

Organization for Defending Victims of Violence

Item 4: General Debate

The US Unilateralism and Yemen Catastrophe



Mr. President

ODVV would like to draw the Councils' attention to two main serious concerns:

One is United States Unilateralism and the other one is Yemen disaster.

Unilateralism, including the unilateral withdrawal from multilateral treaties and international organizations, in addition to exploitation of unilateral coercive measures (UCMs), undermines the credibility of international organizations, damages international relations, threatens peace, security and respect to human dignity and facilitates growth violence and terrorism. Therefore, ODVV urges the UN Member States not to allow any country to put pressure on international institutions and treaties through withdrawal from them, to achieve political goals, and in particular, we call on the Human Rights Council to vigorously prevent this kind of politically motivated action.

Also, being deeply concerned with the negative impacts of UCMs, as a form of unilateralism, ODVV calls on the UN Secretary General to appoint a special representative for unilateral coercive measures so that in close cooperation with the Special Rapporteur on UCM, the negative impact of UCMs on civilians can be alleviated.

On Yemen, being over concerned with the continuous human casualties, ODVV calls on:

- Saudi Arabia Coalition to remove the blockade on Yemen and allow the unimpeded transfer of fundamental items including food, vaccine, and medicine by humanitarian agencies to the people.
- All countries, Specially the United States, the United Kingdom, France and Sweden to refrain from exporting any military equipment to the Coalition.
- The Coalition to immediately cease all acts of violence against civilians, including continuous blind airstrikes.
- Yemen government to cooperate with all UN human rights mechanisms, to ensure accountability for gross human rights violations, in a constructive and transparent manner.