



General Assembly

Distr.: General
20 September 2017

English only

Human Rights Council

Thirty-sixth session

11-29 September 2017

Agenda item 4

Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

Written statement* submitted by the Agence pour les droits de l'homme, a non-governmental organization 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.

[16 September 2017]

* This written statement is issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the submitting non-governmental organization(s).

GE.17-16493(E)



* 1 7 1 6 4 9 3 *

Please recycle A small recycling symbol consisting of three chasing arrows forming a triangle.



The continued killing of civilians and targeted civilian objects, population gathering, and many victims of children and women by the airstrikes of the Arab coalition warplanes led by Saudi Arabia on Yemen and the overlook of international community

Over the past 29 months, since the start of the airstrikes by Saudi-led coalition warplanes on Yemen and following logistical and intelligence operations by the United States of America and the United Kingdom, which have been accompanied by a massive land, air and sea blockade. Therefore, the access to essential items such as food, medicine, medical supplies, oil products and humanitarian aid has been severely restricted. As a result, Yemen has become a mass grave and is on the verge of a humanitarian disaster that threatens the lives of millions of people who can no longer meet their basic needs such as food, water and medicine.

The air strikes have killed thousands of civilians who are not taking part in hostilities and have forced nearly one million people to flee and live in tragic conditions and suffer of food insecurity, health care, adequate housing and lack of potable water, which is the direct cause of the spread of diseases and epidemics such as cholera and meningitis. In addition to, the malnutrition that has threatened the lives of 2 million children and based on international reports that one child is dying every ten minutes.

Thousands of coalition air strikes represented a clear violation of international humanitarian law, human rights law and basic rules governing the conduct of combat operations and protection of civilian persons not taking part in hostilities so indeed they indiscriminately targeted civilians in homes, gathering residential, markets, the halls of consolation and wedding. They also targeted indiscriminately and without military necessity the food stores, tankers of oil and food, wells, schools, universities, roads, bridges, ports, airports, medical sites, civilian objects, cultural objects and archaeological sites.

Therefore, we, in the civil society organizations, signatory to this statement express our strong condemnation of the continuation of these military operations and air strikes of this futile aggression, which has no purpose and no end. We also express our deep shock at international disregard and silence, which has reached the exclusion of all this from the thirty-sixth session of the Human Rights Council and the inclusion of Yemen only in item 10, which relates to training and capacity-building of civil society.

We are deeply shocked by the report that issued by the High Commissioner for Human Rights (Yemen, a man-made disaster), which is mentioned the mistakes and illusions of the reality of the disaster and will not pass without a response to expose the falsity and attempt to falsify the reality of the humanitarian situation and the extent of the atrocity of its catastrophe and the sole reason is the aggressive war of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates and their alliances. Moreover, the huge amount of crimes committing by the warplanes in front of the world, for example but not limited Al-Hendoud market massacre, Mostaba massacre and Al-Azraq massacre and the massacre of women's condolence in Arhab and in Dhubab and other massacres. More than 4000 serious crimes, as well as the terrorist crimes to clear Saber Al-Mawadhim and Al-Serari areas of Al-Junaid and Al-Rumaima. And the slaughter of captured soldiers and burial them alive, the last of which was the burial alive of the captured Abdul Al-Qawi Al-Jabri in addition to the slaughter and displacement of civilians and the representation of their bodies, which committed by Daesh and al-Qaeda groups and other terrorist groups under the name of the forces of Hadi, or named pro-government based on the reports of sanctions committee experts on Al-Qaeda that Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates forces and the coalition involved with them side by side and receive from them funding and support and operates under the guidance, command and other crimes committed by them in front of the world and carried out in some of the mass executions, which will not be obscured by this report, which was recently issued on 5/9/2017, in convening of the 36th Geneva Session of the Human Rights Council with a view to passing it on to the Council without giving the opportunity to expose it and the fact that " Yemen is in a disaster and the Commission for Human Rights participated with these crimes ".

