

### **Names of Interviewees:**

Salem Nasser Al-Zawaideh  
Atallah Al-Zawaideh  
Saeed Abu Al-Hawa

### **Interview Information**

**Place:** Aqaba  
**Date:** November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2003  
**Time:** 11:30 AM

The questions and comments given by the Sheikhs of Disi area along with the Consultant's replies were as follows:

- Q1. Why do not we put the “Fils” of the Disi on the water bill? Is the basin non-renewable? If it is non-renewable, what are the other options for the locals?**
- The cost of water desalination has decreased dramatically to 0.3-0.4 JD. If it decreased further, the government kept its right to save the Disi non-renewable water source and replace it with desalinated water.
- Q2. Comment: The people in the area are not Bedouins anymore. They became farmers. There remains a need to find alternatives for the people who will lose their jobs because of closing the Disi farms.**
- Q3. Comment: If the Disi water was for the Disi people they would not have agreed on drawing the water. For Bedouins, water should be shared with all people and not only for the residents of the area. However, they do request that the residents of the area to have a share in the employment. And since the Disi water is non-renewable and will be exploited, we want the drinking water to be available to the Disi people and give the agricultural cooperations the right to dig alternative wells.**
- Q4. Comment: Provide shades for the herders. Also implement the “Fils” of Disi so that it can be used to develop the area.**
- As far as the “fils” is concerned, this is an issue controlled by regulations that we cannot interfere with. But the issue of providing employment for the people of Disi will be given special attention.
  - As for the shades for the herders, when we plan we plan for all people without differentiating between people living in Amman and others. But to be realistic, Amman is the capital and the industrial and commercial centre and therefore is a special case.
  - There is a plan for 10 years and that is why we installed 5 emergency outlets.
- Q5. Will the project affect the quality of the water negatively?**
- The “Dhuleil” basin was exploited and its water quality was greatly degraded due to agricultural activities. 90% of the Disi is non-renewable. So the effect is the reduction in the water level. However, Aqaba has been using the water since 1991 and so is Saudi Arabia and the water quality has not been affected.

**Q6. Is the basin to Taima' and Saudi the same as that of Disi?**

- Yes. But the bigger ratio is for Saudi Arabia and they welcomed the project.

**Q7. Comment: It is advised that the locals be employed in the project.**

- Just for information, this project is not a development project but employing the people will be a benefit from the project.

**Q8. Will the road from Disi to Mudawarra be asphalted?**

- It is in benefit of the Contractor to pave the road from Disi to Mudawarra. Also, one of the Contractors has suggested developing a pipe factory in Jordan. This is encouraged by the Ministry of Water and Irrigation especially that in case such a factor is developed it will be in areas near the project route. However, it should be emphasized that the Disi-Mudawarra to Amman Water Conveyance System is not a social development project.