



Al Jabri, expressing his joy of H.M the Sultan's speech:

We are moving ahead to make Duqm one of the main bases for economic diversification

Muscat – 5 Nov. 2014

H.E. Yahya bin Said bin Abdullah Al Jabri, Chairman of the Board of Directors at SEZAD (Special Economic Zone Authority at Duqm) expressed his overwhelming happiness to hear the statement of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos Bin Said – Allah save His Majesty – to his loyal people on the occasion of the 44th National Day, asking Allah to bless His Majesty with everlasting health.

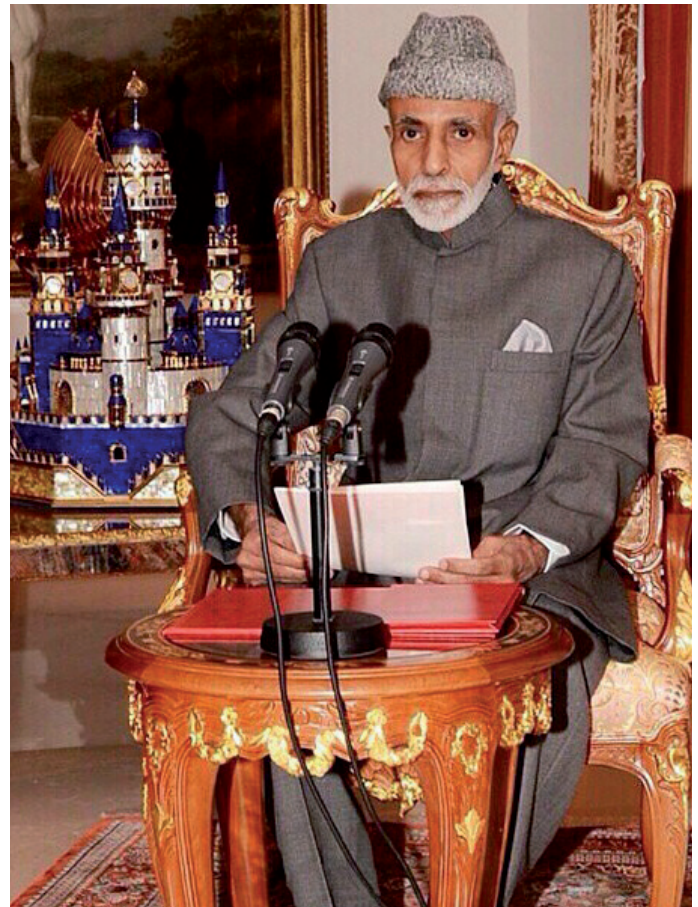
H.E. added in a press release that this speech is a message from a leading father to his loyal subject, and that it expresses His Majesty's keenness to engage all of us in the national responsibility that is required to maintain what has been achieved in this prosperous era, to work hard in service of Oman and its people, and to do the utmost sincere work to our beloved country.

H.E. confirmed that His Majesty Sultan Qaboos Bin Said – May Allah protect him – has worked throughout the 44 years of renaissance toward the prosperity of his people and the development, safety and stability of the Sultanate, which has become, under his wise

“ We are very proud of the achievements made ”

patronage, a modern country where we enjoy security, safety and peace of mind. The Sultanate, has also become a country of peace, through pursuing genuine principles laid down by His Majesty, who has always, since His Majesty's ascend to the Throne, given his people and country his utmost care and attention. Moreover, His Majesty has spent his life and efforts to build our beloved country, brick by brick, and to care for his people's prosperity and happiness.

H.E. said that, today, we are proud of what has been accomplished in this land in terms of renaissance, prosperity and stability, and that we will work to implement His Majesty's directives, and wise vision to make the Special Economic Zone at Duqm one of the pillars of economic diversification.



SEZAD and Duqm Refinery Sign a Preliminary Usufruct agreement

Muscat – 24 Nov. 2014



H.E. Yahya bin Said bin Abdullah Al Jabri Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Special Economic Zone Authority at Duqm signed today (24 November 2014) in his office at KOM, a preliminary usufruct agreement with Duqm Refinery and Petrochemicals Industries Company that allows the company access and use of the location selected for the project which is around (900) hectares

to carry out field studies, preparatory and clearance works to advance in the project to build a refinery within the set schedule. Eng. Isam Al-Zadjali, Chairman of the Duqm Refinery & Petrochemical Industries Company and CEO of Oman

The refinery is one of the most prominent heavy-industry ventures that will be set up at SEZAD with a capacity to process around (230) thousand barrels a day from a variety of crude mixtures.

