

*The Republic of Yemen is located in the south of the Arabian Peninsula between latitudes (12-20) degrees north of the equator, and longitudes (14-54) degrees east of the Greenwich line. It is bordered by the kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the north, the Arabian Sea and the Gulf of Aden to the south, the Sultanate of Oman to the east, and the Red Sea to the west. The island of Sukatra and its adjacent islets lie in the Arabian Sea. The Red Sea harbors the majority of Yemeni islands which form a kind of archipelago adjacent to Yemen's coast. The island of Kamran is the largest and most important Yemeni island in the Red Sea. The area of Yemen is estimated at (474,580)\* square kilometers, and the country is naturally divided into five regions: mountains, plateaus, coast, the Empty Quarter (desert) and the Yemeni islands. The population of the Republic of Yemen is (21,104,100) inhabitants according to the population projections for the year 2003, with a growth rate amounting to (3.5%), one of the highest in the world. The population of Yemen is scattered over twenty governorates and the capital's administrative district. The distribution rates are (26.5%) in urban areas and (73.5%) in rural areas. Of the Yemeni population (50.15%) are males and (49.85%) are females.*

*The constitution of the Republic of Yemen emphasizes a number of essential principles, some of which are:*

## **Economic Provisions**

- The economic system is based on the principle of the liberty of economic activity and freedom of trade and investment in the service of the national economy. The purpose is to ensure equality for individuals and society, strengthen national independence based on the ideals of social justice in economic relations and provide social solidarity and equilibrium, equality of opportunities, raising the standard of living in society; fair competition between the various economic sectors: public, private, cooperative, mixed; and achieving equal treatment among all sectors and guaranteeing and respecting private property.

– *The Republic of Yemen is a sovereign independent Islamic country; unified and indivisible and no part of it may be ceded. The Yemeni people are part of the Arab and Islamic nations. Islam is the religion of the state and the Islamic sharia' is the source of all legislation. Arabic is the country's official language.*

– *Authority in the Republic of Yemen is based on the principle of popular sovereignty, considering that the people are the owner and source of authority which the people exercise directly through plebiscites and public elections. The people exercise it also indirectly through legislative and judicial authorities and by way of elected local councils.*

– *Yemen is a constitutional state practicing partisan and political plurality for the purpose of peaceful transfer of power.*

– *According to the constitution, the government bases its international relations on the recognition and application of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Charter of the League of Arab States, and the tenets of international law.*

*The constitution contains a number of provisions according to which the facets of economic, social and cultural life are organized.*

– *The economic policy of the state is based on scientific economic planning to guarantee the best possible exploitation of all resources, the development and improvement of capacities of all business sectors in the fields of economic and social development.*

– *The state encourages cooperative work and savings, guarantees and promotes the formation of cooperative institutions and activities in all forms. Law defines the level of salaries, pensions, compensations, assistance and gratifications to be paid by the state treasury.*

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\* [www.presidentsaleh.gov.ye](http://www.presidentsaleh.gov.ye)

- Public funds and properties are inviolable and the state and all members of society have the obligation to preserve and protect these. Every abuse or transgression thereon is regarded as an act of sabotage and aggression against society. Public confiscation of funds is prohibited and private seizure is not permissible except by judicial verdict.

## Social and Cultural Provisions

- The Yemeni society is founded on the principle of social solidarity which is based on justice, freedom and equality. Family is the foundation of society and its guiding values are religion, morals, and patriotism. The law protects the entity of the family and strives to strengthen its bonds.

- The state guarantees the equality of opportunities to all citizens, politically, economically, socially and culturally.

- Education, health and social services are basic cornerstones for the development and progress of society. Society participates with the state in the provision of these services.

- The state guarantees the freedom of scientific research and cultural, artistic and literary achievement and provides the means necessary for that purpose. It encourages artistic and scientific innovation and excellence, and protects the products thereof.

- Work is a right, an honor and a necessity for the development of society. Every citizen has the right to practice the work he (she) chooses in return for a fair wage.

