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### COMPILATION PREPARED BY THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 15(B) OF THE ANNEX TO HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL RESOLUTION 5/1<sup>\*</sup>

Yemen<sup>1</sup>

The present report is a compilation of the information contained in the reports of treaty bodies, special procedures, including observations and comments by the State concerned, and other relevant official United Nations documents. It does not contain any opinions, views or suggestions on the part of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), other than those contained in public reports issued by OHCHR. It follows the structure of the general guidelines adopted by the Human Rights Council. Information included herein has been systematically referenced in endnotes. The report has been prepared taking into consideration the four-year periodicity of the first cycle of the review. In the absence of recent information, the latest available reports and documents have been taken into consideration, unless they are outdated. Since this report only compiles information contained in official United Nations documents, lack of information or focus on specific issues may be due to non-ratification of a treaty and/or to a low level of interaction or cooperation with international human rights mechanisms.

\* Late submission. GE.09-11938

# I. BACKGROUND AND FRAMEWORK

A. Scope of international obligations <sup>2</sup>	2
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Core universal human rights treaties <sup>3</sup>	Date of ratification, accession or succession	Declarations /reservations	Recognition of specific competences of treaty bodies
ICERD	18 Oct. 1972 <sup>4</sup>	Yes (arts. 22, 17 (1) and 18 $(1)^5$	Individual complaints (art. 14): No
ICESCR	9 Feb. 1987 <sup>6</sup>	None	-
ICCPR	9 Feb. 1987 <sup>7</sup>	None	Inter-State complaints (art. 41): No
CEDAW	30 May 1984 <sup>8</sup>	Yes (art. 29. (1) <sup>9</sup>	-
CAT	5 Nov. 1991	None	Inter-State complaints (art. 21): No Individual complaints (art. 22): No Inquiry procedure (art. 20): No
CRC	1 May 1991	None	-
OP-CRC-AC	2 March 2007	Binding declaration under article 3: 18 years	-
OP-CRC-SC	15 Dec. 2004	None	-

Other main relevant international instruments	Ratification, accession or succession
Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide	Yes
Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court	No
Palermo Protocol <sup>11</sup>	No
Refugees and stateless persons <sup>12</sup>	Yes, except 1954 and 1961 Conventions
Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and Additional Protocols thereto <sup>13</sup>	Yes, except Additional Protocol III
ILO fundamental conventions <sup>14</sup>	Yes
UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education	No

1. Treaty bodies invited Yemen to consider: acceding or ratifying ICCPR-OP 2,<sup>15</sup> OP-CEDAW,<sup>16</sup> ICRMW,<sup>17</sup> CRPD, CED<sup>18</sup> OP-CAT<sup>19</sup> and the Palermo Protocol;<sup>20</sup> and making the optional declaration provided for in article 14 of ICERD<sup>21</sup> as well as the declarations under articles 21 and 22 of CAT.<sup>22</sup>

2. In 2003, the Committee against Torture (CAT) welcomed the intention of Yemen to ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court <sup>23</sup> and OHCHR reported that, in 2007, the Parliament of Yemen ratified the Rome Statute.<sup>24</sup>

#### **B.** Constitutional and legislative framework

3. While welcoming the adoption of the Rights of the Child Act No. 45 of 2002,<sup>25</sup> the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) remained concerned that the existing legislation in Yemen does not fully reflect the principles and provisions of the Convention, e.g. regarding the definition of the child, family law and the administration of juvenile justice.<sup>26</sup> Similarly, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) was concerned, inter alia, that, substantial parts of Yemen's legal system remains in contradiction to the CEDAW<sup>27</sup> and urged Yemen to incorporate the principle of equality between women and men

in its Constitution, or other appropriate legislation, in line with article 2 (a) of the Convention, and reflect fully the definition of discrimination contained in article 1 of the Convention in its national legislation.<sup>28</sup>

#### C. Institutional and human rights infrastructure

4. The Human Rights Committee (HR Committee), CAT and the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) appreciated the creation in 2003 of the Ministry of Human Rights.<sup>29</sup> The 2005 Common Country Assessment (CCA) report noted that the Government has taken commendable steps to promote a rights-based approach, including through the establishment of a Ministry of Human Rights with an active complaints and human rights information section, and responsiveness to international scrutiny including timely submission of treaty reports and responding to reports by international nongovernmental human rights organizations.<sup>30</sup> With reference to complaints received by the Ministry of Human Rights in the past, CERD in 2006 noted the absence of complaints involving racial discrimination.<sup>31</sup>

5. CEDAW, CRC, the HR Committee, and the Independent expert on extreme poverty recommended the establishment of a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles. <sup>32</sup> As at 20 February 2009, Yemen does not have an NHRI accredited by the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights. <sup>33</sup>

6. In 2008, CEDAW expressed satisfaction with the work of the Women's National Committee. It commended the Women's National Committee on its recommendations to the Government, although not yet adopted by the Parliament, to amend the many remaining discriminatory laws, such as the Personal Status Law, the Crime and Penalty Law, the Election and Referendum Law, the Nationality Law, the Labour Code and the Prison Law.<sup>34</sup> It further recommended that Yemen transform the Women's National Committee into a Ministry within the Government.<sup>35</sup>

#### II. PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ON THE GROUND

A. Cooperation with human rights mechanisms

Treaty body <sup>36</sup>	Latest report submitted and considered	Latest concluding observations	Follow-up response	Reporting status
CERD	2005	Aug. 2006	Overdue since 2007	Combined seventeenth and eighteenth report due 2009
CESCR	2002	Nov. 2003	-	Second report submitted 2008, not yet considered
HR Committee	2004	July 2005	Overdue since 2006	Fifth report due 2009
CEDAW	2007	July 2008	Due in 2010	Combined seventh and eighth report due 2013
CAT	2002	Nov. 2003	Sept. 2005	Second report overdue since 1996 Third report overdue since 2000 Fourth report overdue since 2004
CRC	2003	June 2005	-	Fourth report overdue since May 2008
OP-CRC- AC	-	-	-	Initial report due 2009

#### 1. Cooperation with treaty bodies

Treaty body <sup>36</sup>	Latest report submitted and considered	Latest concluding observations Follow-up response	Reporting status
OP-CRC- SC	-		Initial report submitted 2008, not yet considered