SEZAD Celebrates 44th National Day

Muscat and Duqm 18 Nov

The Special Economic Zone Authority in Duqm (SEZAD) celebrated at its headquarters in Muscat and Duqm the 44th National Day.

During the celebration, employees expressed their joy about the achievements made by the Sultanate during the blessed Renaissance under the wise leadership of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said. The Sultanate, led by H.M the Sultan's far-sighted vision, has become a modern state that enjoy peace, security, stability and welfare.

SEZAD is one of the main initiatives promoted by the Sultanate's government in a bid to diversify sources of national economy during the coming period. The government invested more than RO 1.7 billion to construct



the infrastructure, which include the dry dock, the airport, roads, electricity network, communication, water and others. Many other projects are still also in the pipeline, which will place Duqm on international



Setting up a department for planning and follow up

Muscat, 13 Nov 2014

H.E Yahya bin Abdullah bin Said al Jabri, Chairman of SEZAD issued a decision to establish Planning and Follow up Department and define its scope of work.

As per the decision, which comes into force on 13 November 2014, the Department will be under the Board of Directors and will include two sections namely the Follow up Section and Planning Section.

The Department will be in charge of preparing the development plans of the Authority as per the master plans prepared by the Supreme Council for Planning. It will also develop the sectoral aims, the general policies and the methodologies that will be used in implementing the plan. The Department will then develop its investment program in collaboration with the respective departments within SEZAD and coordinate in developing SEZAD work plan. It will also prepare the executive plan in light of the development program approved by the Authority and will coordinate with the respective stakeholders to prepare the operational budgets for SEZAD projects.

The Department will be also in charge of revising, following up and assessing the sectoral aims, the policies approved by the Authority, the possibility for implementation and the difficulties facing implementation. It will also follow the development program and the executive status for the projects, consultancy studies, tenders, technical studies and follow up the implementation of goals approved in the five-year plans of the different sectors. It will also follow up the financial performance of the development budget in coordination with the executive body of the Authority, the Supreme Council for Planning and the Ministry of Finance.

The Department will also provide solutions and proposals related to eliminating the difficulties facing the Authority while implementing the development program. It will use the statistical data in planning, preparing periodical and annual reports on the development programs and submit the same to the Chairman of SEZAD.

Investment Delegation Learns About Implemented Projects and Opportunities Available at Duqm

Duqm – 17 Nov.2014

An investment delegation that consisted of businessmen who took part in the Business Opportunities Forum last week visited the Special Economic Zone at Duqm (SEZD) to learn about the projects that are being implemented and the available opportunities in continuation of the promotional campaign organized by SEZAD in Rome in 22-26 of last September.

The delegation consisted of approximately 30 people representing in addition to the Italian investors, investors from Lebanon, France, Brazil, Iran, Germany, Libya, India and Sri Lanka, as well as representatives of the Chambers of Commerce that took part in the Business Opportunities Forum that was organized by Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Oman International Exhibition Centre in 16/17 of this month.

Ismail bin Ahmad Al-Balushi, Deputy CEO of the Special Economic Zone Authority in Duqm (SEZAD), said that this visit aims to introduce businessmen to the investment opportunities available at Duqm, and the preparation for it has been going on since the promotional campaign that SEZAD

had organized in Italy recently where a number of Italian investors expressed their interests to visit Duqm and to learn more about the projects that are being implemented in the area. We had already coordinated with Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry to organize this visit.

He also confirmed that SEZAD is going ahead in its plans to introduce Duqm and put it on the international map of investment in addition to its efforts to encourage local investments and provide the right environment to facilitate its growth and provide the required facilities.

The visit included Port of Duqm, the Drydock, tourism and hotel projects, Duqm Airport, and the Industrial Zone.

Abdul Adheem Abbas Al Bahrani, Director General of Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said that the delegation covers a number of investment, commercial and industrial areas, in addition to board members of visiting chambers of commerce.