- The state protects motherhood and childhood, and provides care to children and youth.

- The protection of the environment is a responsibility of the state and society; it is also a religious and national duty for every citizen.

Furthermore, the constitution underlined a number of principles related to the rights and obligations of every citizen, the most important of which are the principle of equality in public rights and obligations, the principle of participation in the economic, political, social and cultural life; the principle of practicing the right to vote and to nominate and express opinion; the principle of having a nationality which cannot be suspended or withdrawn; the principle of impermissibility to extradite any Yemeni citizen to a foreign authority; and the principle preventing the extradition of political refugees. The constitution contains a number of items concerned with the protection of the right of persons to security and public life. The law specified punishments for those who infringe these principles and defined appropriate compensa-

tion for damages that may befall a person as a result of infringement. Physical or psychological torture upon arrest, during detention or imprisonment is considered a crime that is not subject to prescription; and every person who practices, orders or participates in torture is punishable. The most important of these are: the principle of personal criminal responsibility, the principle of not indicting and punishing except by verdict; and the principle of innocence until proven guilty.

## Powers of the State

### A) The Legislative Power

#### 1. The Chamber of Deputies

The Chamber of Deputies is the legislative branch of the state and has the responsibility to decide on laws and approve the general policy of the state, the general plan for economic and social development, the overall budget and the final accounting. It supervises the executive branch in accordance with the constitution that endows the chamber with a number of supervisory prerogatives that include summoning ministers or the Council of Ministers as a whole to request clarifications on issues raised by the deputies. One of the prerogatives of the chamber is to withdraw confidence from the executive branch. The Chamber of Deputies is composed of (301) members elected by secret, direct, egalitarian, general elections. The Republic is divided into equal electoral districts in terms of the number of people in each, with a margin of tolerance amounting to (5%) plus or minus. Every district elects one deputy who represents the whole people, serves the public interest, and whose deputation is not subjected to any binds or conditions. The tenure of the chamber consists of six solar years beginning with the date of its first meeting. The President of the Republic calls upon voters to elect a new chamber no less than (60) days before the expiration of the current tenure. In its first meeting which has to take place within two weeks at the most after the declaration of the election results, and in response to the request of the President of the Republic, the chamber elects from among its members a chairman and three vice-chairmen who constitute together the council of the presidency of the chamber. The chamber takes its resolutions by absolute majority of present members, except in cases where the constitution or the internal charter of the chamber call for a special majority.

The chamber holds public sessions, but may hold secret sessions at the request of its speaker,

the President of the Republic or at least twenty of its members. It holds two regular sessions every year. It is composed of (19) permanent committees including the Committee for Human Rights and Public Freedoms. Every committee consists of eleven to fifteen members, and deputies have the right to join these operative committees that enjoy a great importance since they focus on specific areas that provide the possibility of detailed examination of subjects falling within their competence. The recommendations of committees are crucial and influential in the decision making process of the chamber.

The Republic of Yemen has witnessed since its establishment four Chambers of Deputies:

1. Chamber of Deputies for the transitional period between 22 May 1990 and 27 April 1993. This was the first parliament to be constituted after the founding of the Republic of Yemen, and it included the members of the former Consultative Council of the previous Yemen Arab Republic (159) members and of the Higher Peoples' Assembly of the former Popular Democratic Republic of Yemen (111) members, in addition to (31) members representing social and political personalities, appointed by decision of the Council of Presidency.
2. Chamber of Deputies for the period between 27 April 1993 and 27 April 1997. All members were elected directly by the people.
3. Chamber of Deputies for the period 27 April 1997 to 27 April 2003. All members were elected directly by the people.
4. Chamber of Deputies for the period 27 April 2003 to 27 April 2009. All members were elected directly by the people.