7. In 2005, the HR Committee noted with concern that Yemen justifies the absence of progress on several important issues by the impossibility, in its view, of respecting at the same time religious principles and certain obligations under the ICCPR. The Committee disagreed with such an interpretation and stated that, in its view, cultural and religious specificities may be taken into consideration in order to develop adequate means to ensure universal respect for universal human rights, but they cannot jeopardize the very recognition of these rights for all. It recommended that Yemen should examine in good faith all recommendations addressed to it by the Committee, and find ways to ensure that its desire to abide by religious principles is implemented in a manner that is fully compatible with its obligations under ICCPR.<sup>37</sup>

8. CEDAW is especially concerned, inter alia, that discrimination against women remains rampant, the development and advancement of women has not significantly improved, but has even deteriorated with regard to certain issues and recommended that Yemen consider carefully all recommendations made by the Committee and ensure that its obligations under CEDAW, its religious principles and its cultural and social values are made compatible in order to promote and protect fully the human rights and fundamental freedoms of Yemen's women. <sup>38</sup>

Standing invitation issued	No	
Latest visits or mission reports	The Independent Expert on human rights and extreme poverty (2 -5 October 2003) <sup>39</sup>	
Visits agreed upon in principle	Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions (2006), Special Rapporteur on the right to food (2009)	
Visits requested and not yet agreed upon	Special Rapporteur on torture <b>a</b> nd other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (since 2006), Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief (2006)	
Facilitation/cooperation during missions	The Independent Expert expressed appreciation to the Government for the assistance she received during the mission.	
Follow-up to visits	-	
Responses to letters of allegations and urgent appeals	In the period under review, a total of 38 communications were sent to the Government. In addition to particular groups, these communications concerned 99 individuals, including 4 women. In the same period, Yemen replied to four communications (10 per cent).	
Responses to questionnaires on thematic issues <sup>40</sup>	In the period under review, Yemen responded to two of the thirteen questionnaires sent by special procedures mandate holders <sup>41</sup> within the deadlines. <sup>42</sup>	

#### 2. Cooperation with special procedures

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#### 3. Cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

9. At the request of the Government of Yemen, OHCHR carried out a mission in October 2004 to explore possible human rights activities to be implemented with the Government, civil society and the UNCT.<sup>43</sup> In 2005, in cooperation with UNDP and the Ministry of Human Rights of Yemen, OHCHR formulated a technical cooperation project in the field of human rights for Yemen. This project included supporting the establishment of a national human rights institution, harmonizing legislation in light of human rights treaties, and providing training in reporting to treaty bodies.<sup>44</sup> In 2005, OHCHR was present in Yemen through a Human Rights Adviser within the United Nations Country Team.<sup>45</sup> Yemen is now covered by OHCHR's regional office in Beirut.<sup>46</sup>

# **B.** Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law

#### 1. Equality and non-discrimination

10. In 2005, the HR Committee welcomed the adoption of various measures for the advancement of women as well as the recognition by Yemen that stereotypical views of women's and men's social roles and responsibilities have had a negative impact on some aspects of Yemeni legislation.<sup>47</sup> CEDAW in 2008 noted with concern discriminatory provisions in the Personal Status Law of 1992 and in the Citizenship Law of 1990 which affect women's equal rights in matters relating to marriage, divorce, testimony, property, nationality, child custody and inheritance.<sup>48</sup> It called upon Yemen to take measures to ensure equal rights between women and men with regard to personal status.<sup>49</sup> Additionally, CEDAW urged Yemen to amend the Personal Status Law to prohibit polygamy and to abolish the institution of guardianship.<sup>50</sup>

11. CEDAW was extremely concerned at the negative consequences of the 1999 amendment to the 1992 Personal Status Law, which legalized the marriage of girl children below 15 years of age, with the consent of their guardian, which is a serious violation of Yemen's obligations under the Convention. It remained deeply concerned at the "legality" of such early marriages of girl children, some as young as eight years of age, which amounted to violence against them.<sup>51</sup> CEDAW urged Yemen to take urgent legislative measures to raise the minimum age of marriage for girls; stipulate that child marriages have no legal effect; and to enforce the requirement to register all marriages in order to monitor their legality and to develop awareness-raising campaigns.<sup>52</sup>

12. In 2006, CERD took note of the discrepancy between the assessment of Yemen, according to which Yemeni society is ethnically homogenous, and credible information the Committee had received regarding descent-based and or culturally distinguishable groups, including the Al-Akhdam. <sup>53</sup> A 2007 ILO report noted that caste-based discrimination has been identified in Yemen, the Al Akhdam being a socially condemned group treated as non-citizens.<sup>54</sup>

13. CESCR and CERD expressed concern about the persistence of de facto discrimination, including against the Al Akhdam.<sup>55</sup> CERD also noted with concern reports it had received indicating that members of the Al-Akhdam community allegedly faced difficulties, if not outright barriers to effectively exercising their right to own property.<sup>56</sup> CERD recommended that Yemen develop and put into action a national strategy with the participation of members of affected communities in order to eliminate discrimination against members of marginalized and vulnerable descent-based groups. In particular, it recommended that Yemen develop legislation

and practice prohibiting all discriminatory practices based on descent in employment, housing and so as to ensure equal access to health care and social security services for members of affected communities, in particular the Al-Akhdam.<sup>57</sup>

14. In 2005, CRC was deeply concerned at the persistence of discriminatory social attitudes against girls and was concerned at the disparities in the enjoyment of rights and social discrimination experienced by, inter alia, children addressed as Akhdam, children born out of wedlock, children with disabilities, children living or working on the street and children living in rural areas. <sup>58</sup> It recommended that Yemen prioritize and target social services for such children.<sup>59</sup>

# 2. Right to life, liberty and security of the person

15. The HR Committee remained concerned that the offences carrying the death penalty under Yemeni law are not consistent with the requirements of ICCPR and that the right to seek a pardon is not guaranteed for all on an equal footing. The preponderant role of the victim's family in deciding whether or not the penalty is carried out on the basis of financial compensation ("blood money") is also contrary to the Covenant. It asked Yemen to limit the cases in which the death penalty is imposed, ensure that it is applied only for the most serious crimes, and officially abolish the sentence of death by stoning.<sup>60</sup>

