

**Item 3:** Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

### **Grave Violation of International Law in Yemen**

Mr. President,

The extensive military aggression of the Saudi led coalition in Yemen has killed thousands of civilians including children. The massive sale of arms to Saudi Arabia, especially by the US and the UK continues in spite of various reports condemning the coalition's use of prohibited cluster weapons against civilians, including the January 2016 report of the UN technical panel on the alarming death and injuries of civilians and extensive and systematic nature of the attacks; violation of human rights and humanitarian law by the coalition reflected in the UNHCR annual Human Rights Report and the reports of the OHCHR and the SG; the statement of UN special rapporteur on children and armed conflict on the extensive killing of Yemen children and repeated reiteration of NGOs on war crimes committed in Yemen by the Saudi led coalition. The abovementioned evidences of humanitarian catastrophes in Yemen indicate that Jus cogens and the international arms control regime have been gravely violated in Yemen, especially by countries such as the UK whose leaving the EU seems to be distancing them from European human rights values.

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- 1 – Immediate holding of Yemeni meetings by the SG's Special Envoy on Yemen.
- 2 – An independent fact finding committee - approved by the HRC - to be set up immediately to review the legality and disproportionate nature of the invasion;
- 3 – Serious stance of HRC towards perpetrators of such violence's, including the suspension of the membership of these countries in the council or sanctioning the country.