

**List of Issues addressed to the Houthis/Ansar Allah by the Group of Eminent Experts on Yemen established pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution A/HRC/RES/ 45/15**

**I. Introduction**

In addition to the previous list of issues sent on 10 June 2021, please find enclosed a request for further information addressed to the Houthis/Ansar Allah. Responses will be included in the GEE's report to the Human Rights Council, with the exception of any information that the Houthis/Ansar Allah request to remain confidential.

The GEE would be grateful to receive replies no later than 25 August 2021. The GEE reiterates its call to receive any other submissions that the Houthis/Ansar Allah may wish to present.

**II. List of issues to be addressed by the Houthis/Ansar Allah**

**A. Implementation of GEE Recommendations**

1. The GEE report of 28 September 2020 contains findings of fact and recommendations to the parties to the conflict in Yemen. Please describe the steps taken to investigate cases described in the GEE report to hold perpetrators to account, to prevent recurrence, and to implement the GEE's recommendations.

**B. Humanitarian situation**

2. What measures are the authorities in Sana'a taking to ensure that any COVID-19 related treatments are safe, available, accessible, and affordable to all who need them. The GEE would appreciate receiving information concerning measures taken to protect people in vulnerable situations, including older persons, people living in poverty, people with disabilities, minority communities, the Muhamasheen, internally displaced people, migrants, and refugees, persons in overcrowded settings, people in detention.
3. Taking into account that the first phase of vaccination is reportedly addressing health workers exclusively, the GEE would appreciate receiving more information on how adequate, equitable, and effective vaccination will be carried out throughout the process. In particular, the GEE would be interested in getting more information on how people in vulnerable situations mentioned in the previous paragraph will be prioritized? Since March 2015 humanitarian actors have reportedly experienced significant impediments in accessing various areas, including being unable to distribute basic humanitarian aid goods such as food, medicine, water, and shelter items. Please share with the GEE any information in relation to these reports, with any documents you may deem relevant.
4. The GEE continues to receive reports that despite clearances obtained from the UN Verification and Inspection Mechanism, some vessels carrying wheat were denied the ability to deliver their shipments at Hudaydah port. Please share with the GEE any specific restrictive policies or directives provided toward vessels using Hudaydah port. The GEE would further appreciate receiving information explaining how the work of the humanitarian actors has been facilitated. In your response, please indicate whether the needs of the most affected and vulnerable categories have been prioritized.
5. The GEE would appreciate receiving information concerning efforts undertaken by the authorities in Sana'a to fully implement the Stockholm Agreement signed in 2019, in particular, measures and steps taken to facilitate the freedom of movement of civilians and goods.
6. In light of the renewed concerns expressed by the international community over the decaying of the Safer oil tanker and the potential for far-reaching environmental damage in case of its explosion, what are the measures being taken by the authorities to prevent this occurrence. In particular, what steps are being taken to grant and facilitate access by the United Nations with respect to necessary maintenance work?

### **C. Right to Education**

7. The GEE would be grateful receiving information pertaining to any measures being taken to ensure that education in areas under the control of the authorities in Sana'a is not interrupted and that the necessary measures are taken in relation to the protection of schools. Please provide with documents and details your version of the events in relation to the incidents during which the following schools were attacked or impacted by hostilities:
  - I. On 21 September 2020, in Al-Humayniyah village, Hays's district, Hudaydah governorate, the Al-Kifah school.
  - II. On 14th March 2020, in Tai'zz city, Tariq Ibn Ziad school.
  - III. On 6 March 2021, in Al Nosaireh neighborhood, Al Mudhaffar District, Ta'izz Province, Al Zubairy Primary School.

### **D. Administration of justice and detention**

8. Please provide details on the procedures for detainees to make a complaint about their conditions of detention to the Ministry of Human Rights and the number of complaints received since 1 January 2019 and the outcome of cases that were investigated.
9. Please describe the process for ensuring the fair trial standards, and those detained are provided with access to legal counsel at all stages, including at the first instance hearing before the Specialized Criminal Court.
10. In 2021, the GEE continues to receive allegations of individuals were detained for extended periods of time incommunicado, without formal legal proceedings, forcibly disappeared, and/or subjected to torture and inhuman and degrading treatment in the prisons run by the authorities in Sana'a. Please share with the GEE your version of events, and any documents you may find relevant.
11. The GEE received allegations that from 2017 to 2021 a number of cases of women activists were detained, forcibly disappeared, and tortured, including sexual violence in unofficial prisons controlled by authorities in Sana'a. Please share with the GEE your perspective of events and any documents you may believe are relevant.
12. Please provide an overview of the conditions of the detention facilities under the control of authorities in Sana'a, including detainees' access to the right to adequate food and living standards as well as medical care.
13. Please indicate the legal provisions that justify the trial in absentia for members of the Baha'i community who were expelled from Yemen.
14. Please indicate the legal provisions that justify the confiscation of property and institutional assets as well as the prevention of financial transactions for the Baha'i community.
15. The GEE received allegations that human rights defenders, including journalists and members from minority groups, are currently held in detention, despite existing orders by the criminal prosecution issuing their release. Please share with the GEE your version of events with any documents you may deem relevant.
16. The GEE received allegations that some of the University of Science and Technology and Sana'a University curricula includes hate speeches against Baha'is and other religious minorities. Please share with the GEE your perspective of events and documents you may find relevant.