16. Allegations were transmitted in a number of cases by the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions concerning the non-respect of international standards relating to the imposition of the death penalty.<sup>61</sup> The Special Rapporteur regrets that in a number of instances the Government's responses did not clarify whether the trial proceedings fully complied with international standards relating to the imposition of capital punishment.<sup>62</sup> Allegations were also transmitted by the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and the Special Rapporteur on the question of torture concerning death sentences imposed on children.<sup>63</sup> Information from the Government was welcomed which indicated that in two cases the individuals were released.<sup>64</sup>

17. In 2003, CAT expressed concern about reports of the frequent practice of incommunicado detention by Political Security Department officials, including occurrences of mass arrests and detention for prolonged periods without judicial process.<sup>65</sup> It recommended that Yemen take all appropriate measures to abolish de facto incommunicado detention.<sup>66</sup> In 2007, the Special Rapporteur on the question of torture transmitted allegations of incommunicado detention of persons alleged to be followers of a late Shi'a Zaidi cleric and opposition politician.<sup>67</sup>

18. CAT recommended that Yemen ensure that the expulsion, refoulement or extradition of a person to another State is in compliance with article 3 of the Convention.<sup>68</sup>

19. CEDAW was concerned in particular at articles 273 and 275 of the Penal Code identifying and criminalizing acts violating "public decency", under which women are systematically prosecuted, as well as article 232 providing that a man, or any other male relative, who kills his wife, or female members of the family suspected of adultery, is not prosecuted with murder.<sup>69</sup> It urged Yemen to repeal any discriminatory penal provisions of the Penal Code, including articles 273, 275 and, in particular, 232, as already proposed by the Women's National Committee several years ago, to ensure that homicides committed against women by their husbands or male relatives are prosecuted and punished in the same way as any other murders.<sup>70</sup>

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20. CAT and CESCR expressed concern about the situation of women in prisons and detention.<sup>71</sup> Additionally, CEDAW was concerned that female inmates frequently overstay their sentence due to the refusal of their guardian or family to receive them home after their sentences have been completed or they are unable to pay the blood money that has been assessed as payable. It was also concerned that the majority of women in prison have been sentenced for prostitution, adultery, alcoholism, unlawful or indecent behaviour, in a private or public setting.<sup>72</sup>

21. The HR Committee reiterated its deep concern that corporal punishment such as flogging, and in a few cases even amputation of limbs, are still prescribed by law and practiced in Yemen in violation of article 7 of ICCPR. The HR Committee recommended that Yemen should immediately put an end to such practices and modify its legislation accordingly.<sup>73</sup> CRC recommended that Yemen, as a matter of urgency, inter alia, review existing legislation and explicitly prohibit all forms of corporal punishment, and abolish by law the possibility of sentencing a child to any form of physical punishment.<sup>74</sup> It further recommended that Yemen assess the scope, nature and causes of child abuse and neglect with a view to adopting a comprehensive strategy and effective measures and policies and services.<sup>75</sup>

22. In 2005, CRC expressed its deep concern at the information that many children are trafficked to a neighbouring country often with the support of their parents.<sup>76</sup> It recommended that Yemen strengthen its efforts to address this problem and prevent children who are sent back from ending up in the streets.<sup>77</sup> It also recommended that Yemen develop a comprehensive strategy to address the increasingly high number of street children.<sup>78</sup>

23. CEDAW was concerned with so-called "tourist marriages" or "temporary marriages" of young Yemeni girls, usually from poor families, to non-Yemenis, usually rich men from neighbouring countries, which have become more common in the last years with the development of tourism. The Committee urged Yemen to adopt all necessary measures to prevent these phenomena and combat this form of sex tourism.<sup>79</sup>

24. The 2005 CCA report noted that child labour is widely practiced in the country and, unfortunately, accepted as a norm<sup>80</sup> In 2008 the ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations noted the adoption of a strategy for childhood and young persons in 2006, which highlights the efforts deployed for, inter alia, the abolition of child labour, for the prohibition of employment of children under the age of 18 in dangerous work, and the development of a comprehensive monitoring system for child labour, elaborated in collaboration with non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and ILO/IPEC.<sup>81</sup> The Committee requested the Government to take the necessary measures to ensure that the Labour Code is amended so as to prohibit hazardous work for children under 18.<sup>82</sup>

# 3. Administration of justice and the rule of law

25. The HR Committee expressed concern about the reported lack of efficiency and independence of the judiciary, and asked Yemen to ensure that the judiciary is free from any interference, in particular from the executive branch, in law as well as in practice.<sup>83</sup>

26. CAT recommended that Yemen adopt a definition of torture which covers all elements of that contained in article 1 of CAT, and amend domestic penal law accordingly; and ensure that all detained persons have immediate access to a doctor and a lawyer, as well as contact with their

families, at all stages of detention and that detainees held by the Political Security Department are given prompt access to judges.<sup>84</sup>

27. The 2005 CCA report mentioned that problems of poor access to and weak administration of justice remain widespread and are particularly serious for women, especially in rural areas where the traditional tribal system is male-centric and the formal court system dysfunctional. Women face difficulties in accessing the courts because of social restraints and other cultural, procedural and administrative impediments inside the courts. With high illiteracy rates, population dispersion and absence of public awareness campaigns, citizens remain unaware of their constitutional and legal rights and are unable to exercise them. Weak administrative capacity and lack of adequate infrastructure of the judiciary (Ministry of Justice and the courts) compound the problem. The litigation process is slow, and is marked by failure to execute court rulings, thus leading to lack of public trust in the Judiciary.<sup>85</sup> The 2005 CCA report also mentioned that conflict over property is a key source of armed conflict and must be resolved by the justice system.<sup>86</sup>

28. CAT expressed concern at the low minimum age of criminal responsibility<sup>87</sup> and CRC was also concerned about other shortcomings in the juvenile justice systems.<sup>88</sup> CRC recommended that Yemen, inter alia, raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility to an internationally acceptable level; develop an effective system of alternative sentencing for persons below 18 who are in conflict with the law, such as community service and restorative justice; ensure that persons below 18 in detention are separated from adults and that they remain in regular contact with their families while in the juvenile justice system.<sup>89</sup>

# 4. Right to privacy, marriage and family life

29. Following her visit in 2003, the Independent Expert on extreme poverty referred to the civil registration programme and to its usefulness in reporting on the existence of a child at birth, ensuring respect for the right to vote and combating electoral fraud.<sup>90</sup> She reported that the cost of issuing identity documents is too high to allow the poorest individuals and families to benefit from this essential public service.<sup>91</sup> In 2005, CRC was very concerned at the lack of birth registration of a significant number of children<sup>92</sup>, and recommended that Yemen encourage, inter alia, the use of mobile registration units, particularly in remote and rural areas.<sup>93</sup>

#### 5. Freedom of religion or belief, expression, association and peaceful assembly, and right to participate in public and political life

30. The HR Committee expressed concern about the prohibition of Muslims converting to another religion and recommended that Yemen review its position and take all necessary measures to ensure the freedom of all persons to choose a religion or belief, including the right to change one's current religion or belief.<sup>94</sup>

31. In 2007, the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief transmitted an allegation concerning threats against the Jewish community in northern Yemen by supporters of a slain Shiite cleric, and that the Government was not providing enough security for them. The Special Rapporteur was grateful for the Government's response of measures it is taking in this regard. <sup>95</sup> A communication was sent concerning the arrest and detention of members of the Bahá'í community in Sana'a by national security officials.<sup>96</sup>

32. Allegations were transmitted, including by the Special Rapporteur on the freedom of opinion and expression concerning the editor of an opposition weekly, for writing articles reportedly critical of the Government's policies, particularly in the fight against rebels in Saada.<sup>97</sup> The Special Rapporteur welcomed the Government's decision to release the editor and its intention to work towards abolishing criminal punishments for media-related offences.<sup>98</sup> Allegations continued to be transmitted concerning harassment, attacks, arrests and detention, and imprisonment of journalists writing about corruption, writing about, or filming, demonstrations, and writing articles critical of the Government, including in relation to human rights violations.<sup>99</sup> The Special Rapporteur expressed serious concern that the attacks tended to fall within a pattern of attacks by security forces on journalists. He called on the Government to investigate effectively threats and acts of violence against journalists and to bring to justice those responsible with a view to combating impunity.<sup>100</sup>

33. In 2008 an ILO Committee of Experts noted the Government's indication in the report that the Yemeni Journalists Union has submitted a draft law on the press and printing, which takes into account the provisions of the Abolition of Forced Labour Convention No. 105; and that the draft is being discussed by the journalists, information specialists, the Government's party and the opposition.<sup>101</sup>

34. Allegations were transmitted by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights defenders, concerning arrest, detention and imprisonment of human rights defenders.<sup>102</sup> A joint urgent appeal was transmitted by special procedures concerning arrests and detention of persons, particularly retired soldiers, following protests in relation to delayed or non-payment of pensions.<sup>103</sup>

35. CEDAW urged that Yemen take effective and sustained legal measures, including temporary special measures, to increase the representation of women at all levels and spheres of politics, especially in decision-making positions. It further urged Yemen to undertake awareness-raising campaigns about the importance of women's participation in decision-making for society as a whole, including in the public and private sectors.<sup>104</sup>

# 6. Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work

36. CESCR was concerned about the limited progress attained by Yemen to combat unemployment and that this remains at a very high rate, particularly among young people.<sup>105</sup> The 2005 CCA report noted that the youth in particular face tremendous hurdles in getting jobs and that the high youth unemployment rates could lead to political instability.<sup>106</sup>

37. In 2008 CEDAW recommended that Yemen implement targeted policies and programmes, including temporary special measures in order to increase the number of women in the formal work force, especially in the public sector.<sup>107</sup>

#### 7. Right to social security and to an adequate standard of living

38. CEDAW recommended that Yemen take measures through its mainstreaming efforts and Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS) to address the specific vulnerability of women in poverty, including efforts to ensure women's representation in the participatory approaches taken in the management of poverty reduction programmes. It urged Yemen to utilize temporary special measures to this effect.<sup>108</sup> CRC recommended that Yemen pay particular attention to children in

the PRS and in other programmes, and reform the social security system, with a view to broadening its coverage.<sup>109</sup>

39. While noting the existing health policies and programmes, CEDAW was concerned about the high rate of infant, child and maternal mortality in Yemen, and the limited access to health care services and family planning, especially in rural areas.<sup>110</sup> Similar concerns were raised by CRC and CESCR.<sup>111</sup> The 2007-2011 United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) report noted that prevailing social and cultural norms constrain the use of family planning. Much of the lack of access, even to physically accessible services is due to social restrictions on movement of women and the absence of female health workers.<sup>112</sup>

40. CRC was concerned at the existence of harmful traditional practices in certain regions of Yemen, including female genital mutilation (FGM), early marriages and deprivation of education.<sup>113</sup> CEDAW noted with concern the serious health complications for girls and women arising out of the practice of FGM.<sup>114</sup> CEDAW urged Yemen to adopt without delay the Safe Motherhood Law recently presented to the Parliament, which includes provisions prohibiting any practice that endangers women's health, such as early marriages and female genital mutilation, in addition to ensuring the provision of contraceptives in all health centres.<sup>115</sup>

41. The 2005 CCA report noted that Yemen is one of the world's most water scarce countries and has one of the highest rates of population growth.<sup>116</sup> Given the fact that over 80 per cent of the water is used in agriculture, with one third of it devoted to *qat* cultivation, the decline in water resources leads to household food insecurity, especially among poor families in vulnerable rural areas.<sup>117</sup> CESCR urged Yemen to introduce strategies, plans of action, and legislative and other measures to address the scarcity of water problems, in particular the sustainable management of available water resources.<sup>118</sup>

# 8. Right to education and to participate in the cultural life of the community

42. In 2003, CESCR urged Yemen to implement fully its National Action Plan for Education for All.<sup>119</sup> In 2008 the ILO Committee of Experts noted that the ratio of girls to boys enrolled in basic education has increased from 38 to 39 per cent from 2002/03 to 2005. However, free access to compulsory education and the high cost of schooling remained an important problem in Yemen.<sup>120</sup> CEDAW recommended that Yemen implement measures to ensure access to girls and women to all levels of education, including access to proper and dedicated toilet facilities, which have a direct impact on the realization of their right to education, especially in rural areas.<sup>121</sup>