## **2. Consultative Council**

The Consultative Council was formed in accordance with constitutional amendments introduced in 2001 and it replaced the former Advisory Assembly. The Consultative Council is not a legislative authority, but it exercises constitutional functions as per article (125) of the constitution. It is composed of (111) members appointed by the President of the Republic for a period of five years to enlarge participation in offering counsel and to benefit from national capacities and experience, since the members are selected among outstanding personalities from all parts of the country, with their own experience in political and social issues. The council encompasses several specialized committees including the Committee for Human Rights and Public Freedoms. What distinguishes the Consultative Council from its predecessor (the Advisory Assembly) is that it was given many con-

stitutional prerogatives, notably participation with the Chamber of Deputies in approving candidates for the post of President of the Republic, approving plans for economic and social development, treaties and agreements related to defense, alliances, peace and borders. It is required to comment on proposals presented by the President of the Republic and oversee the well-being of the media, organizations of civic society and the experiment of local authority. It submits proposals on the development and improvement of their functioning and reviews the reports of the Office of Audit and Accountability; and informs the President of the Republic of its findings.

## **B) Executive Power**

The executive power is composed of two branches: the Presidency of the State and the Prime Ministry. Article (105) stipulates that the President of the Republic and the Council of Ministers exercise executive power on behalf of the people within the limits specified by the constitution.

### **1. President of the Republic**

This is the head of the state, elected in accordance with the constitution; and he appoints a Vice-President. The President of the Republic is elected by the people in competitive elections, and the candidate receiving the absolute majority of votes is the winner. If no candidate receives this majority, the elections are repeated according to the same rules for the two candidates who had received the higher numbers of votes.

The duties of the President of the Republic are to represent the will of the people, respect the constitution and law, protect national unity and the principles and goals of the Yemeni Revolution; abide by the peaceful transfer of power, supervise the application of sovereignty tasks related to the defense of the Republic and its foreign policy. The President is required to exercise his authorities in the manner specified by the constitution, and the term of the Presidency of the Republic is seven solar years beginning with the date of swearing the constitutional oath. No person is allowed to hold the post of President for more than two terms (every term extends for only seven years). The President of the Republic fulfills a number of functions including: calling on voters to elect a Chamber of Deputies in the prescribed date, calling for general plebiscites, appointing a Prime Minister to form the government, and issuing the Republican decree confirming the appointment of its members. The President defines, in cooperation with the government, the general policy of the state and oversees its implementation

in accordance with the constitution. He enacts laws approved by the Chamber of Deputies and issues the accompanying executive decrees. He takes decisions concerning the ratification of treaties approved by the Chamber of Deputies and approves granting the right of political asylum.

## **2. Council of Ministers**

The Council of Ministers is the government of the Republic of Yemen. It is the highest executive and administrative authority of the state, and all executive departments, services and institutions of the state - without exception- are under its authority. The Council of Ministers is formed by the political party that has received the majority of parliamentary votes following all competitive elections. The government is composed of the Prime Minister, his deputies and the ministers. The law defines the general rules for the organization of the ministries and the various departments of the state. The Prime Minister selects the members of his government in consultation with the President of the Republic. The government attains confidence after swearing the constitutional oath in front of the President of the Republic and submitting its programme to the Chamber of Deputies for approval. The Council of Ministers takes the appropriate measures to preserve the internal and external security of the state, protect the rights of citizens, approves treaties and agreements before their submission to the Chamber of Deputies or the President of the Republic. The Prime Minister represents the Council in implementing the general policy of the state and supervises the execution of decisions taken by the Council of Ministers. The President of the Republic and the Chamber of Deputies have the right to summon the Prime Minister, his deputies or the ministers for investigation and trial for crimes they may have committed while carrying out their functions, or as a result thereof. A decision by the Chamber of Deputies to raise charges is taken by a proposal presented by at least one fifth of the members. Formal accusations cannot be made except with a majority of two thirds of the council's members. Investigation and trial are conducted as prescribed by law. The Chamber of Deputies grants the Council of Ministers a vote of confidence based on a programme submitted to the Chamber.

The programme of the government formed in 2003 relied in its orientation on principles related to public freedoms and human rights. It stressed that securing human rights is an objective of the process of establishing a state of institutions and building a free pluralistic society and ensuring a decent life for the Yemeni citizen.

