On the occasion of the United Nations Day, 24 October

By UN Resident Coordinator in Yemen, Mr. Paolo Lembo

The United Nations is an organization bringing together all member states and their people, and is the largest intergovernmental organization in the world. 24 October has been celebrated as UN Day since 1948. The day marks the anniversary of the entry into force of the UN Charter in 1945. With the ratification of this founding document by the majority of its signatories, the United Nations officially came into being. Yemen joined the UN at the very early stages of the organization's life and has throughout history been a strong supporter of it. As we this year mark the UN day, we remember the basic foundation on which this organization, an organization by the people of the world - for the people of the world, is founded. The first purpose of the UN is to maintain international peace and security. UN is established to bring about peace in conformity with principles of justice and international law.

The second principle is to develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, and to take other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace. The third principle is to achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character, and promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion.

Lastly, UN aims to be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of these common ends. The principles outlined in the UN Charter are also the foundation for the work of the UN in Yemen. We recognize that in order to reach peace and justice, people need to have their basic needs met, be able to live dignified lives and have their human rights respected and protected. The UN has 18 agencies and around 1000 staff, mostly Yemenis themselves, present in the country. We aim at supporting you, the people of Yemen, in addressing the various challenges you are facing at this particular time, and the impact these have on your everyday life and future prospects.

Despite challenges, you have proven resilient. In the midst of a difficult political and economic context and uncertainties, you live on with your lives and strive towards a better future for yourselves and generations to come. This persistence and commitment has made a great impression on me. I firmly believe that Yemen will again rise to better serve, support and protect all its people in a prosperous Yemen, as it has been known in the past. We as the UN, by you and for you, will remain in Yemen and work alongside you until such a reality is reached and enjoyed by all the people living in this country.

Hadi congratulates Ki-moon on UN Day

22/October/2014 President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi sent on Wednesday a cable of congratulations to the Secretary-General of the United Nations Ban Ki-moon on the occasion of the United Nations Day. The UN Day marks on 24 October the anniversary of the entry into force in 1945 of the UN Charter. With the ratification of this founding document by the majority of its signatories, including the five permanent members of the Security Council, the United Nations officially came into being. 24 October has been celebrated as United Nations Day since 1948.
Yemen, UNDP sign $9.8 mln project to eliminate ghost workers

Yemen and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) have signed a document of the "Strengthening Civil Service and Human Resources Management Project (SHRM)".

The three year project is estimated to cost around US$9.8 million and aims to address the general structure of the public service in Yemen as well as the issue of ghost workers and double dippers.

The project will establish a web-based public sector biometric central database, consolidating all public human resources databases and all public sector staff data and eliminate double dippers and ghost workers from the public sector.

It also aims to create a professional, organized and responsive public sector human resources management environment with legal policy, templates, guidelines and procedures, progressively consolidates organization structure of the public sector in Yemen, at the central, federal, regional, and local levels.

Technical assistance will be provided to support the Ministry of Civil Service in updating and modernizing Human Resources Procedures and Guidelines, as well as formulation of a new Human Resources Manual and assuring that all key stakeholders are restructuring their internal organizations in line with anticipated requirements.

Mohammad al-Saadi, Minister of Civil Service Nabil Shamsan and UNDP Country Director Ms. Mikiko Tanaka.

The UNDP and Ministries of Planning, Water and Environment have signed a Project Document "Yemen's National Preparation for Post-2015 Climate Agreement".

The project aims to identify Yemen's contributions to the post-2015 global climate agreement known as 'Intended Nationally Determined Contributions'.

It also aims to strengthen Yemen's preparation for United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of Parties (COP21) negotiations on Government of Yemen's intentions that leading to the post-2020 agreement.

The project will also support the Yemeni government's efforts to fulfill its commitments towards the recent decision adopted by UNFCCC COP19 in Warsaw, in November 2013.

Yemen, WFP discuss food security support

23/October/2014

Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Mohamed al-Saadi discussed on Thursday with the World Food Programme (WFP) Regional Director Mohamed Diab the cooperation between Yemen and the programme.

The two sides dealt with ways of supporting the Yemeni government's efforts aimed to achieve food security in Yemen.

