UN support to justice sector in Yemen discussed

25/August/2014    Minister of Justice Judge Murshid al-Arshani met on Monday with Resident Representative of the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) George Abu al-Zulof. During the meeting they reviewed the strategic plan to support the justice sector development project in Yemen, which is financed by the United Nations and implemented by the OHCHR and the UNDP over three years at a cost of $ 9 million.

Al-Arshani confirmed the keenness of his ministry to develop and promote the justice services and meet their needs through the capacity building, expanding the outputs of the Higher Institute of Judiciary and developing its structures and curricula and establishing a national center for the forensic medicine.  

Continued on page 7

WHO grants $0.5 mln to Amran health sector

27/August/2014    The World Health Organization (WHO) has granted Amran province with $US 500,000 as health aid, Director-General of Amran's public health office said Wednesday. WHO official was briefed on the needs of the province in the health area, Abdul-Aziz al-Delei said, adding that the Organization expressed readiness to buy medical equipment and supplies to support health sector and the 22 May Hospital in Amran to be able to provide medical services for citizens.

He added that the public health office has received recently three ambulance cars, medical supplies and medicines to support medical efforts in the province, calling on the children and health-concerned organizations to participate in addressing the extraordinary health situation in the province.

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.
Yemen's permanent representative to UN delivers his credentials

14/August/2014

The UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has received at the UN headquarters in New York credentials of ambassador Khalid Bahah as permanent representative of the Republic of Yemen to the UN.

In the meeting, Ban ki-moon welcomed the appointment of ambassador Bahah, pointing to the attention paid by the UN organization to follow up the developments in Yemen and the steps carried out at the level of the transition process based on the Gulf initiative and its mechanism and the relevant resolutions of the Security Council.

He considered that the Yemeni model has proved to the world that the peaceful and systematic change through dialogue and compromises is the perfect choice.

The UN Secretary-General hailed the efforts of President Abd Rabbu Mansour Hadi to work for the success of the peaceful settlement, topped by the success of the National Dialogue Conference (NDC). He called on all political parties to cooperate with President Hadi to ensure the implementation of the NDC outcomes and building the new Yemen.

Ban Ki-moon condemned in the strongest phrases the terrorist acts taking place in Yemen, recalling the recent resolution 2140 of the Security Council that introduced targeted sanctions measures against individuals or entities engaging in obstructing the transition process, either directly or indirectly.

In the meeting, Bahah briefed Ban Ki-moon on the developments at the Yemeni arena and the steps made at the level of the transition process.

The ambassador touched on the challenges which are still facing the political process in Yemen for the time being, topped by the terrorism and the sabotage acts that target the economy and the public tranquility.

The ambassador Bahah met earlier with the permanent representative of the Republic of Lithuania to the UN Ambassador Raimonda Murmokaitė as head of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to the resolution No. 2140 and concerned with studying measures to freeze the funds and travel ban against parties that threaten the security, safety and stability of Yemen and impeding the path of the political settlement.

In the meeting, they discussed the mechanism of action of the committee and primary results of the field visit of the Committee's Panel of Experts (PoE) to Sana'a.

On another hand, Bahah met in New York with the Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on Yemen Jamal Benomar and discussed with him the developments of the current situation at the Yemeni scene and the efforts to implement the NDC's outcomes.
Amran Internally displaced persons (IDPs) appear to be returning home in increasing numbers, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) - Yemen has said.

"As of 24 July, local people estimated that about half of IDPs had already returned, although this figure could not be independently verified," OCHA said in its report on the situation in Amran issued on 5 August. At the peak of the crisis, partners estimated that 45,000 people had been displaced.

The report showed that the conditions in Amran governorate and neighboring areas remain calm, and access to and from the area is open.

It said that the humanitarian partners were re-establishing operations there. "To date, partners have distributed one-time assistance – mainly food and hygiene kits – to about 5,000 families who were displaced by recent conflict."

According to the report, the Humanitarian Coordinator travelled to Amran on 24 July to observe local conditions and advocate humanitarian access, where he met with local authorities, advocated humanitarian access and promoted mutual commitments on humanitarian action.

OCHA said that the humanitarian partners have confirmed that there were no obstacles to resuming their operations in Amran to date.

The report indicated to some humanitarian assets were looted during the recent conflict. "Partners were encouraged by the speedy return of looted property to a local NGO and look forward to working with local authorities to recover missing assets taken from the common UN compound. These efforts are ongoing."

Concerning a measles outbreak in Arhab district of Sana'a governorate, neighboring Amran, OCHA said that "partners are confident that a measles outbreak in Arhab District is under control after a vaccination campaign began during the Eid holiday," adding that the last phase of the campaign will be completed this week.
Yemen partakes in UNHCR's conference on GISR in Ethiopia

20/August/2014

Yemen took part on Wednesday in the regional conference on the Global Initiative on Somali Refugees (GISR) in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa.