The government programme emphasized the necessity of efforts for institution building to ensure a better future after an epoch rich in national achievements in the fields of democracy and human rights that were realized through the unification of the Yemeni homeland. The programme underlines the principles and the practice of human rights through a continuous effort to improve the standard of public freedoms, human rights, and the means to a secure and decent life for citizens. It also stressed the need to raise the consciousness of citizens in their political rights and the values guaranteed by law in terms of rights and freedom.

The programme called for realizing the values of freedom and human rights through the continued empowerment of all Yemenis to choose their representatives in the various constitutional institutions and the components of local authority. It stressed the need to supervise the functioning of these authorities by the citizens in accordance with their constitutional rights, and encouraged the media to perform their role in criticism, supervision and raising public political awareness. It also called on private and partisan media to safeguard the plurality of opinions and to give special attention to the rejection of violence, extremism and terrorism; and to enlarge the scope of democratic practice as a confirmation of their respect for freedom of opinion and non- monopolization of the truth. The media were also requested to respect the political rights of the opposition in its quest to compete and express its points of view by all means guaranteed by law, and to institutionalize respect for the rules of transparency and responsibility in a manner that facilitates institutional and popular scrutiny of executive authorities, and strengthens the role of supervisory institutions independent from the government. The media were further called upon to reflect and strengthen the performance of the Ministry of Human Rights for a continuous revision of actions and policies in order to guarantee the sanctity of human rights and public freedoms from any governmental action, and to reinforce the role and participation of women by continued coverage of women's issues and their contributions to public life, notably in the economic and political domains. The media have the task to project future needs in terms of education and training of women, and to include poor women in the programmes and mechanisms of the social security network. An additional task is to support institutions dealing with women issues, governmental or non-governmental, and to review legislative actions concerned with the participation of women in the public economic life in a manner that enables them to reconcile the functions of moth-

erhood with participation in the task of developing society. Another requirement is encouraging education and training for women to increase their participation in the labor force and in the centers of political planning and decision making, as well as directing the cultural and journalistic message toward correcting social views and positions prejudiced against women. The government programme, dealing with institutions of civic society, emphasized the importance of strengthening cooperation with professional and creative organizations of civic society to raise democratic awareness and enlarge public participation, define and execute programmes to allow institutions of civic society to take part in various economic and developmental activities, and develop the role of these institutions in the economic, social and political life of the country.

### **3. Local Authority**

The transition toward decentralization represents the ideal choice for enlarging the participation of local communities in defining and executing comprehensive developmental policies, from the premise of an exact definition of citizens' needs and prompt response thereto. This guarantees the delivery of services to remote and rural areas and the creation of new job opportunities as a contribution to combating poverty and improving the standard of living of citizens. It is also important to establish the grounds for democratic action through political participation and the development of human rights, which helps achieve the purposes and objectives of human development. To complement the legislative structure of the local authority, law nr (4) for the year 2004 was enacted. It was amended by law nr (71) for the year 2000 and the law nr (25) for the year 2000 and Presidential decision (269) for the year 2001 concerning the executive charter of the local authority. The Council of Ministers issued law nr (283) for the year 2001 specifying the values and limits of local and joint taxes at the governorate level. The real value of local resources allotted to each unit of the local authority was established, and Presidential decision (265) for the year 2001 contained the organizational chart of the administrations of governorates and districts. The chart contained the basic rules of the organization of the administrations at the level of governorate and district. It regularized the joint tasks of administrative units in the offices of the governorates and districts, a step that was regarded as a significant development in the institutional structure of the state. The tasks and functions of local councils and their relationships with the central authority were specified, and the law on local authority determined the resources

allotted to local councils. The year 2001 is considered as the beginning of institutional change in Yemeni society toward administrative and fiscal decentralization. The first elections for local councils were held on 22 February 2001 in all governorates and districts of the Republic. Presidential decision (264) was issued to constitute a higher committee under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister to support and develop decentralization. A technical sub-committee was attached to act as a technical secretariat.

