

Item 3: General Debate

Organization for Defending Victims of Violence

Human Rights in the Hodeidah Region of Yemen



Mr. President,

After hitting world records in killing civilians in the Middle East, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates have begun a massive onslaught against the civilian population in the Hodeidah region. Indiscriminate and untargeted air and ground attacks by Hadi forces and the Saudi led coalition over the last one month are taking place with the aim of retaking the only sea routes that send food and medical aid to the western regions of the country.

The displacement of thousands of Yemenis from Hodeidah province to Aden, Lahaj, Abian, Hazmoot and Mohreh have brought about new dangers for the people such as homelessness, landmines, mortar attacks, and lack of refugee camps all indicate an imminent catastrophe.¹

Meanwhile, buses carrying Yemeni and African migrants and migrant workers that are travelling in the region are attacked from air and ground. Following the recent decision of the Saudi government to expel 17,000 foreign workers from Saudi Arabia, Yemeni and African migrant workers travel to Africa or safer regions via the dangerous routes and port of Hodeidah.²

Mr. President,

The Organization for Defending Victims of Violence asks HRC Group of Eminent Experts on Yemen to report on the Saudi and UAE attacks against the civilian targets in Hodeidah, and to take a stance against the spread of conflict in Yemen.

The ODVV requests the HRC Group of Eminent Experts on Yemen to provide the Council with the reasons which caused the expelling of the Red Cross from Hodeidah to Africa.

¹<https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2018/05/yemen-fierce-new-offensive-displaces-tens-of-thousands-of-civilians-from-hodeidah>

²<https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20180511-united-nations-saudi-arabia-expelled-17-thousand-yemenis-from-its-territories>