accounts from young migrants. One felt harassed by people in his own community in his host country and another was unable to find affordable housing. Another personal story includes a woman whose sexual orientation and her community’s inability to protect her rights within this context were central to her migration decision.

Some of the stories also shed a positive light. The report includes the story of a young man who says that he is grateful for his ability to migrate because he was able to escape his life as a child soldier.



Another young migrant will return home to use his medical training in his own community.

“Children, adolescents and youth who migrate, or those who are born to migrant parents, are an increasingly significant part of contemporary migratory movements,” said UN Human

Rights Chief Navi Pillay during a recent event focusing on child migration at the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development in New York. “Children migrate in various ways with a variety of motives, and their movements should not always be seen merely as an aspect of adult migration. Most national policies do not take account of the needs and rights of migrant children.”

“Recognizing the diversity of youth migrants is important for understanding the impact of migration on the human development of young men and women as well as on their countries of origin and destination,” states the report. “It is also essential for designing specific interventions that address their unique vulnerabilities and engage them to realize their hopes and aspirations.”

While some young migrants may be enthusiastic about the prospect of moving abroad, the process of migration itself is often a challenge. Young people report difficulties in receiving accurate information about their destination and complications in terms of obtaining the necessary documents.



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

MESSAGE ON WORLD HEALTH DAY

7 April 2014

Every year more than one million people die from diseases carried by mosquitoes, flies, ticks and other insects, such as triatomine bugs. These vector-borne diseases – which include malaria, dengue, yellow fever, Japanese encephalitis, Chagas disease and leishmaniasis – cause chronic illness and immense suffering for hundreds of millions more.



Climate change, altered habitats and increased international trade and travel are exposing more people to the vectors that transmit these diseases. They present a risk in all regions, including countries where the threat had formerly been eradicated, but the most affected are the world's poorest people, especially those who live in remote rural communities far from health services or in urban shanty towns. By profoundly affecting people's health, vector-borne diseases are a serious impediment to poverty reduction and sustainable development.

As we work to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and define a post-2015 development agenda, let us recognize that investing in vector control and disease prevention is a wise and necessary investment. We have the scientific knowledge and have developed proven interventions to tackle these diseases. In Africa, for example, more than 700 million insecticide-treated bed nets have already helped to cut malaria rates dramatically, particularly among children and pregnant women.

Sustained political commitment can save millions of lives and yield substantial social and economic returns. But it is important to recognize that vector control goes beyond the health sector. Poorly planned development initiatives -- such as forest clearance, dam construction or irrigation to boost food production -- may increase the disease burden. Addressing this issue demands an integrated, coherent and united effort across many sectors, including the environment, agriculture, water and sanitation, urban planning and education.

Everyone has a role to play in the fight against vector-borne diseases – international organizations, governments, the private sector, civil society, community groups and individuals. On this World Health Day, I urge countries and development partners to make vector control a priority. Let us work together to tackle this serious but eminently preventable threat to human health and development.

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