43. A 2008 World Bank report noted that about one-half of the population remains illiterate and that Yemen still has significant secondary education gender gaps and in higher education the proportion of male students significantly surpasses that of females. <sup>122</sup> The HR Committee noted with concern that the high rate of illiteracy among women hinders the enjoyment of their civil and political rights. <sup>123</sup> CEDAW called on Yemen to strengthen its efforts to improve the literacy level of girls and women and urged it to raise general awareness of the importance of education as a human right and as a basis for the empowerment of women, and to take steps to overcome traditional attitudes that perpetuate discrimination. <sup>124</sup>

# 9. Migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers

44. A 2005 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Global report noted that thousands of Somali and Ethiopian asylum-seekers and refugees continued to embark on

risky sea journeys to Yemen in 2004. UNHCR has expressed its deep concern regarding the numbers of asylum-seekers and refugees reported to have lost their lives in the process.<sup>125</sup> The 2006 UNHCR Global report provided information that in July 2005, UNHCR signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Yemen and opened registration centres in six governorates to renew expired refugee cards and document refugees who arrived in Yemen since 2003.<sup>126</sup> CEDAW in 2008 called upon Yemen to: continue to strengthen its cooperation with UNHCR and adopt the draft refugee law, in compliance with the 1951 Convention and its 1967 Protocol; grant full access to UNHCR to detention centres for refugees, not to deport refugees without previous UNHCR verification of their status and to ensure refugees their right to security, especially for women and children due to their exposure to violence.<sup>127</sup>

#### 10. Human rights and counter-terrorism

45. The HR Committee expressed concern about reported grave violations of articles 6, 7, 9 and 14 of the ICCPR committed in the name of the anti-terrorism campaign. It asked Yemen to ensure that the utmost consideration is given to the principle of proportionality in all its responses to terrorist threats and activities, and bear in mind the non-derogable character of specific rights under ICCPR.<sup>128</sup> CAT, while aware of the difficulties that Yemen faces in its prolonged fight against terrorism, recalled that no exceptional circumstances whatsoever can be invoked as a justification for torture.<sup>129</sup>

46. Allegations were transmitted by the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention and the Special Rapporteurs on the question of torture and on the promotion and protection of human rights while countering terrorism concerning Yemeni nationals suspected of membership in Al-Qaida, who were transferred to Yemen and tortured in the custody of two foreign countries.<sup>130</sup> The Government informed that the men were awaiting trial. The Working Group on Arbitrary Detention found their detention in Yemen to be arbitrary and ordered their release.<sup>131</sup>

# III. ACHIEVEMENTS, BEST PRACTICES, CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS

47. The 2005 CCA report noted that the bill of rights in the present constitution and the ratification of all major international human rights instruments create an enabling environment for respect for and protection of human rights. However, the following factors have led to divergence between intentions and actions: (a) the delicate balance between two opposing forces of a central power on the one hand and the milieu of tribal sheikhs, military leaders and other socially influential characters on the other; (b) the issue of corruption and rent-seeking, which is closely related to this power nexus; and (c) the delicate balance between security and protection of human rights.<sup>132</sup>

48. In 2007, OHCHR noted that armed conflict in Yemen continued to delay progress in advancing human rights.<sup>133</sup>

# IV. KEY NATIONAL PRIORITIES, INITIATIVES AND COMMITMENTS

# Specific recommendations for follow-up

49. Following her visit in 2003, the Independent expert on human rights and extreme poverty issued recommendations, inter alia, to the Government, including with respect to the recognition of women's rights; illiteracy among women; reduction of the birth rate; accessible civil

registration programme; role of local authorities in efforts to combat poverty; and monitoring of poverty at the national level.<sup>134</sup>

50. In 2003, CAT requested Yemen to provide, within one year, information on its response to the Committee's recommendations related to de facto incommunicado detention and counter-terrorism measures.<sup>135</sup> On 22 August 2005, the Government provided a response to both issues.<sup>136</sup> In 2005, the HR Committee asked Yemen to provide, within one year, information on the follow-up to its recommendations concerning FGM, the anti-terrorism campaign, the use of force by security forces and corporal punishment.<sup>137</sup> In 2006, CERD asked Yemen to provide, within one year, information on the follow-up to recommendations concerning reservations, refugees and discrimination against descent-based, culturally distinct groups, among others, Al-Akhdam.<sup>138</sup> In 2008, CEDAW asked Yemen to provide, within two years, written information on the steps undertaken to implement the recommendations concerning discriminatory provisions of the Penal Code, raising the minimum age of marriage for girls, adoption of legislation criminalizing FGM, and the prohibition of polygamy and guardianship of women.<sup>139</sup>

# V. CAPACITY-BUILDING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

51. The 2005 CCA report mentioned that potential areas of cooperation can include governance, broadly defined, to include respect for and protection of human rights, a culture of rule of law, increased scope and capacity of civil society.<sup>140</sup>

Notes

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Information in this note has been prepared to assist in understanding the history of the legal personality of Yemen in the membership of the United Nations. In a letter dated 19 May 1990, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Yemen Arab Republic and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen informed the Secretary-General of the following: "... The People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and the Yemen Arab Republic will merge in a single sovereign State called the Republic of Yemen' (short form: Yemen) with Sana'a as its capital, as soon as it is proclaimed on Tuesday, 22 May 1990. The Republic of Yemen will have single membership in the United Nations and be bound by the provisions of the Charter. All treaties and agreements concluded between either the Yemen Arab Republic or the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and other States and international organizations in accordance with international law which are in force on 22 May 1990 will remain in effect, and international relations existing on 22 May 1990 between the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and the Yemen Arab Republic and other States will continue." As concerns the treaties concluded prior to their union by the Yemen Arab Republic or the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, the Republic of Yemen (as now united) is accordingly to be considered as a party to those treaties as from the date when one of these States first became a party to those treaties. Accordingly the tables showing the status of treaties will now indicate under the designation "Yemen" the date of the formalities (signatures, ratifications, accessions, declarations and reservations, etc.) effected by the State which first became a party, those eventually effected by the other being described in a footnote. The People's Democratic Republic of Yemen was admitted to the United Nations by Resolution No. 2310 (XXII) of 14 December 1967 registered under No. 8861. For the text of the declaration of acceptance of the obligations contained in the Charter of the United Nations made by the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, see United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 614, p. 21. The People's Democratic Republic of Yemen was successively listed in the previous editions as "Southern Yemen", "People's Republic of Southern Yemen", "People's Democratic Republic of Yemen" and "Democratic Republic of Yemen". Source: historical information to be found on http://treaties.un.org/. <sup>2</sup> Unless indicated otherwise, the status of ratifications of instruments listed in the table may be found in Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General: Status as at 31 December 2006 (ST/LEG/SER.E.25), supplemented by the official website of the United Nations Treaty Collection database, Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, http://treaties.un.org/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The following abbreviations have been used for this document:

