

OIC/ACM-2017/GC-YEMEN/REP

REPORT OF

THE MEETING OF THE OIC CONTACT GROUP ON THE SITUATION IN YEMEN

> UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS, NEW YORK

> > **20 SEPTEMBER 2017**

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- 1. The Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Contact Group on the Situation in Yemen held a meeting on the sideline of the Annual Coordination Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of OIC Member States at the Headquarters of the United Nations in New York on 20 September 2017, under the chairmanship of H.E. Dr. Yousef A. AlOthaimeen, Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).
- 2. The Meeting renewed strong commitment to support the unity, sovereignty, political independence and territorial integrity of Yemen, to reject interference in its internal affairs and to support and demonstrate solidarity with the Yemeni people and their aspiration for freedom, democracy, social justice and comprehensive development.
- 3. The Meeting reiterated its continued support for the constitutional legitimacy in Yemen, represented by H.E. President Abdu Rabuh Mansour Hadi, President of the Republic of Yemen, and for his national efforts to achieve security and political and economic stability of Yemen and resume the political process towards a political settlement based on full implementation of the GCC initiative with its implementation mechanism and the outcomes of the Yemeni national dialogue, governed by international legitimacy resolutions, particularly UN Security Resolution 2216 (2015).
- 4. The Meeting commended the role of the Arab Coalition countries and that of all other Arab and Muslim countries in extending support for the legitimate leadership in Yemen and the Yemeni people and for backing the peaceful solution and the reconstruction of the country. It urged OIC Member States to intensify and coordinate their efforts with a view to finding a political solution to the Yemeni crisis, supporting the legitimate State authorities and extending more humanitarian and development assistance to the country.
- 5. The Meeting affirmed commitment to relevant UN Security Council resolutions, particularly resolution 2201 (2015) which supports constitutional legitimacy in Yemen and condemns and sanctions anyone hindering or attempting to foil the political process and imposes sanctions on them. It also reaffirmed commitment to UNSC resolution 2216 (2015) which called on the Houthis, under article 7 of the UN Charter, to withdraw their forces from all the areas they seized, the decision to ban the provision of arms to them, and other relevant resolutions adopted by the OIC, the League of Arab States (LAS) and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).
- 6. The Meeting expressed appreciation and gratitude to the State of Kuwait and the Kuwaiti people for their continued support for the Yemeni people and for hosting and sponsoring

the Yemeni peace talks under the auspices of the United Nations. It also praised Kuwait's announcement at the Geneva Donors' Conference on 25 April 2016 of a donation of US\$ 100 million in support for humanitarian needs in Yemen, along with its previous pledge of US\$ 300 million to finance development projects in Yemen.

- 7. The Meeting welcomed the resumption by the legitimate state institutions of the exercise of their functions from the city of Aden as a first step towards regaining legitimate state control over all parts of the country. It affirmed that peace will never be achieved in Yemen without the full withdrawal of the Houthi and Ali Abdullah Saleh's militias from the capital Sanaa and all Yemeni cities and the cessation of all belligerent activities against the Yemeni people.
- 8. The Meeting condemned the unilateral measures taken by the putschists, including the establishment of the so-called Political Council and the illegitimate government, their constant rejection of confidence-building measures, continuous detention of prisoners and obstruction of the efforts of the UN Special Envoy, thereby undermining all political solutions, complicating the crisis and worsening the terrible humanitarian situation in the whole of Yemen.
- 9. The Meeting condemned all violations committed by the forces of the coup, including campaigns of detention and murder, recruiting child soldiers and involving them in armed conflicts, imposing a siege on cities, blocking the affected population's access to humanitarian assistance, extorting money and insisting on continuing military operations in Yemen and across the borders, threatening maritime transport in regional and international corridors and waters, and other war crimes punished by international law, international humanitarian law and international covenants.
- 10. The Meeting emphasized the need for commitment to relevant resolutions, in particular resolution 2201 (2015) supporting constitutional legitimacy in Yemen and condemning all those hindering or undermining the political process and imposing sanctions on them, and resolution 2216 (2015) which called on the Houthis, under chapter VII of the UN Charter, to withdraw their forces from all the regions under their control and banned the supply of weapons to them, and relevant resolutions adopted by the OIC, the League of Arab States and the Cooperation Council of the Arab States of the Gulf.
- 11. The Meeting strongly condemned the military operations of the *Houthi* and Ali Abdullah Saleh's militias on the Yemeni-Saudi borders and the shelling of installations and citizens inside the Saudi territory, and regarded such as a flagrant aggression against the Saudi territory and a threat to regional security, peace and stability.
- 12. The Meeting reiterated the need to continue to prevent Yemen from becoming a haven for violent groups and terrorist organizations and a source of threat to the security and stability of neighboring states, and to take all necessary measures to achieve that.

- 13. The Meeting underscored its support for the efforts of the UN special envoy for Yemen, Mr Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed, and his endeavor to find a political solution to the crisis in Yemen and spare the country more war and destruction by activating comprehensive national reconciliation with the participation of all Yemeni sides, forces and political parties, within the framework of the Gulf Initiative and its Implementation Mechanism, the outcomes of the 2014 Comprehensive National Dialogue, the 2015 Riyadh Declaration and Security Council resolution 2216 (2015).
- 14. The Meeting expressed support for the OIC's ongoing efforts to hold a conference for the provision of humanitarian and development support to Yemen as soon as possible with a view to mobilizing the necessary and urgent resources to address the critical situation, and to providing the needs for the next phase in coordination with the Yemeni government and regional and international partners, including the King Salman Relief and Humanitarian Action Centre, the United Nations and its humanitarian and developmental agencies through the OIC humanitarian action coordination mechanism. It expressed support for the efforts of the General Secretariat to hold a conference for the provision of humanitarian and development support to Yemen to mobilize the necessary and urgent resources to confront the critical humanitarian situation in Yemen.
- 15. The Meeting expressed thanks and appreciation for the support provided by member states for the reconstruction of Yemen, particularly to the Kingdom Saudi Arabia which provided US\$ 10 billion and which announced at the recent Geneva Donors' Conference held on 25 April 2017 a donation of US\$ 150 million to finance humanitarian operations in Yemen, as well as its donation of US\$ 66.7 million to address Cholera.
- 16. The Meeting commended the efforts and sacrifices of the United Arab Emirates to support the legitimate government in Yemen by providing humanitarian assistance, exerting efforts for the reconstruction of Yemen, as well as the assistance it provided which reached 8.6 billion UAE Dirhams in 2015-2017, the last of which is the donation of US\$ 100 million made at the Geneva Donors' Conference on 25 April 2017 to support humanitarian operations in Yemen.
- 17. The Meeting thanked and appreciated also the humanitarian aid delivered by all other OIC member states, including Turkey, and encouraged all other member states to make further efforts towards extending assistance to the people of Yemen in the face of the growing humanitarian crisis and tragedy.
- 18. The Meeting welcomed the outcomes of the Geneva Donors' Conference held on 26 May 2017 to finance the humanitarian response plan in Yemen in 2017, and commended in this regard member states' contributions and humanitarian and development assistance to Yemen. It called on all member states to continue to extend political, security, economic and financial support for the Government of Yemen to enable it to address humanitarian challenges and reconstruction efforts in the country.

19. The Meeting welcomed the Republic of Tukey's offer to host the next meeting of the Contact Group on a date to be agreed on subsequently in coordination with the General Secretariat.