OCC Chairman in Saida; Duqm is the investment for the future

Duqm, Nov. 22

Mohammed Saleh, President of the Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture of Saida and Southern Lebanon (CCIAS), today commended the efforts of the Sultanate in the field of attracting foreign investments and to provide the appropriate environment for its growth, praising the efforts made by the Special Economic Zone Authority at Duqm (SEZAD) and Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI) in publicizing the investment opportunities available in the Sultanate.

Mohammed Saleh, along with a number of investors from ten countries, were briefed on the industrial and tourism projects, at the Special Economic Zone in Duqm, such as Duqm Port, Dry Dock, the Crowne Plaza Hotel and Park Inn Resort. He expressed his admiration



for what he saw, noting the potential of the region and its ability to attract various investments.

He explained that the Duqm project is one of the largest investment projects, which he has visited in recent years, as it is a future investment project, which reflects the orientation of the Sultanate to diversify sources of income, indicating that the project is suitable for all investors, both seeking to invest in the industrial sector or in logistics, trade and tourism fields.

SEZAD and Duqm Refinery Sign a Preliminary Usufruct agreement

Yahya Al Jabri: The petrochemicals industry is an instrument to diversify sources of income

Muscat – 24 November 2014

H.E. Yahya bin Said bin Abdullah Al Jabri Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Special Economic Zone Authority at Duqm signed today (24 November 2014) in his office at KOM, a preliminary usufruct agreement with Duqm Refinery and Petrochemicals Industries Company that allows the company access and use of the location selected for the project which is around (900) hectares to carry out field studies, preparatory and clearance works to advance in the project to build a refinery within the set schedule. Eng. Isam Al-Zadjali, Chairman of the Duqm Refinery & Petrochemical Industries Company and CEO of Oman

The refinery is one of the most prominent heavy-industry ventures that will be set up at SEZAD with a capacity to process around (230) thousand barrels a day from a variety of crude mixtures.

H.E. Yahya bin Said bin Abdullah Al Jabri emphasized the importance of this agreement which marks the launch of heavy-industries at SEZAD. H.E. said that the Duqm Refinery is one of the growth engines of the Special Economic Zone in Duqm with respect to petrochemical industries, pointing out that there are many petrochemical projects that will be set up at SEZAD that will benefit from the products of the refinery, and that the presence of the refinery will contribute to the development of SEZAD and to the implementation of many Small and Medium Enterprises.

H.E. noted the importance of petrochemical industries in creating added-value to crude oil, that leads to enhancing



revenues and realizing economic diversification in addition to creating jobs for our young people. SEZAD Chairman also said that there is an increasing demand for these industries and SEZAD is working to provide the appropriate infrastructure required by these industries.

H.E. confirmed that SEZAD is keen to provide the elements of success for the refinery project and the various petrochemical industrial projects that are being set up at SEZAD, indicating that SEZAD is currently working on implementing a number of projects that will serve the refinery.

On his part, Eng. Isam Al-Zadjali, Chairman and CEO of the Duqm Refinery & Petrochemical Industries Company said, "Entering into the preliminary usufruct

agreement with The Special Economic Zone Authority is one more step towards the commissioning of the 'Duqm Refinery' project that will play a significant role in supporting the growth of the national economy. As one of the key developments in the Sultanate's energy sector, the refinery will be a major element in positioning Duqm as the next regional hub for hydrocarbons' product storage, as well as refining and petrochemicals, while complementing other up and coming projects in the area. Building on the area's strategic location, the project will also add intangible value to the 'Duqm Brand' and contribute to the introduction of new industries in the local and regional landscape of the energy and energy related sectors".

MoU for the development of HRD program in Duqm signed

Muscat – 24
Nov. 2014

The Special Economic Zone Authority in Duqm (SEZAD) and Takatuf Oman LLC (Takatuf), the Human Capital arm of Oman Oil Company (OOC), signed a Memorandum

of Understanding (MoU) to enter into a partnership to develop and manage a general program that aims to qualify and strengthen the human capacity of residents in Al-Wusta Governorate.

The MoU was signed by H.E. Yahya bin Said bin Abdullah Al Jabri Chairman of SEZAD, and Eng. Isam bin Saud Al-Zadjali, the CEO of Oman Oil Company and Chairman of (Takatuf) Oman.

