



## On the Occasions of International Youth Day Celebrated in Sana'a on 26 August 2014



MR. PAOLO LEMBO, UN RESIDENT COORDINATOR DURING THE EVENT

*By Mr. Paolo Lembo, UN Resident Coordinator Yemen*

With an average age in Yemen being 17 years old, it is the young people of this country that will shape and safeguard the New Yemen. The UN remains committed to stand along with the people of Yemen and assist the youth in the country in your difficult, but promising hard work to build the future you want.

Since young people took to the streets in 2011 demanding fairness and justice, youth have appropriately engaged in the National Dialogue Conference with commitment and wisdom. The NDC outcomes related to youth include political empowerment, education and economic empowerment.

Politically, the outcomes involve creating a new

independent authority with a mandate to steer and supervise public policy and monitor its implementation. This will be done to ensure protection of youth from social and health risks and violence, and institute clear policies and mechanisms for youth participation and inclusion in public policy making.

In terms of education, the proposal is to promote gender equality and improve education for young Yemenis across the country, with the right to free, high-quality education, mandatory at the primary level for all Yemenis. The outcomes also commit the state to providing the necessary incentives and appropriate environment to ensure girls education.



## IDPs in Yemen reach 0.5 million: Deputy FM

*30/September/2014*

Deputy Foreign Minister revealed on Tuesday that the Internally Displaced People (IDP) in Yemen have reached nearly 0.5 million people.

In his speech at the 65th session of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) being held in Geneva, Amir al-Aidaros reviewed the latest political developments in the country in the light of the signing of the peace and national partnership agreement by the political parties.



Al-Aidaros, who is also the Head of the National Commission for Refugees (NCR), reviewed services and facilities Yemen provides for over 250,000 Somali refugees and nearly 750,000 unregistered immigrants from the Horn of Africa countries.

He indicated to the political, security and economic challenges Yemen is suffering from that make Yemen incapable to bear further burdens of the continuing influx of the illegal immigrants.

He demanded the international community to support Yemen's efforts to address the burdens of the growing influx of African refugees as well as the issues of internal displacement

## Yemen, UN discuss humanitarian cooperation

*10/September/2014*

Yemen's Permanent Representative to the United Nations Khaled Bahah met on Wednesday with Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator Valerie Amos.

The meeting touched on the cooperation aspects between Yemen and the United Nations in humanitarian field and ways of enhancing them.



Bahah reviewed the developments taking place in Yemen, particularly with regard to the humanitarian situation and the needed support in this aspect.

In this regard, Bahah hoped that the UN would provide more support to Yemen in the humanitarian field in order to contribute the success of the political transition process.

For her part, Amos affirmed that the UN is closely following up the current situation in Yemen and works to coordinate efforts with the international relief organizations to provide urgent humanitarian aid for Yemen.

The UN's official expressed her hope that the next meeting of Yemen Friends Group to be held in September in New York would come out with positive results to provide more concrete support for Yemen in humanitarian field.



## 10.6 Million Yemeni People Are In Need Of Food Assistance

Despite positive trends at global level, food security continues to be a big concern across Near East and North Africa countries.



Civil insecurity and conflicts remain the driving factor behind the increase of undernourished in the region. September 30 2014, Cairo the number of undernourished in the Near East and North Africa (NENA) has more than doubled since 1990 standing now at about 33 million peoples, according to the UN Hunger Report. The NENA is also the only region where, during the same period, the prevalence of undernourishment has increased, moving from 6.6% to 7.7%, the report says. Despite the progress made by few countries, the region, as a whole, is failing to meet the 2015 target of halving the number (or the proportion) of undernourished among the population, largely due to wars, conflicts and instability, the report says.

“Distress on livelihoods in many parts of the region, including Syria, Yemen, Iraq, Gaza, is very high and vulnerable communities are paying the price for situations of instability and conflict in the first place. Accessibility and affordability of food is a key issue for millions of affected people. Humanitarian action and efforts to build resilience and achieve peace and stability must go hand in hand if we want to avert even deeper crises and restore basic conditions for any development” said Carlo Scaramella WFP Deputy Director for North Africa, Middle East, Central Asia and Eastern Europe

## Yemen, FAO agree to rehabilitate Desert Locust Control Centre

28/August/2014

Yemen and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) on Thursday signed a financing agreement of \$250,000 to rehabilitate the National Centre for Monitoring and Controlling Desert Locust.

The agreement funded the USAID was co-signed by Agriculture and Irrigation Minister Fareed Mujawar and FAO representative in Yemen Salah al-Hajj Hassan.

