

**Intervention by Ambassador Navtej Sarna, Additional Secretary, on
Forth Ministerial Meeting of the Friends of Yemen Group New York on
September 27, 2012**

My delegation would like to congratulate the President of Yemen H.E. Abdel-Rabbuh Mansour Hadi and his team for their efforts to take Yemen towards a democratic, stable and secure future. We would also like to congratulate the Gulf Cooperation Council and the United Nations for the road map prepared by them for a peaceful political transition in Yemen, thereby preventing the country from entering into more serious uncertainty.

2. We recognize the extraordinary political, security, economic and humanitarian challenges currently being faced by Yemen. We also strongly condemn terrorist acts and violence in all their manifestations in Yemen. India stands by the people and Government of Yemen in their journey towards a secure, prosperous, and democratic future.

3. Excellencies, We believe that core focus in this group should be to assist the Government of Yemen in ensuring peace and stability and create a conducive environment to facilitate rebuilding of institutions and effectively addressing the dire economic and humanitarian crises. In this context, it is also extremely important that a serious and inclusive dialogue continues among all stake holders in Yemen.

4. India's approach is to provide Yemen humanitarian aid and assist Yemen in capacity building. India's bilateral programme with Yemen for training and capacity building and providing assistance continues. In addition to our engagement under the 'Friends of Yemen Group', India would be happy to look at specific proposals for assistance from Government of Yemen, particularly in the field of training, capacity building, entrepreneurship development, Small and Medium Enterprises, Education and IT within our bilateral framework for cooperation. India is already supplying a crucial consignment of rice and wheat of US \$ 2 million each to Yemen. India also stands ready to offer concessional Lines of Credit (LOCs) for projects and programmes considered urgent and necessary by Yemen once Feasibility Reports on such proposals can be made available to Government of India under the umbrella of Credit lines for LDCs already announced by India during the India-LDC Ministerial Conference in New Delhi in February 2011 and the UN LDC Meeting at Istanbul in May 2011.

5. Yet another avenue open to Yemen in accessing the assistance is the Indian-Ocean Rim Association for Regional Cooperation (IOR-ARC). Several programmes and projects are emerging under the Indian chairmanship of this grouping of which Yemen was a former Chairman and continues to be an active member.

6. In conclusion, my delegation would like to wish the friendly people of Yemen continued progress, peace and prosperity and reassure them of India's support as the country traverses through a crucial phase in its history.

Thank you.

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