

I. Conflicts and Natural Resource Management in the Arab Region

It has come to a point in history where effective use of natural resources is a must. Climate disintegration as a result of pollution due to lack of safe and effective natural resource usage has had a severe consequence on the population of many nations as well as on their economies. Effective and safe usage of natural resource is the only way to ensure economic development and minimize or even eliminate future conflicts. Currently the most important issue facing the Arab region is water conflict. Saudi Arabia faces a crisis over water due to lack of drinkable water bodies in its region. Saudi Arabia has been relying on underground sources for its water supply. As a result of the Persian Gulf wars (previous and current), Saudi Arabia's underground resources have been eroded.

Saudi Arabia has used their oil resources and revenue generated from it to build and obtain massive desalination plants to increase their water supply. Saudi Arabia was responsible for building Thirty-five desalination plants at a cost of ten billion dollars. At present it is the largest producer of desalinated water in the world. The government of Saudi Arabia has been active in providing and securing water supplies to their population. The government has founded specialized water agencies for production, distribution, and treatment of water in the kingdom in the post-World War II decades. The establishment of the Ministry of Agriculture and Water in 1953 was responsible for water production to satisfy the required of water demand in terms of quantities and qualities. The Saline Water Conversion Corporation (SWCC) was established as a ministerial agency highlighting the seriousness by which the Saudi government considers the water crisis. Saudi Arabia has also been a key member in the Economic and Social Commission of Western Asia (ESCWA) whose role was to develop better management of water supply through its preparation. "The main elements of this vision include: better systems for monitoring, analyzing and disseminating relevant water data; building a comprehensive database for data exchange; development of systems which monitor non-conventional water supplies by using innovative technologies; formulation of effective water policies and strategies; encouragement of stakeholder participation; cooperation within the region on shared water resources; and creation and enforcement of water legislation" Saudi Arabia has taken many measure to ensure its water supply is protected and safe from abuse. Among these factors are: regulations in domestic water demand by the introduction of new water pricing policies, leakage detection, control measures, public awareness, recycling of treated industrial wastewater, and monitoring water consumption at the farm level so as to avoid over pumping and to protect aquifers.

Saudi Arabia would like to see this committee develop a systematic program that governments adopt wherein they ensure effective usage of natural resources. Such a program must establish and enforce laws that ensure all companies and facilities are complying with the regulations. The global community as a whole must set up programs for effective resource management use and make accessible and feasible such programs so as to ensure a healthy and safe environment. This can be done by establishing committees designed to ensure sustainable programs by establishing these facilities in all areas local and otherwise and providing accessible information on the mechanism of effective natural resource usage. As a global community, governments should raise awareness about the value of water and its scarcity and encourage their population to use water in moderation. The united nation must also recognize the importance of future water conflict and take effective measures to assist nations suffering from water and natural resource decline important for survival.

II. For Women: Improving Rights and Access to Education for Development

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia recognizes the importance of providing better access for women in education for development. With regards to the problem that faces women in Saudi Arabia they are relatively minor when it comes to educational progress. Due to fixed socio-economic status, some of the women choose to be housewives after completing a portion of their education, however the majority continue to higher education.

The government of Saudi Arabia has improved considerably the education of women since 1975. With abundant resources they were able to initiate programs that promoted education for all genders and provided an environment where male and females can obtain an education without overstepping the boundaries of their religious beliefs. According to the General Administration of Budget Planning there has been an increase in the number of women seeking a higher education. Women make up 56.4% of the university student population. The King Sa'ud University in Riyadh now has added a new women's campus providing for a wider access of higher learning. A project for building 17 new medical schools, 8 of which are exclusively for female students, are expected to bring

more women into higher education. In 1995, the Ministry of Commerce has facilitated the way for women to work together with male clients from around the world, thus enabling them to enter higher fields of education without being subjected to societal criticism. The government is working on approving the establishment of the first Saudi women's rights body; among its application would be the improvement of higher education for women. To better further development in the fields of foreign affair The Ministry of Foreign Affairs opened jobs to women in 2005 and continues to expand its resources for women entering the field. In addition, women in Saudi Arabia are protected by State measures to own businesses and property. These rights are all granted in accordance with Islamic shari'a, which provides for equal and legal rights in all social spheres. These laws are essential precursors to development and progress in this area. To further reiterate Saudi Arabia's position in improving rights and access to education for development, the Saudi Arabian government has signed many of the United Nations treaties that empower women in education for sustainable development including but not limited to are the following: Convention on All Forms of Elimination Against Women, Beijing Platform for Action, Arab Charter on Human Rights, Convention Against Discrimination in Education and the Dakar Framework for Action, Education for All. Additionally The Saudi Arabian government has allocated funds to Nongovernmental projects aimed at improving technological skills for all their citizen thus ensuring better sustainable development.