The agreement aims to activate the National Centre in order to fulfill its obligations towards the international and regional conventions for controlling desert locusts.

It includes rehabilitating and outfitting the National Centre's head office with the required equipment and vehicles as well as building the Centre's capacities to be efficiently able to monitor and combat desert locusts.

It is worth to mention that the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), FAO and Saudi Arabia have provided another aid to Yemen in the field of controlling desert locusts.





## Yemeni female activist wins HRW's Prestigious Award

16/September/2014

The Human Rights Watch has announced today granting its Alison Des Forges Award for the Extraordinary Activism for 2014 to four activists including Yemeni female activist Arwa Abdu Othman.

HRW said in a release posted in the organization's website, the prestigious award has been granted this year to four courageous activists from North Korea, Africa, India and Yemen.

"The winners are among voices calling for justice in their countries and working tirelessly for protecting rights of others and their dignity," said the organization, making it clear that it chose Arwa Othman because she is a key activist working for ending child marriage in Yemen.

During 2011 protests in Yemen, Othman was among the most opponents who called for respecting human rights and equality between the two sexes, the release went on. It further said Othman is credited with easing some strong recommendations included in the National Dialogue Conference entrusted with making the new Yemeni constitution that includes equality between the two sexes, prohibiting discrimination and defining the minimum marriage age at 18.

The Executive Director of HRW Kenneth Ruth, for his part, said the award is to honor people are known for their extraordinary courage and



work for the weakest people in the world.

"The winners sided with the opposition, did not choose carelessness and their lives have been subjected to danger," said Ruth.

Arwa Othman is a writer, journalist, anthropology researcher and leading advocate working to end child marriage in Yemen.

In 2013, Othman participated in Yemen's national dialogue conference, tasked with shaping the country's new constitution. The recommendations by the rights and freedom committee, which Othman headed, are among the most progressive and rights-respecting to come out of the process.



## WB grants \$3 mln to improve Yemen's higher education Quality

18/September/2014

The World Bank (WB) has granted Yemen an additional US\$3 million to support the efforts to boost the employability of college graduates.

According to a press release, the WB Group's Board of Executive Directors approved last Monday the grant, which "will supplement an ongoing project focused on the quality of university programs, and their effectiveness in equipping students with the skills needed by the labor market."

The additional financing for the Higher Education Quality Improvement Project (HEQIP) will allow for the purchase of laboratory equipment and tools for twelve undergraduate programs at eight public universities. A major component of the HEQIP is support for the design of demand-driven curricula, in response to complaints from employers about the lack of practical experience and skills among college graduates. The majority of programs financed by the project are scientific or technical in nature, which requires significant investments in relevant equipment.

"Higher education is the cornerstone for developing a country's human capital and contributing to economic growth," said Wael Zakout, WB Yemen Country Manager. "But to be effective, university programs need to be aligned with the labor market, equipping university graduates with the knowledge and skills to compete in those markets."

There are currently nine public—and 19

private—universities in Yemen. The poor quality of education at both primary and secondary levels, however, has had an impact on higher education in general. Although enrollment has grown, with the number of private universities increasing, the standard of academic achievement among students remains low and university enrollment continues to be concentrated in social sciences.



"This project will help bring change to higher education in Yemen," said Lianqin Wang, World Bank Senior Education Specialist. "It will particularly help students enrolled in these quality improvement programs, gain experience to enter competitive labor markets."

The Bank's active portfolio in Yemen consists of 35 projects with US\$1.1 billion in net commitments. Support focuses on interventions to improve livelihoods and reduce poverty. Key sectors include education, social protection, infrastructure, health, water, agriculture, and governance.



## UN: Yemen is one of most food-insecure countries in world

18/September/2014



The UN annual report of the State of Food Insecurity in the World (SOFI 2014) has said that Yemen is one of the most food-insecure countries in the world. "Conflict, economic downturn, low agricultural productivity and poverty have made Yemen one of the most food-insecure countries in the world", according to the SOFI 2014 report published on Tuesday by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the World Food Programme (WFP).

"Besides restoring political security and economic stability, the government aims to reduce hunger by one-third by 2015 and to make 90 percent of the population food-secure by 2020."

The report showed that the government also "aims to reduce the current critical rates of child malnutrition by at least one percentage point per year."

At the global level, the report pointed out that about 805 million people in the world, or one in nine, suffer from hunger. The overall trend in hunger reduction in developing countries means that the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) of halving the proportion of undernourished people by 2015 is within reach. "If appropriate and immediate efforts are stepped up," the report said. To date, 63 developing countries have reached the MDG target, and six more are on track to reach it by 2015.