The MoU stipulates the



cooperation between SEZAD and Takatuf Oman to develop training programs to qualify the citizens of Al-Wusta governorate and to enhance their abilities to fill available jobs at Duqm. These training programs will focus on the basic skills of human resources in work environment in general. According to the MoU, the cooperation between SEZAD and Takatuf will be to determine the required training programs and to design the training plan to ensure the quality of the outcome.



SEZAD Signs MoU with Bank Muscat for Financing Projects in Duqm

MUSCAT, 24 November 2014

The Special Economic Zone Authority at Duqm (SEZAD) and Bank Muscat, the flagship financial services provider in the Sultanate, signed today (24 November 2014) a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to facilitate finance required for companies and enterprises to set up ventures at SEZAD. H.E. Yahya bin Said bin Abdullah Al Jabri, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Special Economic Zone Authority at Duqm (SEZAD), and AbdulRazak Ali Issa, Chief Executive of Bank Muscat, signed the MoU at SEZAD office at Knowledge Oasis Muscat (KOM).

The MoU stipulates Bank Muscat and its Islamic banking window Meethaq to facilitate access of required funding for companies and enterprises that wish to set up their ventures at SEZAD. The MoU is part of the efforts of SEZAD to encourage the private sector to invest in the Special Economic Zone at Duqm, facilitating finance for investors, including the SME sector.

Discusses increasing the number of bachelor scholarships



Duqm, Nov. 12

The Local Community Development Committee at the Special Economic Zone Authority of Duqm (SEZAD) held a meeting at Crowne Plaza Duqm Hotel today under the chair of Ismail bin Ahmed al-Bulushi, Deputy CEO of SEZAD.

The meeting discussed increasing the number of scholarships granted for

the locals of the Wilayat of A'Duqm to obtain bachelor degree from the private universities and colleges in the Sultanate.

Sultan bin Adeem al Shraiqi, Director of Labor Licenses and Investor Visas at SEZAD and Secretary of the Committee said that the agenda of the main was full with important topics that touch the interests of the local community.

He added that the Committee

discussed the works of the technical support team, which develop the vision to establish a Fund that will finance the activities, and events organized by the Committee and will follow up implementation of the Committee projects.

It is worth mentioning that SEZAD granted 10 scholarships for the locals during the academic year 2014/2015.

Park Inn Duqm Resort begins trial operation



Duqm – (16 November 2014)

Park Inn Hotel and Resort has announced the commencement of the trial operation of the four stars resort, which is the first tourism investment at Duqm by Mistear; one of the MB (Mohammed Al Barwani) Group companies. Park Inn Resort is the third hospitality facility to be opened at Duqm, after the three stars City Hotel Duqm and the four stars Crowne Plaza Duqm, where hospitality facilities endeavor to keep up with the expectations of tourists, investors and companies operating at SEZAD.

Bahjat Thabit, General Manager of Park Inn Resort and Hotel, expressed his pleasure with the trial operation of the resort and said, "We have begun welcoming guests since the 28th of October, and the Resort has been successful, as guests who have visited the resort during this time have expressed their admiration regarding the luxurious facilities, the great potential, the magnificent panoramic view of the Arabian Sea, the green landscape, and the diversity of the international dishes offered by the three restaurants available."



Entrepreneurship Program at SEZAD

Duqm – 10th Nov 2014

Community Development Committee at SEZAD kicked this morning the 10th of November, the Entrepreneurship Program "Innovation Camp" which is supported by Duqm Refinery as part of its social investment program and executed by Injaz Oman. The program will last for 3 days.

The program held under the theme of "Innovation Camp", and targets school students in Duqm and is expected to benefit more than 600 school-students from different schools in the wiliyat. The program includes a number of interactive training workshops, which aim to enhance the spirit of entrepreneurship among the students.

Ismail Al-Balushi, Executive

Vice President and Chairman of Community Development Committee, said that the entrepreneurship program is one of the programs that the committee is implementing within its efforts to promote the culture of entrepreneurship among school-students. He expressed his hopes that these training workshops would explain many entrepreneurship-related concepts to the students.

Al-Balushi confirmed in a press release the importance of such programs in shaping the skills of the students, enriching their knowledge in entrepreneurship and preparing them to enter the labor market, especially in light of the projects that are being set up now at SEZAD, which would provide many opportunities to these young students which they can exploit.



A group of foreign investors takes photos during their visit to Duqm



Opening the entrepreneurship program at Bahr Al Arab Basic Education School



and Duqm Basic Education School