The conference, which is organized by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), discussed the situations of Somali refugees with the participating countries, which are Somalia, Kenya, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Uganda and Yemen.

The participants discussed the appropriate solutions to meet the growing phenomenon of asylum, including the voluntary return of refugees to the safe areas in their home, as well as ways to enhance the coordination between the participating countries in the different issues concerning the Somali refugees.

At the end of the conference, the participants approved Addis Ababa's obligation document on Somali refugees, which underlined the support of the international community to Somali refugees and their host countries. They stressed the importance of implementing the recommendations of this conference and the regional meetings on refugees, topped by Sana'a Conference on asylum and migration from the horn of Africa to Yemen held in Sana'a on November 2013.

WFP celebrates World Humanitarian Day

18/August/2014

The World Food Programme (WFP) is joining other organizations and agencies around the globe in advance of World Humanitarian Day on 19 August.

In its statement, the WFP said that the celebration aims to bring attention to the heroes who risk their lives every day to help people in need.

"These humanitarian heroes put themselves in danger transporting food around the world, distributing it in areas besieged by conflict or ravaged by natural disaster, and running the programmes that help millions of children, women and men build their futures."

"World Humanitarian Day is a day to remember our 'humanitarian heroes'. The colleagues who lost their lives while serving others," said WFP Executive Director Ertharin Cousin. "But it's also a day to celebrate our everyday heroes -- the WFP staff and partners who work tirelessly to help build the future we all want, a future of zero hunger in which everyone will thrive."

In total, there are nearly 14,200 humanitarian heroes working for WFP. They come from 158 nations and are deployed in 99 countries around the world.

In Yemen, WFP plans to provide assistance to some 6 million vulnerable people over the next two years through a range of activities, including food relief, cash transfers, food and cash for work, prevention and treatment of malnutrition, school feeding and take-home rations for girls attending school.

"We are shifting the emphasis of our operations from relief to building livelihoods and boosting resilience," said WFP Yemen Country Director Bishow Parajuli. "Our aim is to help people to help themselves."
Today is World Humanitarian Day

By Trond Jensen, Head of UN OCHA Yemen.

Every year on 19 August, the world marks World Humanitarian Day in honour of aid workers, who have lost their lives in the line of duty. The day was designated by the General Assembly to coincide with the anniversary of the 2003 bombing of the United Nations headquarters in Baghdad, Iraq. That bombing claimed 22 lives.

This year, the day is being marked with a global campaign: 'The World Needs More Humanitarian Heroes'. It aims to draw global attention to the scope and scale of humanitarian crises facing communities around the world, and of the life-saving work of humanitarians in all corners of the globe. It is a day to celebrate the spirit that inspires humanitarian work around the globe. I believe this is an excellent opportunity to celebrate the work of our humanitarian colleagues, particularly our Yemeni colleagues.

A key aspect of the campaign this year is the creation of Messengers of Humanity - a community of global advocates that will be called upon to take action on major crises and events by sharing inspiring content on social networks. In the lead up to World Humanitarian Day on 19 August, thousands of engaged individuals are being recruited by OCHA online, asking them “to take action in the name of humanity”.

The Messengers of Humanity recruitment drive on social media was launched on 30 July. It was followed by the launch of a promotional film on 1 August, a media teaser campaign to generate public awareness on 4 August, a Website launch; traditional and social media launch of WHD campaign and the distribution of videos highlighting the work of aid workers.

In Yemen, World Humanitarian Day is an opportunity to remember humanitarian workers, especially Yemeni nationals, who are doing a tremendous job of delivering critical life-saving assistance to millions of people in need. In Amran, for example, humanitarian partners have distributed one-time assistance – mainly food and hygiene kits – to about 5,000 families who were displaced by recent conflict. Yemeni men and women are making tremendous efforts to assist the people in desperate need across the country. Often working in remote or insecure areas, they face danger and difficult circumstances to deliver much needed assistance. This they often do regardless of the risks they face.

The scale of humanitarian needs in Yemen makes the country one of the largest humanitarian emergencies globally. The crisis is characterized by widespread insecurity, large-scale displacement, civil strife, political instability, chronic food shortages, a breakdown of social services, endemic poverty, migrant and refugee influxes. Since 2012, the presence and access of UN and NGO partners has increased, along with an increase in the activities of organisations from the Gulf Region and increased involvement of Yemeni organisations in the Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan.

We have able to scale up the operation thanks to Yemeni and international NGOs. A key point of our common humanitarian strategy in Yemen is to build the capacity of national and local organisations to increasingly take on humanitarian work. We see this as important to reduce dependency and ensure that there is adequate capacity in Yemen to deal with humanitarian challenges.