The local councils in the districts were entrusted with a set of duties and prerogatives, mainly to discuss public issues of citizens and to identify their wishes, needs, and grievances, and to analyze and evaluate these for the purpose of detailed reporting to the local councils and other competent authorities. Another task is presenting adequate recommendations to reinforce the protection of rights and freedoms and the preservation of public and private assets of social, professional and artistic character; and providing all necessary assistance to these. Every member of the local authority at the level of governorate and district has the right to pose questions to the head of the administrative unit or any other executive service therein, in accordance with the law. Members have also the right to supervise the implementation of environmental policies and legislation and to take the necessary measures for the protection of the environment. Furthermore, they are entitled to propose organizational criteria and rules for the participation of citizens in the delivery of services, to supervise programmes for the eradication of illiteracy and to encourage citizens to join these in accordance with the requirement of compulsory education and the provision of health care in the school. Local councils throughout the Republic hold an annual conference at the invitation of the Prime Minister to discuss and evaluate the system, how local authority is working and the means to support and improve it. Participants present proposals to develop legislation that regulates the system and discuss the level of social and economic improvement realized through the experiment of local authority. Another topic is the possibility to move toward electing the heads of local councils from among the elected members. Other tasks of the local councils include improving the status of women, caring for motherhood and childhood and benefiting from population studies in the developmental process. Another task is a fair distribution of projects and an equitable demographic balance. Improving the status of women socially, economically and culturally and encouraging their participation in development are additional functions of the local councils, likewise the approval of plans and

programmes for advocating the objectives and benefits of the administration, and execution of service oriented projects through community efforts. The councils are also charged with studying and reviewing problems related to the level of implementation in projects dealing with social welfare, social security and the execution of social surveys in the field for programmes of social protection and combating poverty through income generating projects. Part of this effort is eliminating mendicancy and harboring the homeless, encouraging local initiatives and supporting small and artisanal industries. Local councils are responsible for improving the performance of farmers through programmes of agricultural guidance and education, and for implementing agricultural projects covering irrigation, animal husbandry and fisheries. Furthermore, the councils are charged with the establishment of centers for the rehabilitation of the disabled and the deaf-mute, as well as care homes for orphans, the infirm, aged and blind; and youth hostels and camps. Other functions are encouraging eradication of illiteracy and adult education, supporting care centers for mothers and children, family planning, community development, and assistance to productive families. Further tasks are establishing primary health care centers, rural health centers, the provision of safe water, health care and sanitary disposal of waste water. An important function of local councils is keeping civil status records for citizens, namely marriages, divorce, births, deaths and issuing personal and family identity papers.

In the framework of existing cooperation between the Ministry of Human Rights and the Ministry of Local Authority, the latter issued in August 2004 instructions appointing the head of the social affairs committee in the governorates' local council as human rights coordinator within the governorate, in order to strengthen the role of local councils in bolstering and protecting human rights. This coordinator was charged with the task of receiving and reviewing complaints and following up with the relevant authorities in the governorate concerning the measures that need to be taken. The human rights coordinator submits periodic reports to the Governor and the Ministry of Human Rights on all violations of human rights in the governorate and actions taken in their regard.

### C) Judicial Power

The judiciary is an independent authority, legally, financially and administratively; and the public prosecution is one of its branches. Courts adjudicate all disputes and crimes, and judges are independent and

law is the only authority that reigns over their judgeship. No party whatsoever may interfere in any way in court cases or any matter related to justice. Any such interference is considered a crime punishable by law and is not subject to prescription. The judiciary is one complete entity, and law regulates the judicial departments and their levels, and defines their functions. It also specifies the qualifications required for a person to hold a judicial post and the conditions and procedures of appointing judges, transferring and promoting them; as well as the guarantees they are entitled to. Under no circumstances may exceptional courts be installed. There is a Higher Judicial Council chaired by the President of the Republic. It is an authority with administrative character regulated by law, and it oversees matters related to judges such as their appointment, promotions, applying their guarantees; and calling them to account.

