

Statement of the IDB Acting Governor for the Republic of Yemen

The 42nd Annual Meeting of the IDB Board of Governors Jeddah – Kingdom of Saudi Arabia 20 – 22 Sha'baan 1438H (16 - 18 May 2017)

Original Text (Arabic)

In The Name of Allah The Merciful The Beneficent

Praise be to Allah and may His Peace and blessings be upon His beloved compassionate Prophet

Honorable Chairman of Board of Governors President of Islamic Development Group Honorable Governors and Acting Governors of the Islamic Development Bank Distinguished Brothers and sisters

Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh

First of all, allow me to express my gratitude and appreciation to the Custodian of the Holy Mosques King Salman Ibn Abdul Aziz May Allah protect him and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia both the Government and the people for hosting this 42nd Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Islamic Development Bank . I also thank them for their hospitality, warm welcome and continuous support they have been according to IDB Group since its establishment. IDB has indeed become a huge successful institution for Islamic solidarity and cooperation and indeed in its efforts to uplift the Ummah socially, economically and in terms of development in its comprehensive meaning.

Let me also thank Dr Ahmad Muhammad Ali for what he has accomplished since the establishment of the Bank and transformed it to this advanced phase. I also thank Dr Bandar Muhammad Hajjar the new President of IDB Group . WE wish him well in his endeavor to further develop the Bank and take it to new horizons that will have an impact on the socioeconomic development of the Ummah by the grace of Allah

I also thank the Board of Executive Directors and the Executive directorates for their laudable efforts as reflected upon the performance of IDB and its attainment of an A rating in programmes of development worldwide

Honourable Governors,

My country Yemen is going through an extraordinary situation that has no parallel in contemporary history. Our Arab brothers stood with us in this predicament and at the forefront of Arab Alliance the leadership of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia through Hope Storm and Decisiveness Storm in order to restore constitutionality to Yemen in its rehabilitation.

IDB Group spearheaded the support for the Yemeni Government and its people either through Relief programme or other development projects such as in education and health sectors, as well as youth employment and small projects. We appreciate the understanding of the Management of IDB of the financial situation of the Yemeni Government by allowing it to make cash withdrawals for development projects.

Your Excellencies,

The phase of rebuilding of Yemen, is deemed as the most difficult. As we aspire peace in Yemen which is the aim of the lawful Government and the Arab Alliances, we understand fully that the

requirements for rebuilding Yemen need the solidarity, support and cooperation of our brothers and the regional and international financial institutions.

Indeed, the Yemeni Government has started the rehabilitation and development planning, as well as the restoration of its economy by evaluating the damage caused by the war. Here, we would like to remind you that IDB has been pioneering in conjunction with other development partners such as the World Bank, the European Union and the United Nations efforts to lay the foundations and methods of assessing the damage to the primary economic sectors.

The rebuilding of Yemen is an investment in the peace and stability of the countries of the Arabian Gulf. Equally, its strategic, security and socio-economic benefits are not limited to Yemen. However, they go further afield to cover the countries of the Arab Peninsular and the Gulf, as well as the security of the Red Sea, the Horn of Africa and global commerce and maritime.

In this perspective, I will mention key priority areas for rehabilitation and rebuilding of Yemen:

- Support humanitarian relief and in particular food and medicine. There are about 18 million people in need of good and medicine. There are more than 3 million displaced and they need shelter, food, medicine, water, electricity and education
- Repair damage caused by war and restore the installations in the basic services such as electricity, water, health, education and roads
- Secure the flow of basic commodities throughout Yemen
- Push forward economic development and expand the social security in order to minimize poverty and unemployment
- Strengthen the private sector and improve working conditions that will enable the private sector to grow

We look forward for a bigger role of IDB in supporting the financing of rehabilitation projects and responding the urgent humanitarian need in Yemen.

In conclusion, I reiterate our gratitude and appreciation of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the countries of the Arab Alliance for their support of Yemen and true solidarity with Yemen in this troubling time in order to ensure peace and stability in Yemen and its territorial integrity.

We also thank all Friends of Yemen.

Wassalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh.