



2009 was a year marked by the legislative elections resulting in the formation of a government headed by Prime Minister Saad el Hariri, a government that placed development on the top of its priorities.

This new government is facing big challenges especially as it made of the citizen's priorities its own.

Concerning the CDR, it will be invited to play an important coordinating role with the relevant ministries, especially with regard to the trend adopted by the current government to increase public investment expenditure in comparison with previous years.

The CDR will work on three levels, namely:

- Planning and programming, where programmes for public investments should be set in cooperation with the relevant ministries and institutions according to the orientations of the government and the progress of sectoral policies within each ministry.
- Financing, where Lebanon has high opportunities to receive soft financing loans for infrastructure and public service projects, some of which are new while others were within the pledges of the Paris III conference.
- Implementation, where the CDR faces new challenges in executing new vital projects in sectors of prime concern for the Lebanese.

On the strategic planning level, 2009 was also marked by the issuance of the decree of the Land Use Master Plan which was discussed in a special session of the Cabinet back in 2008.

The Cabinet had formed a ministerial committee to study the plan thoroughly. The Master Plan was later adopted by the Cabinet, now for



the first time, Lebanon has a clear strategic long term vision guiding the land use and public investments.

2009 witnessed also launching several projects, detailed in this report, as well as important steps towards launching long awaited vital projects, such as the Litani Canal 800 conveyor and the project to convey water from Al Awali River to Beirut and the construction of Bisri dam.

Concerning the work within the CDR, 2009 witnessed the recruitment of several employees after passing the examinations organized by the Board of Civil Service. Work will continue in the following months to fill the remaining vacant posts.

Lastly, I assure you, dear reader, of my will and that of all the staff at the CDR to continue our work in building and developing at the service of the Lebanese state and its society, as we consider it to be a higher goal.