We are also disappointed by the moral and professional fall of the international body, represented by the United Nations and the Security Council, in accordance with political positions which have abandoned the basic principles for which it was established and assumed responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security and for the preservation of the lives and dignity of peoples. In addition to, save the generations from the scourge and the consequences of wars, so it turned into a cover that justifies the killing, wounding and displacement of millions of Yemenis and starving them to accept them the external tutelage and divide their country and attack on its unity.

This politicization of the work of the international body has hindered the efforts of many human rights professionals and experts working in United Nations bodies, which we call upon them to exert more efforts in achieving the humanitarian goals in accordance with the principles adopted by international covenants and principles of human rights.

We put the legal, moral and humanitarian responsibility to international community to act urgently and stop killing the civilians, children and women in Yemen, and we present to the United Nations and its mechanisms the statistics from the raids of the aggression coalition led by Saudi Arabia and the UAE. As monitored by the Middle East Organization for Development and Human Rights, the civilians' victims are 45601 including 15388 killed including 2248 women and 2773 children and 30213 wounded including 3713 women and 3350 children.

Based on the above:

We call upon the international community to fulfill its legal, humanitarian and moral obligations towards the people of Yemen and to take urgent action against the war and airstrikes that kill the civilians and to work urgently to end the illegal siege. Where the country reached to catastrophic, famine and epidemics as a result of the disruption of the health system and extreme poverty and the terrorist groups controlled the southern and eastern provinces and some northern provinces with direct support and funding from Saudi Arabia and UAE and resulted in the forced displacement of about 1.5 million and a half citizens to the northern regions of Sana'a and around it.

We also call upon the United Nations and the Human Rights Council to fulfill its obligations and to implement the Charter of the United Nations and human rights treaties, which guarantee the protection of civilians and save, dignity and livelihood of civilians and the fight against terrorism without taking into account any threats to stop funding or other pressures on the United Nations to stop funding by Saudi Arabia or the United States, according to statements and decisions of the United Nations and expert reports on this.

We stress that the retreat of the United Nations on the protection of civilians and condemn the killing of children and turn a blind eye to war crimes and genocide against the Yemeni people is response to threats to stop funding by Saudi Arabia or the United States and it is a form of indirect support for the perpetrators of crimes and international management and employment of the United Nations and the international consensus, which is contrary to the work of the United Nations that is the achievement of international peace and security.

We also call urgently to include Yemen in the items relating to all these crimes and violations, in particular items II and IV, on the agenda of the 36th session of the Human Rights Council, and do what it must take to:

- 1- Stop the aggression against Yemen and take procedure to ensure its security, independence and unity.
- 2- Lift the air, land and sea blockade and allow the entrance of all basic food, medical needs, oil derivatives and provide urgent relief to the Yemeni people and ensure the return of displaced to their areas.
- 3- Condemning the Coalition for supporting terrorism and assigning the special rapporteur to terrorist groups and the sanctions Committee that imposed on Al-Qaeda organization to investigate the relationship between Saudi Arabia and the Coalition countries in supporting and financing terrorism in Yemen and fulfillment of international obligations in combating terrorism to ensure the enhancement of international peace and security.
- 4- Take procedure that will achieve the return of all prisoners of the military and the people's committees or civilians who have been arrested while in or passing through areas under the control of the allied coalition forces or their armed groups, and to disclose the fate of the disappeared.
- 5- Formation of an independent and impartial international commission to investigate crimes and violations of the bombing of the warplanes coalition of aggression against civilians in Yemen.

Issued by Human Rights Agency and Middle East Foundation for Development & Human Rights-

Sana'a- 9th September, 2017

*Justice sans Frontière, Middle East Foundation for Development and Human Rights, Voices Organization, free-free media, Supporters of Rights and Freedoms Organization, Transparency of the Foundation for Human Rights, Development Studies, International Development Group, Organization Damon Hamdani Foundation for Studies and Research, Lawyers Without Borders, Phoenix organization development, Imaniat Foundation for Women and Children, National Media Center Economic Organization, Shams justice of Rights and Freedoms, Yemen of Rights and Freedoms, Be for Culture and Creativity, Foundation youthful spirit of human and social development, Yemeni Center for Civil Rights. See youth organization, Foundation for Development and Human Rights, NGOs without consultative status, also share the views expressed in this statement.