The Supreme Court of the Republic is the highest judiciary authority. Law specifies how it is constituted, defines its functions and the procedures to be followed in it. It deals with cases such as:

- Adjudicating lawsuits and claims of the non-constitutionality of laws, charters, regulations and decisions.
- Ruling over conflicts of jurisdiction among judicial authorities.
- Investigating and commenting on the truthfulness of contestations referred to it by the Chamber of Deputies concerning the validity of any deputy's membership.
- Pronouncing judgment on appeals against final verdicts in civil, commercial and criminal cases; as well as civil status affairs, administrative disputes and disciplinary actions in accordance with the law.
- Prosecuting the President of the Republic, the Vice President, the Prime Minister and his deputies, ministers and their deputies; in accordance with the law.

The basic rule is that court sessions should be open to the public, unless the court decides on secrecy for reasons of public order and morals. In any case, the verdict must be pronounced in a public session.

## Indicators of Economic and Social Development

With the establishment of the Republic of Yemen in 1990 the economic course of the country witnessed great challenges in terms of requirements for development and the remoteness of scattered communities. Additionally, the integration of two developing economies put a heavy burden on the Republic's economy which was not able to provide all services to the citizens

for scarcity of resources and means. Yemen is one of the less developed countries, and the per capita share of GNP<sup>1</sup> did not exceed (517) dollars in 2003 according to preliminary estimates. The population increased from (15,916) million in 1996 to (21,104) million in 2004, at an annual rate of (3.5%)<sup>2</sup>. Around (76%) of the people live in rural areas, and the age group below (15) years makes up (46.8%)<sup>3</sup> of the total population. It is an indicator that reflects the size of the developmental and economic problem Yemen faces, augmented yearly by a continuous population growth and a lack of awareness in the importance of family planning.

As a consequence, the government began in 1995 to implement a programme of economic and financial reforms, whose objective was to remedy the existing economic and financial defects, increase economic growth and draw maximal benefit from available human and natural resources. These measures resulted in improving the indicators of the economy as a whole, and stabilizing the exchange rate of the Yemeni riyal after its liberation. The Yemen report on the millennium development objectives for 2003 revealed the achievement of an annual economic growth rate averaging (4.4%) in 2000, accompanied by a drop in inflation rate to a single digit figure and the rise in oil prices led to the accumulation of a surplus in the balance of payments and the general budget in the years 1999-2000. The oil sector is a major source of revenue for the Yemeni economy. Its share in 2000 amounted to (36.7%) of the gross domestic product. Oil exports make up (90%) of all commodity exports, especially after the decline in the share of other sectors and the drop in the contribution of the agricultural sector to (14.1%) of GDP in 2000 from (24.2%) in 1990. This sector employs a rate of (52%) of the Yemeni work force. Agricultural exports amounted to (32%) of all non-petroleum related exports in 2000. The sector of freight and transportation witnessed a decline from (14.8%) to (10.3%) in the same period; likewise the services sector, from (46.7%) to (38%); the industrial sector (excluding petroleum refining) from (7.4%) to (4.2%). At the same time the share of the oil sector rose from (13.4%) to (36.7%). Despite the rise in this sector's share, it remains dependant on the fluctuations of world oil prices that also affect the rise and fall of oil production. Yemen is severely afflicted by the scarcity of water and the lack of sources to provide the people with their needs. Agriculture depends on rainfall, an uncontrollable source, and this invokes the necessity of searching for other sources of water to meet current and future challenges posed by population growth. Foremost among these are preparing a suitable climate for investment, paying attention to non-oil resources,

implementing strategic projects in the infrastructure to ensure a continuous development.

Poor families suffer more than others as a result of these reforms. The family budget survey for 1998 shows that (17.6%) of the inhabitants live below the line of nutritional poverty, and that (41.8%) of all inhabitants are below the upper poverty line. Health indicators reveal that the rate of provision of health services in 2003 did not exceed (50%) of the people, while health expenditure's share<sup>4</sup> of overall GDP rose from (1.4%) in 2002 to (1.8%) in 2003. Health expenditure amounted to (5.6%) of total expenditures, compared to (20%) for education. The share of social security and welfare services was (0.24%) and the rate of net deficit of the general budget of the state stood at (4.4%) of total GDP in 2003<sup>5</sup>. In 2002 this rate did not exceed (0.7%). The increase was due to the rising level of current and investment expenditures.