ICERD	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
OP-ICESCR	Optional Protocol to ICESCR
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICCPR-OP 1	Optional Protocol to ICCPR
ICCPR-OP 2	Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
<b>OP-CEDAW</b>	Optional Protocol to CEDAW
CAT	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or
	Punishment
OP-CAT	Optional Protocol to CAT
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
OP-CRC-AC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict
OP-CRC-SC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child
	pornography
ICRMW	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and
	Members of Their Families
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
OP-CRPD	Optional Protocol to Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
CED	International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced
	Disappearance

<sup>4</sup> The date of accession to ICERD of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. It should also be noted that the Yemen Arab Republic acceded to ICERD on 6 April 1989 with the following reservation: "*Reservations in respect of article 5 (c) and article 5 (d) (iv), (vi) and (vii).*" According to information submitted to OHCHR by the Office of Legal Affairs on 16 December 2008, "Since the accession by "Democratic Yemen" predated the accession by the "Republic of Yemen, in accordance with the above, "Yemen" is to be considered a party from the date of the first action along with the relevant declarations/reservations made at that time.

<sup>5</sup> The following reservations were made by the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen upon its accession to ICERD . Sources:http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&id=319&chapter=4&lang=en and OLA information submitted by email to OHCHR on 16 December 2008.

"The accession of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen to this Convention shall in no way signify recognition of Israel or entry into a relationship with it regarding any matter regulated by the said Convention.

"The People's Democratic Republic of Yemen does not consider itself bound by the provisions of Article 22 of the Convention, under which any dispute between two or more States Parties with respect to the interpretation or application of the Convention is, at the request of any of the parties to the dispute, to be referred to the International Court of Justice for decision, and states that, in each individual case, the consent of all parties to such a dispute is necessary for referral of the dispute to the International Court of Justice.

"The People's Democratic Republic of Yemen states that the provisions of Article 17, paragraph 1, and Article 18, paragraph 1, of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination whereby a number of States are deprived of the opportunity to become Parties to the Convention is of a discriminatory nature, and holds that, in accordance with the principle of the sovereign equality of States, the Convention should be opened to participation by all interested States without discrimination or restriction of any kind.."

<sup>6</sup> The formality was effected by the Yemen Arab Republic. Source: http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/ratification/3.htm#N16.

<sup>7</sup> The formality was effected by Democratic Yemen. Source: http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/ratification/4 5.htm#N15.

<sup>8</sup> The formality was effected by the Democratic Yemen. Source: http://treaties.un.org/.

<sup>9</sup> The Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen declares that it does not consider itself bound by article 29, paragraph 1, of the said Convention, relating to the settlement of disputes which may arise concerning the

application or interpretation of the Convention. Source: http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&id=326&chapter=4&lang=en.

<sup>10</sup> Adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 63/117 of 10 December 2008, in which the General Assembly recommended that a signing ceremony be organized in 2009. Article 17, para. 1, of OP-ICESCR states that "The present Protocol is open for signature by any State that has signed, ratified or acceded to the Covenant".

<sup>11</sup> Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

<sup>12</sup> 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, 1954 Convention relating to the status of Stateless Persons and 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.

<sup>13</sup> Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field (First Convention); Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea (Second Convention); Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War (Third Convention); Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (Fourth Convention); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (Protocol II); Protocol additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Adoption of an Additional Distinctive Emblem (Protocol III). For the official status of ratifications, see Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland, at www.eda.admin.ch/eda/fr/home/topics/intla/intrea/chdep/warvic.html.

<sup>14</sup> International Labour Organization Convention No. 29 concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour; Convention No.105 concerning the Abolition of Forced Labour, Convention No. 87 concerning Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize; Convention No. 98 concerning the Application of the Principles of the Right to Organize and to Bargain Collectively; Convention No. 100 concerning Equal Remuneration for Men and Women Workers for Work of Equal Value; Convention No. 111 concerning Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation; Convention No. 138 concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment; Convention No. 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour.

<sup>15</sup>Concluding observations of the Human Rights Committee (CCPR/CO/84/YEM), para. 15.

<sup>16</sup> Concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW/C/YEM/CO/6), para. 52. See also E/CN.4/2004/43/Add.1, para. 44.

<sup>17</sup> Concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD/C/YEM/CO/16), para. 20; and CEDAW/C/YEM/CO/6, para. 58.

18 CEDAW/C/YEM/CO/6, para. 58.

<sup>19</sup> Conclusions and recommendations of the Committee against Torture (CAT/C/CR/31/4), para. 7 (m).

<sup>20</sup> CEDAW/C/YEM/CO/6, para. 21.

<sup>21</sup> CERD/C/YEM/CO/16, para. 18.

<sup>22</sup> CAT/C/CR/31/4, para. 7 (m).

<sup>23</sup> Ibid., para. 4 (d).

<sup>24</sup> OHCHR 2007 Report on Activities and Results, p. 122.

<sup>25</sup> Concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC/C/15/Add.267), para. 4.

<sup>26</sup> Ibid., para. 14.

<sup>27</sup> CEDAW/C/YEM/CO/6, para. 46.

<sup>28</sup> CEDAW/C/YEM/CO/6, para. 11.

<sup>29</sup> CCPR/CO/84/YEM, para. 3; CAT/C/CR/31/4, para. 4 (a); CERD/C/YEM/CO/16, para. 3.

