Riyadh Agreement between the legitimate government and the Southern Transitional Council (STC)

The two parties in the Agreement;

Met under the auspices of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman Bin Abdulaziz in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from 20/8/2019 to 24/10/2019 in response to the Kingdom’s invitation to discuss their differences, use wisdom and dialogue, dispel disunity, end incitement and unite the ranks;

Give the Coalition to Support Legitimacy in Yemen’s commitment to three references: the Gulf Cooperation Council Initiative and its execution mechanisms, the conclusions of the comprehensive national dialogue, and the UN Security Council Resolution 2216, related resolutions, and the decisions of the Riyadh conference;

In confirmation of the Coalition to Support Legitimacy in Yemen’s role, led by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in responding to the legitimate elected President, Abd Rabbuh Mansur Hadi, to protect Yemen and its people from the continued attacks by the Houthi militia, backed by the Iranian government, and to build on the political, military, security, relief and developmental successes, primarily regaining control of the majority of Yemeni territories;

And due to the necessity to activate the state institutions, the two parties declare their complete commitment to the following:

1. Activating the role of all Yemeni state authorities and institutions based on the political and economic arrangements outlined in the first appendix of this Agreement.
2. Reorganise the Military Forces under the leadership of the Ministry of Defence, based on the military arrangements outlined in the second appendix of this Agreement.
3. Reorganise the Security Forces under the leadership of the Ministry of Interior, based on the security arrangements outlined in the third appendix of this Agreement.
4. Committing to the complete citizenship rights of all Yemeni people, rejecting territorial and doctrinal discrimination and division and discord.
5. Ending all offensive media campaigns of all types and by all parties.
6. Uniting efforts, under the supervision of the Coalition to Support Legitimacy in Yemen to restore security and stability in Yemen and to confront terrorist organisations.
7. Forming a committee under the supervision of the Coalition to Support Legitimacy in Yemen, led by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, specialising in monitoring, executing and implementing the provisions of this Agreement and its appendices.
8. Joining the Southern Transitional Council in a government delegation to discuss the final political solution to end the coup staged by the Iranian government-backed terrorist Houthi militia.
9. The Yemeni President will issue instructions to all of the state institutions to implement this Agreement and its stipulations immediately upon signing this Agreement.
Appendix 1: Political and economic arrangements

1. Formation of a technocratic government with no more than 24 ministers. The President will appoint its members after deliberation with the Prime Minister and political components. The ministerial portfolios must be equally distributed between the southern and northern municipalities. The government formation must be carried out within 30 days after signing this Agreement. Those chosen must be proven to be honest, qualified and possess experience relevant to the ministerial portfolio, as well as not have been involved in any combat or inciting activities during the Aden, Abyan and Shabwa incidents. Members of the government must take their oath before the President in Aden the day after the government formation.

2. The Yemeni President will appoint the governor and the head of the Aden municipality within 15 days of the date this Agreement was signed based on standards of qualification and integrity and through deliberations. He will also appoint a governor for Abyan and Dhale within 30 days after this Agreement is signed in order to improve the quality of work.

3. The current Prime Minister will begin his duties in the temporary capital, Aden, within no more than 7 days from the date this Agreement is signed in order to activate all of the state institutions in the various liberated municipalities to serve the Yemeni people and pay the salaries and financial dues to all military, security and civil sectors in the state and its institutions, located in the temporary capital of Aden and all liberated municipalities.

4. The Yemeni President will appoint governors and municipality heads in the remaining southern municipalities, based on standards of qualification and integrity and through deliberations, within 60 days of signing this Agreement.

5. State resources, including collecting and depositing all state revenues, including oil, tax and customs revenues, in the Central Bank in Aden, spending based on the approved budget, in accordance with Yemeni law and presenting a regular report that is transparent regarding government revenues and spending to the parliament for evaluation and audit, regional and international experts and specialists must contribute and provide necessary advice in this regard.

6. Activating the central agency for audit and accountability, enriching it with honest and professional individuals and re-forming the national anti-corruption body and activating its monitoring role.