Al-Saadi affirmed that achieving the food security in Yemen is one of the urgent entitlements and challenges facing the government, stressing the importance of supporting Yemen to implement the national strategy to achieve food security. Moreover, the two sides reviewed a number of the WFP-funded projects in Yemen, as well as the trends of WFP's current and future support for Yemen.
H.E. Katsuyoshi Hayashi, Ambassador of Japan to Yemen, visited Aden for the first time since 1980. Japan’s support to southern Governorates extends to a wide array of interventions towards the stabilization and economic recovery of the region including returning Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). With the generous support of the Government of Japan, UNICEF supported school rehabilitation, therapeutic health and nutrition centers and water and sanitation projects for thousands of children, parents, and teachers. The Japanese Embassy is also addressing youth unemployment and the need to create sustainable employment opportunities as well as stimulate entrepreneurship by supporting UNDP’s upscale of the 3x6 approach in both Aden and in Abyan. In Aden, the Embassy further participates to the need to secure political support for the Commission to Consider and Address Land Issues and the Commission on Forcibly Dismissed Employees addressing the key necessity to implement transitional justice. Mine Action support brings land clearing and new livelihood opportunities in addition to enhancing human security.
Yemen, FAO discuss improving agriculture in Tihama

28/October/2014

Yemen and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) discussed here on Tuesday the possibility to implement Tihama Basin Management Project. The project aims to improve crop production and promote sustainable management of water resources in Tihama area.

During his meeting with a FAO delegation headed by Strategic Advisor Water Jaap van der Velden, Hodeida governor Sakher al-Wajih indicted to the importance of FAO's support and projects in the fields of agriculture and management of irrigation water resources, which - he said - will assist in developing agricultural projects and encouraging farmers to achieve sustainability of their agricultural projects.

The project, which will be financed by the Dutch Embassy and implemented by FAO as from February 2015, will help to improve crop productivity through society participation in the project implementation, he added.

Al-Wajih hailed the Dutch Embassy's constant support for Yemen to implement various projects, which has achieved a great success during the last period, confirming the government's adherence to promote the agriculture sector in the governorate and continue to support farmers to develop their various agricultural crops.

For his part, FAO Advisor said that the project will focus on farmers.

Yemen, UNHCR agree to encourage voluntary return of refugees

02/October/2014

Deputy Foreign Minister - Head of National Committee for Refugees - Amir al-Aidarous met on Thursday in Geneva with UN High Commissioner for Refugees Antonio Gutierrez.

It was agreed, during the meeting, to start the implementation of a pilot project to encourage the voluntary return of refugees who wish to return to safe areas in their home, with taking advantage of the Kenyan experience in this regard.

The two sides also discussed the possibility of establishing a registration and examination center for refugees arriving in Yemen.

The meeting touched on aspects of the cooperation between Yemen and the UNHCR and ways to strengthen support for Yemen to face the increasing burden due to the growing influx of refugees from the Horn of Africa into its territory as well as the increasing numbers of internally displaced persons as a result of the events in Yemen.

Gutierrez expressed the UNHCR's appreciation for the continued efforts of the Yemeni government to care for the refugees despite the political, economic and security challenges and difficulties facing Yemen.
Fellowship Background and Overview

On 22 April 2004, the United Nations and The Nippon Foundation of Japan concluded a trust fund project agreement to provide capacity-building and human resource development to developing States Parties and non-Parties to UNCLOS through a new Fellowship Programme. The Programme is executed by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DOALOS) of the Office of Legal Affairs.

The objective of the fellowship is to provide opportunities for advanced education and research in the field of ocean affairs and the law of the sea, and related disciplines including marine science in support of management frameworks, to Government officials and other mid-level professionals from developing States, so that they may obtain the necessary knowledge to assist their countries to formulate comprehensive ocean policy and to implement the legal regime set out in UNCLOS and related instruments.

Upon completion of the fellowship, fellows should have an advanced awareness and understanding of key issues and best international practices in ocean affairs and are expected to return to their home-countries to contribute their experience to assist with the effective implementation of UNCLOS and related instruments and programmes. Fellows should be able to design, implement and/or evaluate specific improvement projects in their home countries related to ocean affairs, develop a core leadership capacity and have an in-depth understanding of legal frameworks, methodologies and tools to further improve implementation of instruments and programmes and to provide for their effective enforcement in conformity with international law.

Programme Structure

The 9-month Fellowship Programme is composed of two consecutive phases which provide Fellows with advanced and customized research and training opportunities in their chose fields:

- Phase One: 3-month Research and Training - normally undertaken at DOALOS at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.
- Phase Two: 6-month Advanced Academic Research and Study - undertaken at one of the prestigious participating Host Institutions and under the guidance of subject matter expert(s) who have recognized in-depth expertise in the Fellows' chosen field of study.

Programme Information Pages

Decision of the Selection Committee for the 2015 session of the Fellowship Programme

All 2014 Fellows have successfully completed the first-phase of their programme and have commenced their second phase at the respective host academic institutions.

