

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

**MISSION PERMANENTE  
DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE DU YÉMEN  
GENÈVE**



الوفد الدائم للجمهورية اليمنية  
لدى المقر الأوروبي للأمم المتحدة  
جنيف

**Statement of the Republic of Yemen in the meeting to adopt  
the report of the UPR**

**Human Rights Council - 26th Session - Item VI**

**Delivered by H.E. Dr. Ali Mohammed Majawar  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Yemen**

**Geneva, 19. 06. 2014**

**Mr. / president,**

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Let me start by extending our sincere thanks to all of you and our deep appreciation for your participation today in the adoption of the outcomes of the UPR of Yemen in its second Cycle, and we look forward to a constructive and substantive dialogue in enhancing cooperation between this distinguished Council and the Yemeni government.

We also appreciated the interventions of all delegations who submitted their valuable recommendations during the review of Yemen in the Eighteenth Session of the Working Group of the Universal Periodic Review last January, as well as the interest and support shown for the respect, promotion and protection of human rights, either through direct or indirect support provided by your respective countries and the international organizations including the follow-up of the different treaty bodies in which we are party to.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

The Yemeni government had accomplished some of its human rights legal obligations for the transitional period while in some other areas we are still facing some challenges in implementation but we can assure you that the government gives highest priority in order to follow-up their implementation by the relevant human rights government bodies in cooperation with civil society organizations and the support of the international community, especially by the sponsoring States of the political settlement in Yemen.

The most important achievements were in preparing the draft law of the Independent Commission for Human Rights in compliance with Paris principles, which was passed to the House of Representatives for discussion and approval. The government also achieved its own commitment to identify the minimum age of marriage in the law and submitted it to the Parliament for discussion and approval, which is considered a basic human rights in protecting the rights of the girl child and to meet the country needs to development and educated and trained human resources which is active and productive.

The House of Representatives is discussing a bill to combat human trafficking soon. The government will submit also soon a draft law to combat forced disappearances and other bills on Yemen's accession to the Protocol against Torture and the Protocol to combat trafficking in human beings in order to protect and promote human rights.

### **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

The outputs of the comprehensive National Dialogue Conference represented a very important and necessary roadmap to complete the process of change that is taking place in Yemen. Despite the challenges, the Conference had achieved the highest goals by incorporating human rights and freedoms in the bulk of all its work.

Currently the government is preparing a new constitution based on good governance, the rule of law, the promotion of democracy and the commitment to respect and protect human rights, which defines the federal system of the country. The new constitution is a political and

social contract that is based on principles of partnership in sharing power, wealth and equal citizenship.

Another important successes achieved by the Yemenis is that women now is the outstanding presence in the public domain, which indicates that they will continue at this stage to help them making a significant contribution, as well as in the future, by holding institutional guarantees stipulated in the new constitution until they are endorsed in other laws, policies, public programs and plans. The same legal protection was considered for all other groups and in the areas of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.

The government in collaboration with civil society prepared two strategies, namely the national strategy for human rights and anti-trafficking strategy. We are also preparing for the establishment of the National Observatory to monitor child rights violations.

There are other priority programs to build the capacity of workers in the field of human rights and the development of partnership and alliances mechanisms with the civil society and the international community as well as with the private sector. Transparency and the fight against corruption occupy a large part of the government's attention knowing that corruption deprives citizen's opportunities to enjoy their fundamental rights.

There is a tendency to announce the names of the members of the Independent Inquiry Committee of the events of 2011 and the enactment of transitional justice law, while necessities have required taking actions and measures before which reflected our approach in the applications of transitional justice by establishing the Committees to address the land

issues and the people laid-off forcibly from their jobs in the southern provinces after the 1994 war as well as the apologies of the government to the people of the South and Saada for the violations that took place in those areas, funds have been established for reparations and compensation for the families of the martyrs and the wounded. Additionally, we accomplished the institutional reforms of the military and security institutions, by restructuring them.

The government will consider a draft law on transitional justice in line of the outputs of the national dialogue and will establish Committees for remedies and reconciliation in accordance with the international standards for Transitional Justice. For this purpose a regional workshop was held few days ago in Sana'a to assist Yemen in the completion of this important issue.

### **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

As you know, Yemen had received 191 recommendation as stated in the report of the eighteenth session of the Working Group of the UPR, Yemen immediately accepted 166 recommendation (115-1 until 115-166), as they reflected the interest of the Yemeni government to cooperate positively with the UPR mechanism, and expressed a real trend towards the promotion and protection of human rights, and to take measures to implement those recommendations parallel to the implementation of the outcomes of the comprehensive National Dialogue Conference.

We also considered the recommendation in paragraph 116 as already implemented.

The government decided to examine the other 25 recommendations

(117-1 until 117-25) and to provide its responses at this session of the Human Rights Council,, but the difficult conditions and challenges facing Yemen has hindered the government from completing the examination of those recommendations or to take a definite position to them.

There are many obstacles which we consider they need the greatest attention of the government, which were:

- The implementation of the outcomes of the comprehensive national dialogue conference, which focus on the foundation of a new federal state with all the related issues of the new constitution and the election law, elections and the establishment of local governments and a package of measures regulating the activity and responsibilities of those governments;
- To maintain security and stability in the country and combat terrorist activities , which threaten the stability , by reducing the tension in some areas, combating the armed groups that damage the electricity, gas and petrol's lines ;
- The delivery of basic needs to the population, of fuel, electricity and basic goods, services such as education, health and social care;
- To meet the urgent basic needs for internally displaced people and refugees as well as illegal immigrants, who need humanitarian aid.

As a result of these challenges, the government could not hold the necessary consultations with all concerned parties to the issues addressed in those recommendations. We are aware that some of these recommendations could have been accepted, and others will have to be examined in line with our legal, religious and social obligations and in accordance with our capacities and available resources.

In the coming years, by the time of the next UPR cycle the Government will treat those recommendations positively and they will either be implemented partially or completely, and we will report the progress in our national report on the implementation of these recommendations, that are noted in the meantime by the Yemeni government. Therefore, we understand that they will be considered as noted.

Once again the Yemeni government is keen to deal positively with all what would protect, promote and enhance human rights in our country.

We thank everyone for their positive interaction. We also appreciate the support of friendly and brotherly countries, the international organizations and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights provided to Yemen in the current difficult conditions. We are ready to listen to your valuable opinions and comments. We will benefit from them to improve the human rights situation in Yemen.

Thank you