7. Re-forming and activating the Supreme Economic Committee, as well as reinforcing it with qualified, experienced, honest, and independent individuals. The committee will be associated with the Prime Minister to support financial policies and combat corruption.
Appendix 2: Military arrangements

1. All forces that moved from their original locations and camps towards Aden, Abyan and Shabwa since the beginning of August 2019 will return to their former positions, including all of their members and weapons. They will be replaced by the Security Forces of the local authority in every municipality within 15 days of signing this Agreement.

2. Collecting and moving medium and heavy artillery weapons from all military and Security Forces in Aden within 15 days of signing this Agreement to camps inside Aden, determined and supervised by the leadership of the Coalition to Support Legitimacy in Yemen. Such weapons include tanks, armoured vehicles, artillery, thermal missiles and heavy and medium artillery weapons.

3. Moving all government Military Forces and STC military formations in Aden municipality to the camps outside of Aden, determined by the leadership of the Coalition to Support Legitimacy in Yemen within 30 days of signing this Agreement. They must also be instructed based on the plans approved and under direct supervision of the leadership of the Coalition to Support Legitimacy in Yemen. This excludes the first brigade, which provides protection to the president. It will be tasked with protecting the presidential palaces, their surroundings and securing the movements of the President. They are also tasked with providing security protection to the STC leadership in Aden, under the supervision of the leadership of the Coalition to Support Legitimacy in Yemen.

4. Uniting the Military Forces mentioned in Clause 3, numbering them and adding them to the Defence Ministry, followed by issuing the necessary resolutions and distributing them based on the agreed upon plans under direct supervision of the leadership of the Coalition to Support Legitimacy in Yemen within 60 days of signing this Agreement.

5. Re-organising the Military Forces in the Abyan and Lahij governorates under the leadership of the Defence Ministry in accordance with the same measures taken in Aden within 60 days of signing this Agreement.

6. Re-organising the Military Forces in the remaining southern governorates under the leadership of the Defence Ministry in accordance with the same measures taken in Aden within 90 days of signing this Agreement.
Appendix 3: Security Arrangements

1. The Police and Rescue Forces in the Aden governorate will be responsible for securing the governorate and working on re-organising government forces and STC formations based on the need and security plan. It will choose its members based on qualification and professionalism and will train them. These forces will be associated with the head of security in the governorate and will be numbered at Security Forces associated to the Ministry of Interior within 30 days of signing this Agreement.

2. Re-organising the Special and Counter-Terrorism Forces in the Aden governorate and choosing new members from the legitimate forces and STC formations. They must be trained, a commander appointed and numbered as Security Forces associated with the Interior Ministry, taking into consideration their confidentiality regarding counter-terrorism units (which will take over counter-terrorism operations and contribute to securing Aden) within 30 days of signing this Agreement.

3. Re-organising the forces responsible for protecting the facilities under a united force named (Facility Protection Force) within 30 days of signing this Agreement in accordance with the following:
   - The members of the force will be chosen based on the qualifications of the current officers in the current force, in the legitimate forces, or in the STC formations.
   - This force will be tasked with the complete protection of the civilian facilities, protection of the government headquarters, central bank, Aden ports, Aden Airport, ministry headquarters and state institutions in Aden.
   - This force will be associated with the Interior Ministry and will be numbered as per the Security Forces associated with it.

4. The facility protection force will take over protection of the remaining civilian and vital facilities in the remaining liberated governorates and the Mukalla, Dhabba, Mocha and Balhaf ports within 90 days of signing this Agreement.

5. Uniting and redistributing the security force, numbering them, associating it with the Interior Ministry and issuing the necessary resolutions within 60 days of signing this Agreement.

6. Re-organising the Security Forces in the Abyan and Lahij governorates under the leadership of the Interior Ministry in accordance with the same measures implemented in the Aden governorate within 60 days of signing this Agreement.

7. Re-organising the Security Forces in the rest of the southern governments that are not listed in the Interior Ministry lists under the leadership of the Interior Ministry in accordance with the same measures implemented in the Aden governorate within 90 days of signing this Agreement.