In application of the concept of partnership to attain the development targets of the millennium (1990-2015), the government resorted to creating a linkage between national strategies, plans and programmes, on one hand, and the targets of the millennium on the other. The Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation works hard to coordinate with the various governmental authorities, the private sector, the organizations of civic society, and the social groups concerned and targeted by these programmes and strategies, to produce the third five year plan on the basis of the millennium targets seeking to alleviate poverty. The eight millennium development targets are: eliminating acute poverty and hunger, providing basic education for all, improving equality between the two sexes and empowering women, lowering infant mortality, improving maternal health, combating AIDS, malaria and other contagious diseases; securing the environment permanently, and developing a global partnership for development.

To achieve all these objectives, Yemen has formulated many national strategies, plans, and programmes, the most important of which are: the strategic vision of Yemen 2025, the first five year plan (1996-2000), the second five year plan (2001-2005), the strategy for alleviating poverty, (2003-2005). Additionally, Yemen laid down sectorial strategies such as the national strategy for population and the population action programmes, the basic education strategy, the health sector reform programme, and other national plans and strategies.

<sup>1</sup> Annual statistical book, p. 451 – Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation – Central Office of Statistics, June 2004.

<sup>2</sup> Updated statistical projections on population (op.cit. p. 29).

<sup>3</sup> Op. cit., p. 7.

<sup>4</sup> Op. cit., p. 60.

<sup>5</sup> Op. cit., p. 40.

## Most Important Development Indicators for 2003

### Indicators

Total population ... projections	20,357,000
Rate of population growth in (%)	3.5
Life expectancy at birth for both sexes	62.9 years
Male	62 years
Female	63.8%
Median per capita share of GNP in dollars – preliminary approximate numbers	517
Poverty rate (ratio of population under national poverty line in %)	41.8 %
Rural	83 %
Urban	30.8%
Net rate of enrollment in basic education in %	Male (62.1%) Female (37.9%)
Under 1 infant mortality rate per 1000 live births	75
Before adjustment	74.8
After adjustment	28.4
Under 5 child mortality rate per 1000 live births	99.8
Rural	105.2
Urban	79.3
Male	100.3
Female	99.3
Maternal mortality rate per 100.000 deliveries	365
Rate of population with access to safe drinking water in %	35.9 %
Rural	40.2 %
Urban	80.9 %
Illiteracy rate (10 years and above)	47 %
Rural	53.2%
Male	31.1 %
Female	75.7 %
Urban	27.7%
Male	15.2%
Female	40.5 %
Access to health services (percent of population )	50 %
Malaria infections (% of population)	25.5 %
Rate of mothers not receiving care during pregnancy (%)	54.9 %
Rural	61.7%
Urban	30.8 %
Rate of mothers not receiving care after delivery (%)	87.2 %
Rural	89.3 %
Urban	80.1 %
Current rate of married women using family planning methods	23.1 %
Rural	17.7 %
Urban	40.9 %
Rate of children 12-23 months fully immunized (%)	37.2 %
Urban	67.2 %
Rural	29.1 %
Rate of married woman who had at least 1 miscarriage in their reproductive years (%)	33.4 %
Rate of total fertility during 5 years preceding Yemen's survey of family health in 2003	6.2
Urban	4.5
Rural	6.7
Unemployment rate (15 years and above) in visible unemployment (%)	11.5 %
Female	8.2 %
Male (statistical book)	12.5 %
Rate of disability in total population (%)	2.9 %

Number of disabled per 1000 inhabitants	
Male	20.3
Female	17.8
Rate of population with access to public water network (%)	
Urban	52.4 %
Rural	9.6 %

*Source: statistical yearbook 2003, Yemeni survey on family health 2003, survey of the work force 1999.*

