



Human Rights Council

Fifty-second session

27 February–31 March 2023

Agenda item 4

Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

**Joint written statement* submitted by Organization for
Defending Victims of Violence, International Council
Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights, Khiam
Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, non-
governmental organizations in special consultative status**

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[5 February 2023]

* Issued as received, in the language of submission only.

Yemen: Direct and Indirect Mass Killing of Civilians, Mostly Children

Yemen is witnessing the largest humanitarian crisis in the world, and millions of people in Yemen are still living in a catastrophic and tragic situation, as they suffer from the double pressure of the war, on the one hand, with the coalition countries using various deadly and forbidden weapons on civilian's homes, and the siege, on the other hand, with arbitrary restrictions imposed on Yemeni people as collective punishment which turned food and medicine into a weapon to take lives.

Preliminary statistics of the official authorities indicate that the number of Yemeni children who were subjected to direct military attacks is more than 8,732 dead and wounded, while the victims of the blockade and arbitrary restrictions, the number of deaths and maiming of children is more than 11,000 children, an average of four children per day, since the escalation of the war on Yemen in 2015, while the reality indicates that the casualty estimates are much higher.

In Yemen, the situation of children who have not yet lost their lives remains alarming, as more than 12.9 million children suffer from food insecurity and are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance and protection.

The horrific humanitarian catastrophe in Yemen led to an increase in cases of malnutrition among children, which led to the spread of famine among thousands of children claiming many lives.

Yemen's vulnerable children urgently need humanitarian access to food and medicine before mass deaths of many more children occur.

Therefore, we urge: The United Nations General Assembly to refer the case of Yemeni civilian victims, including children, to the International Criminal Court to investigate the war crimes and crimes against humanity committed in Yemen, and to bring the perpetrators to justice; not allow them to escape from legal accountability and punishment, and provide redress for the victims.

We also urge the United Nations to provide the necessary humanitarian assistance to Yemen, including food, medicine, clean water and fuel, to save the lives of millions of children who are victims of the blockade and arbitrary restrictions.

We call on the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to submit periodic reports on the situation of human rights in Yemen to the Human Rights Council, especially following the termination of the mandate of the Group of Eminent Experts on Yemen, in the 2021.

We remind all parties to the conflict of the need to strictly adhere to the principles of international humanitarian law in managing military operations and limiting the effects of military operations on civilians, and we warn the parties to the conflict that the deliberate targeting of civilians and civilian objects is prohibited under international law and constitutes a war crime.

We stress that the coalition countries have legal and moral obligations to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian aid to the Yemeni population in need and to facilitate their access to various humanitarian services.

We declare our support for the peace negotiations between the government of Sana'a and the coalition countries to end the war and military operations, open airports and ports, pay employees' salaries, and remove foreign forces from Yemen in a manner that preserves the safety, security, and stability of Yemen, maritime navigation, and the region.

We repeat the calls of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to all parties involved in the war on Yemen to "choose peace for good," because the suffering of the Yemeni people will continue unless the war ends.

ALDAR Organisation Ansar Al-yemen Ataya Charitable Development Foundation Charitable Development Charity Association DAR AL-SALAM Organization Dunes/ الكتبان Entesaf Organization for Woman and Child Rights Eye For Patient EYE humanity Federation of Trade Unions Workers and Employees of the Capital, Sanaa Fleet Organization for sustainable strategic development (AOFDAS) Free Julian Assange General Federation of Yemen Trade Unions General Federation of Yemen Trade Unions(BWI) General Union for Spinning and Weaving Workers General Union of Excavators Homeland Organization for Development Human Rights & Poling Center INSAN Organization for Human Rights and Peace International Pharmaceutical Federation fip Middle East Foundation for Development & Human Rights Peace and Social Security Organization Peace Capital Forum Prevention organization Professional Hands Foundation Sada Al-Ahdath Develop. & Media Found Social mobilization Foundation Development Steps Building For Development Stop the WAR in Yemen Tahama Organization for Rights & Development & Human Heritage The General Trade and Crafts Syndicate The Ruby of Yemen Development Foundation The Trade Union Committee for Drivers TUSCPS YEMEN Union of the Ministry of Culture Union of Workers and Employees of the Ministry of Public Health and Population US-WARs Middle-and Middle-East YEMEN CENTER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS Yemen Dental Association Yemen Pilots & Flight Engineers Union Y. P. F. E . U Yemen Muzdahr organization for care and development (YMOCD) Yemeni community pharmacists syndicate Yemeni Pharm. Syndicate Zain AlAbdeen Charity Organization المرصد العربي لحقوق الانساس و المواظنه , NGO(s) without consultative status, also share the views expressed in this statement.