## **E. Freedom of expression and activities of civil society and non-governmental organisations**

17. The GEE has received allegations that authorities in Sana'a have banned, the publication and circulation of all non-government news outlets. Please share with the GEE your version of these events, with any documents you may deem relevant.
18. The GEE raised concerns in its last report of 28 September 2020 and the accompanying Conference Room Paper, and has continued to receive reports, that the authorities in Sana'a have barred, or frustrated civil society and non-governmental organisations' work related to all gender-based violence (GBV) protection, awareness raising and prevention work. Please share with the GEE your version of events related to ongoing reports, with any documents you may deem relevant.

## **F. Gender related issues (GBV)**

19. The GEE raised concerns in its last report of 28 September 2020 and the accompanying Conference Room Paper, and has continued to receive reports, of a collapse in civil society protection networks and access to justice for women and girls survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) as a result of the parties' actions. Please describe the steps taken to investigate the GEE's concerns and protect and advance women and girls' right to protection from violence. Please share with the GEE your version of events related to ongoing reports, with any documents you may deem relevant.
20. The GEE raised concerns in its last report of 28 September 2020 and the accompanying Conference Room Paper that the actions of the parties were exacerbating gender inequality, increasing GBV, and severely undermining the fundamental rights and freedoms of women and girls. Please describe the steps taken to investigate the GEE's concerns and protect and advance women's and girls' fundamental rights and freedoms. Please share with the GEE your version of events related to ongoing reports, with any documents you may deem relevant.
21. The GEE raised concerns in its last report of 28 September 2020 and the accompanying Conference Room Paper, and has continued to receive reports, of the parties targeting women who are human rights defenders and women's human rights defenders. Please describe any steps taken to investigate the GEE's concerns, to hold perpetrators to account, and to prevent recurrence. Please share with the GEE your version of events related to ongoing reports, with any documents you may deem relevant.
22. The GEE raised concerns in its last report of 28 September 2020 and the accompanying Conference Room Paper, and has continued to receive reports, that in 2017-2020, the authorities in Sana'a - specifically the CID and National Security - have conducted arbitrary arrests, torture and disappearances of women and girls, including the use of sexual violence. Please describe any steps taken to investigate the GEE's concerns, to hold perpetrators to account, and to prevent recurrence. Please share with the GEE your version of events related to ongoing reports, with any documents you may deem relevant.

## **G. Migrants**

23. The GEE has received information that on 7 March 2021 least 45 African migrants were killed, and more than 202 others were seriously injured when a detention ward they were in caught fire inside the Immigration, Passports and Naturalization Authority (IPNA) in Khawalan Street, As Sabain District, Amanat Al Asimah. Please share with the GEE your understanding of these events. The GEE further requests any information about the outcome of investigations undertaken and on any related accountability actions undertaken by the authorities in Sana'a, and any corrective actions being taken, with any documents you may deem relevant, where applicable. Please provide details of those killed or injured, disaggregated by, age, gender and nationality.

## **H. Recruitment and detention of children**

24. Please describe the process for screening new Military, Criminal Investigation, Political Security, and National Security recruits for their age to ensure that no new recruits are younger than 18 years old.
25. Please provide any information you may have on measures, with any documents you may deem relevant, being taken for the demobilization, reintegration, rehabilitation and family reunification of children formerly associated with armed groups or armed forces in Yemen.

## **I. Aden International Airport**

26. On 30 December 2020, three missiles were reportedly launched from the authorities in Sana'a military positions hit the Aden International Airport. Please share with the GEE your version of events, with any documents you may deem relevant. The GEE further requests any information about any investigations undertaken and the outcome of such investigations into this incident, and information on any related accountability actions undertaken with regard to this incident.