The United Nations - The Nippon Foundation of Japan Fellows contribute to a United Nations publication entitled "How oceans and seas-related measures contribute to the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development: Local and regional experiences", launched on the occasion of World Oceans Day 2014.
Yemen receive support for the preparation of national paper to address climate change

30 Oct 2014

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Government of Yemen represented by Ministries of Planning, Water and Environment have signed a Project Document “Yemen’s National Preparation for Post-2015 Climate Agreement” at the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation. This project has two interrelated objectives: 1) Identify Yemen’s contributions to the post-2015 global climate agreement known as “Intended Nationally Determined Contributions”; and 2) Strengthen Yemen’s preparation for United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of Parties (COP21) negotiations on Government of Yemen’s intentions that leading to the post-2020 agreement. This project will also support Government of Yemen efforts to fulfill its commitments towards the recent decision adopted by UNFCCC COP19 in Warsaw, in November 2013.

Moreover, the project will further assist in increasing public awareness on climate change issues besides supporting efforts of mainstreaming climate change considerations into ongoing and future national planning frameworks as well as respective sectoral policies and strategies. Furthermore, this project will be closely coordinated with the current ongoing Third National Communication and Biannual Update Report initiative in order to ensure coherent of actions for effective development cooperation and partnership to address climate change and produce multi-dimensional results. The key output of this project in the form of “Intended Nationally Determined Contributions Paper” has to be ready before June 2015 for submission to global climate change conference. This initiative is estimated to cost US$ 100,000, which has been provided by United Nations Development Programme/Global Environment Facility.

The signing ceremony was attended by officials from the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, Ministry of Water and Environment, and Environmental Protection Authority (EPA), and UNDP.
In relation to this year’s United Nations Day, we are pleased to invite amateur and professional poets, photographers and film makers to participate in the United Nations Yemen Creativity Competition under the theme “Your Rights - Your Future”.

Results will be announced on the International Human Rights Day on 10 December 2014. Three winners will be selected. The prizes are 4000$ for winning video, 2000$ for winning photo, and 2000$ for winning poem.

To participate, please send your work to un2014cc@gmail.com before 26 November 2014.

Competition Rules We recommend all entrants read the rules carefully before participating.

1. The competition is open to anyone living in Yemen aged 18 or more at the time of entering. Women are encouraged to participate.
2. The closing date of the competition is midnight (Yemen time), 25 November 2014.
3. Entries should be related to the theme of the United Nations Yemen Creativity Competition “Your Rights – Your Future”.
4. The entry must be an original compositions which has not been published before.
5. Entries should only be by e-mail and accompanied by a filled entry form. One entry form should be submitted with each entry.
6. Entries will not be returned, so please keep a copy.
7. Phone or email confirmation of receipt will not be sent, so please ensure you send the correct file.
8. All entries are judged confidentially by a professional jury.
9. There is no limit on the number of entries a single entrant can make.
10. No current employee of the United Nations in Yemen is eligible to participate.
11. Offensive entries will not be considered. 24. Unsuccessful participants will not be contacted.

Rules: Poems
All poems must have a title and must not exceed 40 lines in length (excluding title). Entries should be submitted in word format. Entries must be written in Arabic.

The entry form must be filled and submitted along with the poem.

Rules: Photography
The photo should be of high resolution quality, as large as possible and MINIMUM 1240x880 pixels. The entry form must be filled and submitted along with the photo.

Rules: Videos
Prize winners will be notified by the beginning of December 2014 and invited to an award ceremony on the International Human Rights Day 10 December 2014.

All winners will be required to provide a biography and a portrait photo. The copyright of each entry remains with the author/photographer/producer. However, the author/photographer/producer, by entering the competition, grant the United Nations the right to publish and/or broadcast their entries while giving credit to the entrant.
The United Nations is needed more than ever at this time of multiple crises. Poverty, disease, terrorism, discrimination and climate change are exacting a heavy toll. Millions of people continue to suffer deplorable exploitation through bonded labour, human trafficking, sexual slavery or unsafe conditions in factories, fields and mines. The global economy remains an uneven playing field.

The founding of the United Nations was a solemn pledge to the world’s people to end such assaults on human dignity, and lead the way to a better future. There have been painful setbacks, and there is much work ahead to realize the Charter’s vision. But we can take heart from our achievements.

The UN Millennium Development Goals have inspired the most successful anti-poverty campaign ever. United Nations treaties addressing inequality, torture and racism have protected people, while other agreements have safeguarded the environment. UN peacekeepers have separated hostile forces, our mediators have settled disputes and our humanitarian workers have delivered life-saving aid.

At this critical moment, let us reaffirm our commitment to empowering the marginalized and vulnerable. On United Nations Day, I call on Governments and individuals to work in common cause for the common good.