

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



General Directorate of Foreign
Relations USA & CANADA

مكتب الإدارة العامة للشؤون الخارجية
الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية و كندا

المجلس الانتقالي الجنوبي
SOUTHERN TRANSITIONAL COUNCIL

Speech delivered by Mr. Abdulsalam K. Mused, Director of General Directorate of Foreign Affairs of the Southern Transitional Council in USA and Canada. US Congress, Washington DC. September 25, 2018.

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

Throughout history and until the end of the World War-I there never existed a state called Yemen.

Our opponents accuse us of being separatists! It's so unfortunate that they shorten the suffering of a people with independent history, culture and unique identity with the term "separatists" while everyone knows that until 1990 our people enjoyed an independent state which was active member of the United Nations and the League of Arab States. In 1990 our people were forced by a political decision to enter a union with Yemen Arab Republic.

The unity of 1990 between the two independent states; Yemen Arab Republic and Peoples' Democratic Republic of Yemen has failed miserably. Today, we are working toward restoring our state. The issue here is not isolating a population from a wider homogenous nation, but rather to consider the case of correcting history by recognizing that there are two independent nations forced to exist within the boundaries of what is known today as Republic of Yemen.

Historically, there were no one independent Yemen. We were always two countries with two people and two different cultures.

Our dream was not born today, for decades the people of South Yemen (also known as South Arabia) wanted to restore their democratic Southern independent country. The country that was totally independent until 1990. For decades, Sana'a regime of the North Yemen oppressed the people of the South; it tortured, prosecuted, and imprisoned our people to prevent them from exercising their right to self-determination.

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Today, the political ambitions of our people are translated by the emergence of its moderate forces that fight for peace and stability in the region.

The people of the South were the first to raise the awareness regarding the destructive role of Iran in Yemen.

Southern forces defeated Iran-backed militias and drove them away from every single city in the South of Yemen. In the North, the so called legitimate government failed to achieve a complete liberation of any province. Southerners did liberate areas in the North on behalf of this government.

Al-Amalika Southern forces (Giants Brigades) liberated wide areas in the Western Coastline up to Al-Huydiadah seaport, almost liberating it from Houthis to put an end to Iranian ambitions and their threat to international shipping lanes and the security of the whole region.

Southern resistance forces proved its status as a dependable partner in the fight against Al-Qaeda, Daesh (ISIS), and Houthis altogether with a support from Arab Coalition led by Saudi Arabia, and direct logistic assistance from United Arab Emirates and USA.

We are confronting Iran in order to secure the Red Sea and Arab Gulf region. In doing so we are contributing to preventing Houthis from becoming another Hizbu-Allah at the southern borders of our brotherly neighbor and the home of Holy Islamic sites, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Houthis continue their threat to Saudi Arabi by sending their Irania-made ballistic missiles against Saudi southern cities.

Our priority today is to bring peace and security to the region and to counter the threats of Iranian-backed Houthi militias that's dragging our region to a chaotic situation. Our other priority is to alleviate the daily sufferings of our people which are caused by the failure of the government and its rampant corruption.

Until today, the so called legitimate government of Yemen, that supposed to be the partner of the Arab coalition, is counting on the Muslim Brotherhood as the main player that control the

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government's political decision. For more than four years, this government is recycling the problems that face the country without solving any of them.

Famine, lack of basic services and the wide spread of diseases are adding to the suffering of the people, while the government continues being indifferent and unresponsive to such sufferings. The government is unconcerned with the lives of people, especially the children, the ill and elder citizens who are dying almost every day.

The Southern Transitional Council (STC) is the broad political umbrella for Southerners who want freedom and independence to their people. The STC struggles on several fronts; it continues to confront Houthis and terrorists. Politically, the STC is reaching out to the international community to gain the world's recognition of the right of our people to self-determination and rebuilding their own new democratic, free and independent state, after being denied from such right for a long time.

We ask your support for our people's right to self-determination. We are confident that solving the Southern cause will positively contribute to the peace and security of the whole region.

The emergence of an independent southern state does not mean an eruption of a new conflict, but in the contrary such development will create the desired stability for exchanging common interests in the region and establishing long and last peace with our neighbors.

Any attempt to exclude STC from the peace negotiations in Yemen will have negative consequences, as we will not accept any compromise against the right of our people to gain their freedom and self-determination.

We have common dominators with the USA; confronting Iranian expansion and their proxies and fighting Al-Qaeda and Da'esh (ISIS) and all forms of extremism and terrorism. We have also common strategic and economic interests at present and in the future.

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We dream of a country where human rights are respected, women are equal to men and kids have the chance to have a quality education. This did not happen in the light of the unity for decades. Thus, we are committed to build it with our hands now.

We believe it's the time for our country to be back.

Thank you for your attention.

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