<sup>30</sup> United Nations Country Team in Republic of Yemen, Common Country Assessment Republic of Yemen, 2005, p. 9, available at http://www.undg.org/docs/8078/Yemen%20CCA%20English.pdf.

<sup>31</sup> CERD/C/YEM/CO/16, para. 17.

<sup>32</sup> CEDAW/C/YEM/CO/6, para. 49; CRC/C/15/Add.267, para. 21; CCPR/CO/84/YEM, para. 7; and E/CN.4/2004/43/Add.1, paras. 33 and 44. See also United Nations Country Team in Republic of Yemen, Common Country Assessment Republic of Yemen, 2005, p. 24, available at http://www.undg.org/docs/8078/Yemen%20CCA%20English.pdf.

<sup>33</sup> For the list of national human rights institutions with accreditation status granted by the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (ICC), see A/HRC/10/55, annex 1.

<sup>34</sup> CEDAW/C/YEM/CO/6, para. 4.

<sup>35</sup> Ibid., para. 48.

<sup>36</sup> The following abbreviations have been used for this document:

CERD	Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
CESCR	Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
HR Committee	Human Rights Committee
CEDAW	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
CAT	Committee against Torture
CRC	Committee on the Rights of the Child

<sup>37</sup> CCPR/CO/84/YEM, para. 5.

<sup>38</sup> CEDAW/C/YEM/CO/6, paras. 46-47.

#### <sup>39</sup> E/CN.4/2004/43/Add.1.

<sup>40</sup> The questionnaires included in this section are those which have been reflected in an official report by a special procedure mandate holder.

41 See (a) report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to education (A/HRC/4/29), questionnaire on the right to education of persons with disabilities sent in 2006; (b) report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants (A/HRC/4/24), questionnaire on the impact of certain laws and administrative measures on migrants sent in 2006; (c) report of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children (A/HRC/4/23), questionnaire on issues related to forced marriages and trafficking in persons sent in 2006; (d) report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on human rights defenders (E/CN.4/2006/95 and Add.5), questionnaire on the implementation of the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms sent in June 2005; (e) report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people (A/HRC/6/15), questionnaire on the human rights of indigenous people sent in August 2007; (f) report of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially in women and children (E/CN.4/2006/62) and the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (E/CN.4/2006/67), joint questionnaire on the relationship between trafficking and the demand for commercial sexual exploitation sent in July 2005; (g) report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to education (E/CN.4/2006/45), questionnaire on the right to education for girls sent in 2005; (h) report of the Working Group on mercenaries (A/61/341), questionnaire concerning its mandate and activities sent in November 2005; (i) report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (A/HRC/4/31), questionnaire on the sale of children's organs sent on July 2006; (i) report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (E/CN.4/2005/78), questionnaire on child pornography on the Internet sent in July 2004; (k) report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (A/HRC/7/8), questionnaire on assistance and rehabilitation programmes for child victims of sexual exploitation sent in July 2007; (1) report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises (A/HRC/4/35/Add.3), questionnaire on human rights policies and management practices; (m) report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to education (A/HRC/8/10), questionnaire on the right to education in emergency situations sent in 2007.

<sup>42</sup> Joint questionnaire on the relationship between trafficking and the demand for commercial sexual exploitation, and questionnaire on child pornography on the Internet.

<sup>43</sup> OHCHR Annual Appeal 2005, p.96.

<sup>44</sup> OHCHR 2005 Annual Report, p. 166.

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- <sup>46</sup> OHCHR 2007 Report on Activities and Results, p. 125.
- <sup>47</sup> CCPR/CO/84/YEM, para. 8.
- <sup>48</sup> CEDAW/C/YEM/CO/6, para. 40.
- <sup>49</sup> Ibid., para. 41.
- <sup>50</sup> Ibid., para. 39.
- <sup>51</sup> Ibid., para. 30.
- <sup>52</sup> Ibid., para. 31.
- <sup>53</sup> CERD/C/YEM/CO/16, para. 8.

<sup>54</sup> ILO, Equality at Work: Tackling the Challenges, International Labour Conference, ninety-sixth session 2007, Geneva, 2007, p. 37, available at: http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/---webdev/documents/publication/wcms\_082607.pdf.

- <sup>55</sup> E/C.12/1/Add.92, para. 8; CERD/C/YEM/CO/16, para. 15.
- <sup>56</sup> Ibid., para. 16.
- <sup>57</sup> Ibid., para. 15.
- <sup>58</sup> CRC/C/15/Add.267, para. 32.
- <sup>59</sup> Ibid., para. 33.
- <sup>60</sup> CCPR/CO/84/YEM, para. 15.
- <sup>61</sup> See E/CN.4/2006/53/Add.1, pp. 306-307; A/HRC/4/20/Add.1, pp. 374-376; A/HRC/8/3/Add.1, pp. 437-438.
- <sup>62</sup> E/CN.4/2006/53/Add.1, p. 307; A/HRC/4/20/Add.1, pp. 376 and 377.
- 63 E/CN.4/2006/53/Add.1, pp. 303-305; A/HRC/4/20/Add.1, p. 380; and A/HRC/8/3/Add.1, pp. 439-440.
- <sup>64</sup> A/HRC/8/3/Add.1, pp. 437 and 440.
- <sup>65</sup> CAT/C/CR/31/4, para. 6 (c).
- 66 Ibid., para. 7 (d).
- <sup>67</sup> A/HRC/7/3/Add.1, paras. 275 and 276.
- 68 CAT/C/CR/31/4, para. 7 (g).
- 69 CEDAW/C/YEM/CO/6, para. 18.
- <sup>70</sup> Ibid., para. 19.
- <sup>71</sup> CAT/C/CR/31/4, para. 6 (h); E/C.12/1/Add.92, para. 18.
- 72 CEDAW/C/YEM/CO/6, para. 42
- <sup>73</sup> CCPR/CO/84/YEM, para. 16.
- <sup>74</sup> CRC/C/15/Add.267, para. 42.
- <sup>75</sup> Ibid., para. 52.
- <sup>76</sup> Ibid., para. 71.
- <sup>77</sup> Ibid., para. 72.
- <sup>78</sup> Ibid., para. 74.
- <sup>79</sup> CEDAW/C/YEM/CO/6, paras. 32-33.

