

Organization for Defending Victims of Violence

Item 10: General Debate

Humanitarian Situation in Yemen



Mr. President,

More than 3 years after the launch of the Saudi led coalition attack, the world is faced with a massive human catastrophe in Yemen. Chronic poverty, hunger, famine and bombardments targeting, hospitals, schools, religious sites and other civilian infrastructure, killing and injuring civilians are all the direct results of the conflict.¹ Until, about seven thousand civilians were killed and more than ten thousand got injured.²

More than 22 million people in Yemen need humanitarian assistance or protection. Some 8.4 million people are severely food insecure³ and at risk of starvation, 1.8 million of those being children.⁴

Over the past three years, the United States have sold a large amount of different military equipment to Saudi Arabia. Just in 2015, Saudi Arabia's import of military equipment reached to \$25 billion.⁵

In the United States, more than 50 former government officials and ambassadors wrote a letter to the Senate calling for an end to Washington support for Saudi Arabia in the Yemeni war.⁶

Mr. President,

Noting the valuable findings of the Group of Eminent Experts on Yemen reflected in A/HRC/39/43, ODVV encourages the Experts to continue their persistent efforts to document the crimes committed in the airstrikes and urges the Human Rights

¹ <https://www.amnesty.org/en/countries/middle-east-and-north-africa/yemen/report-yemen/>

² <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/Pages/NewsDetail.aspx?NewsID=23479&LangID=E>

³ <https://www.unocha.org/story/yemen-conflict-escalates-more-22m-people-are-left-dire-need-assistance-and-protection>

⁴ <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/middle-east/yemen-civil-war-explained-facts-saudi-arabia-bombing-uk-forgotten>

⁵ <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/middle-east/saudi-arabia-accused-of-killing-up-to-30-civilians-in-market-bombing-in-yemen-ahead-of-arms-trade-a6901126.html>

⁶ <https://www.vox.com/2018/11/27/18114275/yemen-war-senate-vote-letter-sanders-lee-murphy>

Council to facilitate the work of the Group of Eminent Experts inside the country and their access to the bombarded areas.