

List of Issues addressed to the Government of Yemen 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 to which the Group of Eminent Experts on Yemen (GEE) would appreciate receiving a response, please find enclosed a request for further information addressed to the Government of Yemen. Responses will be included in the GEE's report to the Human Rights Council, with the exception of any information that the Government of Yemen requests to remain confidential.

The GEE would be grateful to receive replies no later than 26 August 2021. The GEE reiterates its call to receive any other submissions that the Government of Yemen may wish to present.

II. List of issues to be addressed by the Government of Yemen

A. Implementation of GEE Recommendations

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

B. Administration of justice and detention

2. Please indicate the criteria and number of detainees released as part of the measures to contain the spread of COVID-19.
3. The GEE has received allegations of detainees who are in prolonged detention, without formal legal proceedings, forcibly disappeared, and/or subjected to torture and ill-treatment, the procedures for detainees to make a complaint about their conditions of detention since March 2015 and the outcome of cases that were investigated.
4. Please share with the GEE your understanding of these events with any documents you may deem relevant.
5. Please describe the process for ensuring that detainees are provided with access to legal counsel at all stages, including at the first instance hearing before the Specialized Criminal Court.
6. Please provide figures of persons who have been detained without any subsequent legal proceedings in Mar'ib, the procedures for detainees to make a complaint about their conditions of detention, including allegations of torture, and the number of complaints received since 1 February 2021, and outcomes of the cases investigated.

C. Gender-related issues

7. 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 girl 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.
8. 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.

9. 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 provide any information with the GEE in relation to ongoing reports, with any documents you may deem relevant.
10. 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 parties perpetrating sexual violence against men and boys in detention. 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.

D. Fundamental freedoms

11. Please describe the measures taken by the Government of Yemen from 2017 to 2021 to protect and advance the fundamental rights and freedoms, including measures and steps taken towards the protection of journalists and media workers as well as investigations on incidents affecting their ability to exercise freedom of expression due to threats of prosecution, arrest, imprisonment, denial of access, and failures to investigate and prosecute crimes against them
12. The GEE has also received allegations that authorities of the Government of Yemen have banned, since June 2019, the publication and circulation of news outlets, including news posted online. Please share with the GEE your understanding of these events, with documents and materials if available.

E. Humanitarian situation

13. What measures is the Government of Yemen 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.
14. Taking into account that the COVID 19 national vaccination plan gives priority during the first phase to healthcare workers, people age 55 and over, people with comorbidities, and social groups unable to practice physical distancing, the GEE would appreciate receiving more information on how adequate, equitable, and effective vaccination will be carried out throughout the process. Will the additional doses recently assigned to Socotra Island be included in the national vaccination plan and delivered according to the same criteria?
15. Since January 2020, humanitarian actors have reportedly experienced significant impediments in accessing various areas under the control of the Government of Yemen, 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.
16. The GEE continues to receive reports that despite clearances obtained from the UN Verification and Inspection Mechanism, some vessels carrying wheat, medicine and fuel derivatives, have been delayed in their entry into Hudaydah. Please share with the GEE any specific restrictive policies or directives provided toward vessels using Hudaydah port.

17. The GEE would appreciate receiving information concerning efforts undertaken by the Government of Yemen 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 and the delivery of humanitarian aid as stipulated in the agreement. The GEE would further appreciate receiving information explaining how the work of the humanitarian actors across the affected districts of Hudaydah has been facilitated. In your response, please indicate whether the needs of the most affected and vulnerable categories have been prioritized.

F. Right to Education

18. The GEE would be grateful receiving information pertaining to any measures being taken to ensure that education 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 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, Taizz Province, Al Zubairy Primary School.

G. Attack on Aden International Airport on 30 December 2020

19. Regarding the attack on Aden International Airport on 30 December 2020, please share with the GEE your version of events, with any documents you may deem relevant. The GEE further requests any information about the outcome of investigations undertaken and on any related accountability actions undertaken by the Government of Yemen, where applicable. Please provide the following information :
- a) Has the airport been used for military purposes ?;
 - b) How many civilians were in the airport when the attack occurred ? If possible, please include the numbers disaggregated by age and gender ;
 - c) How many civilians were killed and how many were injured as a result of the attack? Possibly including the numbers disaggregated by age, and gender.
 - d) How many military personnel were in the airport before and when the attack took place, what are their nationalities and what were their roles ?

H. Military and Security Structure

20. The GEE would appreciate receiving clarification as to whether there has been any progress made in implementation of the Riyadh agreement, especially with regard to the security and military annexes.
21. On 25 June 2021, the President of the Southern Transitional Council issued decrees, including for the appointment of a new commander for the Logistic and Support brigades, and for the transfer of the brigades outside Aden to operate under the umbrella of the Ministry of Defence. In addition, the Security Belt Forces were directed to carry out security and police tasks under the umbrella of the Ministry of Interior. Please inform the GEE if these decrees were adopted with the agreement of the Government of Yemen? If yes, please provide more details.
22. On the west coast, there are various armed groups operating under the command of the Joint Operations Forces. The GEE would appreciate receiving more details about these forces, in particular, the relations between the Joint Operations Forces and the Yemeni Ministry of Defense?

I. Recruitment and detention of children

23. 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.
24. 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.