

## **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/36/31**

### **I. Introduction**

1. Following meetings between the Group of Eminent Experts on Yemen and officials of the Government of Yemen in Yemen and in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in March 2018, the Chairperson and Experts of the Group respectfully seek assistance in further clarification and verification of facts related to the human rights situation in Yemen. Clarification and verification of these facts will contribute to the mandate of the Group of Eminent Experts on Yemen to “carry out a comprehensive examination of all alleged violations and abuses of international human rights and other appropriate and applicable fields of international law committed by all parties to the conflict [in Yemen] since September 2014”. Responses will be included in the High Commissioner for Human Rights’ report to the Human Rights Council, unless the Member State specifically requests that information shared remains confidential.
2. The Group of Eminent Experts on Yemen would be grateful to receive a reply to the list of issues by 14 May 2018.

### **II. Military Operations**

1. What is the methodology used by armed forces of the Government of Yemen to minimize harm to the civilian population in attacks?
2. Who, who which entity, within the armed forces of the Government of Yemen is responsible for conducting proportionality assessments prior to attacks and operations?
3. Please describe precautions the armed forces of the Government of Yemen takes to minimise civilian casualties and damage, particularly in the case of dual-use targets? How is this reviewed during the period leading up to the attack? Are warnings ever given and, if so, how?
4. Please specify the types of munitions, including artillery, tanks, mortars and air-defense projectiles that have been used by armed forces of the Government of Yemen since March 2015.
5. Do armed forces of the Government of Yemen use land and/or sea mines? Does the Government of Yemen retain land mines in its arsenal? What, if any, are the restrictions on their use?
6. Please describe the structure of the armed forces of the Government of Yemen down to the brigade level, including new formations such as presidential brigades, and assigned commanders since 2015?
7. Which of the armed forces of the Government of Yemen units were split by defections after September 2014? What is the current strength and operational readiness of those partial units that remained with the armed forces the Government of Yemen?
8. Does the Government of Yemen have command and control of the Security Belt Forces and the Hadrami and Shabwani Elite Forces? If not, who has command and control over these forces?

9. Other local armed groups appear to be fighting in support of the Government. Please identify which of these, if any, are under the operational command of the Government of Yemen.
10. What training on International Humanitarian Law is provided to forces of the Government of Yemen?
11. Has the Government of Yemen declared any States of Emergency since September 2014? If so, when, for how long, and to address which emergency?

### **III. Coordination with the Coalition Forces**

12. What coordination mechanisms exist between the Government of Yemen and the Arab coalition forces (“the Coalition”) who intervened in the conflict in Yemen at the request of the Government of Yemen?
13. What is the procedure for relaying information regarding targets from sources on the ground to the Coalition?
14. What is the role of the Air Operation Centre in Yemen in the conduct of airstrikes?
15. Is the Government of Yemen consulted on Coalition airstrikes? Has the Government of Yemen ever voiced concern to the Coalition about the effects of these airstrikes? If so, what response has been received?

### **IV. Blockades**

16. Is the Government of Yemen consulted on naval and air restrictions imposed by the Coalition? Has the Government of Yemen ever voiced concern to the Coalition about the effects of these restrictions? If so, what response has been received?
17. Who is responsible for the closure of the Sana’a airport to commercial traffic since August 2016?
18. What is the justification of the closure of Sana’a airport to commercial traffic? Has the Government of Yemen sought the implementation of less restrictive measures that would still prevent the import of prohibited cargo?
19. What measures has the Government of Yemen put in place to mitigate the negative impact of the Sana’a airport closure on the human rights and humanitarian situations in the country?

### **V. Detention**

20. Please list the detention facilities under the legal and operational control of the Government of Yemen, including in Aden, Hadramaut, Taizz, Marib, Lahj and Shabwah.
21. What is the procedure for reviewing the legality of those detained?
22. Does the Coalition, or its individual members, arrest or detain Yemeni nationals in connection with the conflict in Yemen? If so, is there any agreement on arrest, detention, or transfer of detainees between the Government of Yemen and the Coalition, or its individual members?
23. If relevant, please list the detention facilities under the control of the Government of Yemen to which the Coalition transfers individuals.

## **VI. Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV)**

24. Please provide a list of the measures the Government of Yemen is taking to prevent, address, investigate, and prosecute SGBV cases committed by military or security personnel under the control of the Government of Yemen?
25. What training/awareness raising do armed forces of the Government of Yemen receive to prevent violence against women and girls, sexual exploitation and sexual abuse? What training/awareness raising do armed forces of the Government of Yemen receive to help them protect vulnerable people including Internally Displaced People and Refugees?

## **VII. Child Recruitment and Use**

26. Do armed forces of the Government of Yemen have a formal policy on the use of children? If so, please share the policy with the GEE.
27. Have armed forces of the Government of Yemen encountered child soldiers during their operations? If so, please describe how such children are treated and processed when they come under the control of the Government of Yemen.
28. How many child soldier rehabilitation centres exist in Yemen? Who is responsible for them? Please describe where they are located, how many children are currently housed there, their ages, and the criteria for admission to the centres?

## **VIII. Accountability**

29. Please describe the various mechanisms established by the Government of Yemen to pursue accountability for human rights violations and abuses and violations of international humanitarian law.
30. What procedures are in place to ensure information-sharing and cooperation between Yemeni accountability mechanisms and the Coalition?
31. Please share information on any individual involved in the conflict in Yemen who has been found responsible for violations of international human rights or international humanitarian law, or related national law.
32. Please provide an update on the findings of the investigation announced by the Government of Yemen in June 2017 into allegations of torture and enforced disappearances by the United Arab Emirates and its allied Yemeni forces in the south of the country.