Saudi Arabia believes that its own experiences can serve as the basis of programs in other countries; the committee should adopt plans that would encourage government cooperation with NGO's to establish program that would assist all their citizens in improving sustainable development. Providing easier access to education while maintaining and respecting the cultural norms will ensure participation in all aspects of life. This process can be done by establishing committees whereby they learn of different ways to become involved. Focusing on education as a tool for progress, government must utilize the media and endorse the message that education is essential to all households. In political offices, the government must reserve seats for women and ensure equal opportunity in the work places. Saudi Arabia would like the committee to identify a series of measures that would meet these goals. It would also like to establish a system by which this committee would monitor programs in the area and compiles a report every five years which would serve as the basis for new plans.

III. To the Future: Creating Peace In Iraq

Saudi Arabia recognizes the injustice that has befallen the people of Iraq and has assisted the occupying power in better managing the region so as to avoid further casualties. Saudi Arabia's concern focuses on two key aspects; humanitarian as well as the potential regional imbalance that would likely befall the region if appropriate measures are not taken. Currently the Iraqi Women and Children are the ones who are severely affected by the concurrent situation, lack of health care; education and basic nutrition are among the few factors that have contributed to the deterioration of the spirit and health of the Iraqi Population. Currently Saudi Arabia is pledging a total of one billion dollars to help rebuild these essential facilities to better the life of the population. According to the Crown Prince's Court Abdel Jubeir, Saudi Arabia continues to provide humanitarian as well as financial assistance to the refugees by contributing to the many refugee programs in existence in neighboring countries. Additionally Saudi Arabia has opened its borders to many Iraqi refugees fleeing the conflict and has provided them with fair assistance to reestablish themselves until the conflict in their own nation is ended. Recognizing that infrastructure is the key to long term peace Saudi Arabia has announced in 2007 it will forgive 80% of Iraqi debt.

By cooperating with the occupational powers in the region Saudi Arabia is attempting to ensure that no further instability will befall the region. Saudi Arabia has been a key ally to the United States in an effort to restore peace at a quicker pace and has been active in urging neighboring countries to provide the same assistance. Additionally Saudi Arabia sees the need to help bring stability to the internal region of Iraq so as to eliminate any further bloodshed. Saudi Arabia has used its influence to sponsor a meeting in Mecca to urge both sectarian sides to ease tension and denounce all sectarian violence. To ensure that itself is a key player in ending sectarian strife, Saudi Arabia has been treating the minor shia sect in its own nation with cordial manners by inviting them to function and requesting assistance in the conflict. While the Saudi Arabian government aims to maintain a balance between regional powers, they are not willing to enter directly into any conflict and have strongly voiced their opinion that they rather treat the matter by diplomatic means. The government of Saudi Arabia has also been working with their allies to support financially the Iraqi security as well as corroborate and share intelligence to minimize sectarian violence. Ignoring the fragile Iraqi civilians continues to lead to further bloodshed and constant instability to the Middle East. Therefore it is essential to consider and take measures to ensure the safety and security and minimize damage that occurs in time of conflict. It is important to note that any change and improvement to the lives of the Iraqi population rests on the cooperation of the occupational and regional powers and their adherence to international laws. Within the United Nation there exists special committees designed to protect the interest of civilians in times of war and they must be respected and adopted. Among these treaties specifically adopted for Iraq and in which Saudi Arabia a key member is the United Nations Assistance Mission for

Iraq. Additionally Saudi Arabia and in cooperation with the Organization for Islamic Conference has been active in condemning sectarian violence and promoting tolerance for long lasting peace.

Saudi Arabia would like to see this committee work with the United Nation to provide further assistance for the Iraqi Population as well as displaced individuals. Saudi Arabia further calls on all nations to cooperate together and provide intelligence to minimize sectarian strife and bloodshed. Such programs that would assist the Iraqi civilians in achieving normalcy in their daily life once again would be programs that would aid in psychological rehabilitation as well as medical aid. Financial assistance to rebuild infrastructure such as schools medical buildings as well as housing is essential to ensuring a quicker peace process. Saudi Arabia also proposes the creation of an ad hoc committee that would provide transparency in the allocation of funds so as to eliminate corruption and mishandling of public funds.