The outlook for the humanitarian situation in 2014 and beyond remains precarious. Extreme poverty, volatile food and commodity prices and an increased cost of living will further reduce access to food, basic services and livelihoods for millions of Yemenis. This situation will be compounded by localized conflict and limited capacity of basic social services.
Yemen Celebrates World Population Day


During the press conference, Dr. Ahmed Borgi, Secretary General of the National Population Council, called on giving youth more attention giving the fact that youth representation is significantly increasing as the number of youth in Yemen has increased in 2014 to 8.8 million consisting 33.8% of the total population. He stressed on the importance of paying attention to youth in terms of health, education, rehabilitation and capacity building so they could productively contribute to economic and social development process.

Dr. Borgi shed light on the positive results demonstrated through the 2013 Demographic and Health Survey indicating that such positive indicators fall in line with goals of the National Population Strategy in terms of decreasing the maternal mortality, birth rate, and fertility rate.

On his part, Mr. Himyar Abdulmoghi, UNFPA Assistant Representative, delivered a speech on behalf of UNFPA Representative to Yemen, Ms. Lene K. Christiansen. Dr. Abdulmoghi explained the importance of the theme of the World Population Day 2014: “This year and in keeping with UNFPA’s focus on adolescent well-being, and to help include young people issue in the post-2015 development agenda, the theme of World Population Day 2014 is Investing in Young People.”

Mr. Abdulmoghi emphasized that adolescents and youth are central to the future development agenda and that young people, especially adolescent girls, are at the heart of UNFPA work and activities. “Working with a multitude of partners, in particular young people themselves, UNFPA is advocating for policies and programmes that invest in adolescents and youth and fostering a positive environment for them; promoting their access to comprehensive sexuality education as well as quality sexual and reproductive health services, including family planning; and facilitating their leadership and participation. We are doing this with an emphasis on reaching the poorest, most marginalized and underserved adolescent girls”, Dr Abdulmoghi stated.

A presentation was screened illustrating a number of indicators on the situation of adolescents and youth in Yemen and their knowledge and attitudes towards reproductive health and family planning, as well as their position in the national population policy.

The event was attended by Member of Parliament, Mr. Abdulbari Doghaish, academics, representatives of international NGOs and government institutions and a number of media outlets.
MUN Workshop in Tokyo, Japan  
from 22-24 November 2014

Following the success of three Global Model UN Conferences from 2009-2011, the Education Outreach Section within DPI has embarked on a new path to support Model UN Programmes around the world. Starting in August 2012, we organized our first Model UN Workshop for students and MUN advisers who organize MUN conferences around the world. Since then we have run workshops in Vienna, Baku, and Seoul. This year we will organizing training sessions in Rome, Doha, Beijing and Tokyo.

We are writing to request that you announce the call of applications to the workshop we are organizing in Tokyo, Japan in partnership with Meiji University and the UN Information Centre in Tokyo from 22-24 November 2014. All of the information concerning the application process and eligibility requirements for the workshop is available on the UN4MUN website: outreach.un.org/mun.

The workshop will focus on giving students and MUN advisors a basic understanding of the General Assembly’s Rules of Procedure, the discussion and action phases of General Assembly Committee meetings, what you need to know when drafting resolutions, the duties and responsibilities of the UN Secretariat and General Assembly officials, the negotiation process that takes place during informal meetings, how consensus is achieved, the Security Council’s Provisional Rules of Procedure, and more.

The aim of the workshops is to examine how Model UN simulations can more accurately capture the negotiation process as it commonly occurs at the UN.

Since the workshop is open to international students, we are reaching out to all UNICs to request your assistance in broadcasting the launch of the application process. All inquiries can be addressed to Bill Yotive (yotive@un.org) or education-outreach@un.org.

UN support to justice sector…..

He noted that the strong and professional judiciary is the surest guarantee of human rights, affirming the need to establish an electronic system connecting courts, prosecution offices and police stations via an information network to allow following-up cases and guarantee human rights.

For his part, the OHCHR's official expressed the UN's keenness to support the efforts of the transition process in Yemen and the reform and development of its judicial agencies in order to achieve the desired goals in making the future of the new Yemen.
On World Humanitarian Day, we renew our commitment to life-saving relief efforts -- and we remember all those who died serving this noble cause. Last year, more humanitarian workers were kidnapped, seriously injured or killed than ever before. This is an outrage.

In recent weeks, dozens of humanitarians -- including members of the UN family -- have lost their lives in South Sudan and Gaza. Too many people have died or suffered from deliberate attacks.

Humanitarian workers and their families are hit hardest by these crimes.

But they are also felt by millions of others.

Attacks on humanitarian workers hinder the ability of people in desperate need to receive lifesaving assistance.

Children go unvaccinated. Sick and wounded patients go untreated. Those forced from their homes are left without food, water or shelter – exposed to violence, disease or other threats.

On World Humanitarian Day, we honour the heroic aid workers who rush bravely to help people in need.

We remember their sacrifices, and we recognize the millions of people who count on humanitarian workers for their very survival.

Let us honour the fallen by protecting those who carry on their work – and supporting humanitarian relief operations worldwide.