"Despite significant progress overall, several regions and sub-regions continue to lag behind. In Sub-Saharan Africa, more than one in four people remain chronically undernourished, while Asia, the world's most populous region, is also home to the majority of the hungry - 526 million people", the report said. With the number of undernourished people remaining "unacceptably high", the heads of FAO, IFAD and WFP, José Graziano da Silva, Kanayo F.

Nwanze and Ertharin Cousin stressed the need to renew the political commitment to tackle hunger and to transform it into concrete actions. In this context, they welcomed the pledge at the 2014 African Union summit in June to end hunger on the continent by 2025."

"The FAO, IFAD and WFP report specifies that hunger eradication requires establishing an enabling environment and an integrated approach. Such an approach includes public and private investments to increase agricultural productivity; access to land, services, technologies and markets; and measures to promote rural development and social protection for the most vulnerable, including strengthening their resilience to conflicts and natural disasters. The report also emphasizes the importance of specific nutrition programmes, particularly to address micronutrient deficiencies of mothers and children under five."

This year's report includes seven case studies - Bolivia, Brazil, Haiti, Indonesia, Madagascar, Malawi and Yemen - that highlight some of the ways that countries tackle hunger and how external events may influence their capacity to deliver on achieving food security and nutrition objectives. The countries were chosen because of their political, economic - particularly in the agricultural sector - diversities, and cultural differences.

The findings and recommendations of SOFI 2014 will be discussed by governments, civil society, and private sector representatives at the 13-18 October meeting of the Committee on World Food Security, at FAO headquarters in Rome.

The report will also be a focus of the Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2) in Rome from 19-21 November, which FAO is jointly organizing with the World Health Organization. This high-level intergovernmental meeting seeks, at a global level, renewed political commitment to combat malnutrition with the overall goal of improving diets and raising nutrition levels.



## Yemen, UNDP discuss cooperation to set up archaeological training institute

01/September/2014

Yemen and UNDP on Monday discussed the possible cooperation to establish a regional training institute for archaeological restoration and handicrafts maintenance in Sana'a.

During their meeting, Culture Minister Abdullah Aupal and UNDP Resident Coordinator in Yemen Paolo Lembo agreed on many details of cooperation between the Ministry and UNDP in support of the establishment of the institute in collaboration with Italy.



Aupal praised the role the UNDP plays in supporting many development projects in Yemen, particularly in the culture fields.

He pointed out that Yemen has a great cultural heritage and historical cities, adding that Yemen really needs to benefit from other countries' experiences in restoration and maintenance.

For his part, Lembo expressed the UNDP's readiness to cooperate with Yemen in cultural projects, particularly in setting up a regional institute for archaeological restoration and training in culture areas.

He said Yemen's cultural heritage, handicrafts and historic cities deserve all kinds of local and international care.

## FAO organizes workshop over interim integrated food security classification

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Yemen office launched Monday in Sana'a a workshop over the Interim Integrated Food Security Classification.

The five-day workshop aims at analyzing food situation in Yemen through the interim integrated food security classification mechanism, in addition to promoting capacities of the technical work group concerned in this field.



It also focuses on the of bases food security concepts, monitoring market prices, gaining skills and knowledge, analysis of food security related cases and reasons and factors affecting food security.

The workshop is implemented by FAO in cooperation with the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation targeting the governorates of Abyan, Al-Dalea, Lahj, Al-Baidha, Hudeidah and Hajjah to improve food security and nutrition in Yemen on the long run.



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

## MESSAGE ON THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF CHARITY

5 September 2014

Charity plays a significant role in the work of the United Nations and its agencies. Charity may come in many forms, from the volunteering of time and expertise to straightforward financial or in-kind donations by individuals, corporations or philanthropic foundations. Whatever the case, such generosity and kindness, with no expectation of financial gain, can make profound differences in human well-being.

At times of intense fiscal and budgetary constraint, charity takes on greater importance in global efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and implement what we hope will be an ambitious post-2015 agenda. While charity cannot be seen as a replacement or alternative to public spending, it plays an invaluable complementary role.



I welcome this second observance of the International Day of Charity, proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly at the initiative of the Permanent Mission of Hungary, to coincide with the anniversary of the death of Mother Teresa, whose life and good works for some of the human family's poorest and most vulnerable members has been such an enormous inspiration.

Let us recognize charity for what it is at heart: a noble enterprise aimed at bettering the human condition. On this International Day, I call on people everywhere to act on the charitable impulse that resides in every human being -- to start giving and to keep on giving.



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