

Item 3: Human Rights Crisis in Yemen **Organization for Defending Victims of Violence**

Dear President, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The crises in Yemen remains catastrophic, war crimes and crimes against humanity are widespread. Civilians are bearing the brunt of the conflict.

According to the Legal Center for Rights and Development, in the first 600 days of war, more than 11,000 civilians in Yemen were killed by Saudi Coalition airstrikes. About 2500 of them are children. A further 3 million persons have been internally displaced. Coalition airstrikes also targeted and destroyed tens of thousands of residential homes.¹ This conflict situation is leading to the extreme poverty in Yemen.

The Organisation for Defending Victims of Violence is gravely concerned by the fact that in Yemen, masses of coalition airstrikes have been indiscriminate, in breach of the laws of war and killing and wounding thousands of civilians. The coalition is also consistently using vague weaponries involving large US- and UK-made bombs and cluster munitions, banned by international treaties. The extensive air strikes, the vast destruction of infrastructures, as well as the Yemen embargoes have led to a large humanitarian crisis in history of the region with millions of people suffering from hunger, famine and cholera.

As a result, our Organisation urges the Human Rights Council, its members and observer states to: Call on all parties to the conflict to immediately and unconditionally stop all embargoes, trades restrictions, airstrikes, and all measures hampering the wellbeing and accessibility to fundamental resources for the Yemeni population.

Thank you Mr President.

¹ <http://arwarights.org/unilateral-coercive-measures/>