<sup>80</sup> United Nations Country Team in Republic of Yemen, Common Country Assessment Republic of Yemen, 2005, p. 13, available at http://www.undg.org/docs/8078/Yemen%20CCA%20English.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> Ibid., p. 47.

<sup>81</sup> ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, 2008, Geneva, Doc. No. 092008YEM138, para. 1.

<sup>82</sup> Ibid., para. 5.

83 CCPR/CO/84/YEM, para. 6.

<sup>84</sup> CAT/C/CR/31/4, para. 7 (a) and (c).

<sup>85</sup> United Nations Country Team in Republic of Yemen, Common Country Assessment Republic of Yemen, 2005, pp. 25-26, available at http://www.undg.org/docs/8078/Yemen%20CCA%20English.pdf.

<sup>86</sup> Ibid., p. 26.

<sup>87</sup> CAT/C/CR/31/4, para. 6 (i).

88 CRC/C/15/Add.267, para. 75.

<sup>89</sup> CRC/C/15/Add.267, para. 77.

90 E/CN.4/2004/43/Add.1, para. 41.

<sup>91</sup> Ibid., Summary.

92 CRC/C/15/Add.267, para. 39.

<sup>93</sup> Ibid., para. 40.

94 CCPR/CO/84/YEM, para. 18.

95 A/HRC/7/10/Add.1, paras. 320-325.

<sup>96</sup> Joint Urgent Appeal sent by the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention and the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion and belief dated 28 August 2008, to appear in their forthcoming communications reports.

97 E/CN.4/2006/55/Add.1, para. 1115; and A/HRC/7/14/Add.1, paras. 745-746.

98 E/CN.4/2006/55/Add.1, para. 1123.

99 E/CN.4/2006/55/Add.1, paras. 1117-1118 and 1121; A/HRC/7/14/Add.1, paras. 745-747.

<sup>100</sup> E/CN.4/2006/55/Add.1, para. 1124.

<sup>101</sup> ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, 2008, Geneva, Doc. No. 092008YEM105, paras. 1-3.

<sup>102</sup> A/HRC/4/37/Add.1, para. 732; and A/HRC/7/28/Add.1, paras. 2043-2044 and 2049.

<sup>103</sup> A/HRC/7/14/Add.1, paras. 743-744.

<sup>104</sup> CEDAW/C/YEM/CO/6, para. 23.

<sup>105</sup> E/C.12/1/Add.92, para. 10.

<sup>106</sup> United Nations Country Team in Republic of Yemen, Common Country Assessment Republic of Yemen, 2005, Executive Summary, available at http://www.undg.org/docs/8078/Yemen%20CCA%20English.pdf.

<sup>107</sup> CEDAW/C/YEM/CO/6, para. 27.

<sup>108</sup> Ibid., para. 45.

<sup>109</sup> CRC/C/15/Add.267, para. 62.

<sup>110</sup> CEDAW/C/YEM/CO/6, para. 28.

<sup>111</sup> CRC/C/15/Add.267, para. 55; E/C.12/1/Add.92, para. 15.

<sup>112</sup> See 2007-2011 UNDAF, Republic of Yemen, p. 6, available at http://www.undg.org/docs/5742/UNDAF%20English.pdf.

<sup>113</sup> CRC/C/15/Add.267, para. 59.

114 CEDAW/C/YEM/CO/6, para. 34.

#### <sup>115</sup> Ibid., para. 31.

<sup>116</sup> United Nations Country Team in Republic of Yemen, Common Country Assessment Republic of Yemen, 2005, p. 1, available at http://www.undg.org/docs/8078/Yemen%20CCA%20English.pdf.

<sup>117</sup> See 2007-2011 UNDAF, Republic of Yemen, page 2, available at http://www.undg.org/docs/5742/UNDAF%20English.pdf.

<sup>118</sup> E/C.12/1/Add.92, para. 38.

<sup>119</sup> Ibid., para. 43.

<sup>120</sup> ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, 2008, Geneva, Doc. No. 092008YEM138, para. 4.

121 CEDAW/C/YEM/CO/6, para. 25.

<sup>122</sup> World Bank, MENA Development Report, The Road Not Travelled, Education Reform in the Middle East and North Africa, Washington DC, 2008, pp. 22, 29, and 30, available at: http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTMENA/Resources/EDU\_Flagship\_Full\_ENG.pdf.

<sup>123</sup> CCPR/CO/84/YEM, para. 8.

124 CEDAW/C/YEM/CO/6, para. 25.

<sup>125</sup> UNHCR, Global Report 2004, Geneva, 2005, pp. 316, 318, 321 available at: http://www.unhcr.org/publ/PUBL/42ad4dab0.pdf.

<sup>126</sup> UNHCR, Global Report 2005, Geneva, 2006, p. 280, available at: http://www.unhcr.org/publ/PUBL/4492677611.pdf.

127 CEDAW/C/YEM/CO/6, para. 50.

<sup>128</sup> CCPR/CO/84/YEM, para. 13.

<sup>129</sup> CAT/C/CR/31/4, para. 5.

130 E/CN.4/2006/7, para. 56; E/CN.4/2006/6/Add.1, para. 550.

131 Opinion No. 47/2005, A/HRC/4/40/Add.1, pp. 41-44.

<sup>132</sup> United Nations Country Team in Republic of Yemen, Common Country Assessment Republic of Yemen, 2005, p. 24, available at http://www.undg.org/docs/8078/Yemen%20CCA%20English.pdf.

<sup>133</sup> OHCHR 2007 Report on Activities and Results, p. 124.

<sup>134</sup> E/CN.4/2004/43/Add.1, paras. 44-45.

<sup>135</sup> CAT/C/CR/31/4, para. 11.

<sup>136</sup> CAT/C/CR/31/4/Add.1.

<sup>137</sup> CCPR/CO/84/YEM, para. 23.

<sup>138</sup> CERD/C/YEM/CO/16, para. 24.

139 CEDAW/C/YEM/CO/6, para. 59.

<sup>140</sup> United Nations Country Team in Republic of Yemen, Common Country Assessment Republic of Yemen, 2005, p. 38, available at http://www.undg.org/docs/8078/Yemen%20CCA%20English.pdf.