



Organization of Islamic Cooperation

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**REPORT OF THE
MEETING OF THE CONTACT GROUP ON THE SITUATION IN YEMEN**

**UNITED NATIONS GENERAL SECRETARIAT, NEW YORK
27 SEPTEMBER 2018**

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New York, 27 September 2018

- 1- The OIC Contact Group on the situation in Yemen held a meeting on the sidelines of the annual coordination meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the OIC Member States at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on September 2018. H.E. Dr. Yousef bin Ahmed Al-Othaimeen, the OIC Secretary General presided over the meeting.
- 2- The meeting reaffirmed its strong commitment to stand with Yemen's unity, sovereignty, political independence and territorial integrity, refuse any interference in its internal affairs, and stand up to and show solidarity with the Yemeni people in their aspiration to freedom, democracy, social justice and comprehensive development.
- 3- The meeting affirmed its continued support for the constitutional legitimacy in Yemen represented by H.E. President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi, President of the Republic of Yemen, and for his national efforts to achieve security and political and economic stability for Yemen and to resume the political process to achieve a political solution based on the full implementation of the GCC initiative and its executive mechanism and the outcomes of the Yemen National Dialogue Conference, based on the resolutions of international legitimacy, in particular UN Security Council Resolution 2216 (2015).
- 4- The meeting commended the role played by the Arab coalition countries and all Arab and Muslim countries in supporting the legitimate leadership in Yemen and the Yemeni people and supporting the peaceful solution and reconstruction of Yemen. It urged the OIC Member States to intensify and coordinate their efforts to reach a political solution to the Yemeni crisis, support the legitimate authorities of the State, and provide more humanitarian and development assistance.
- 5- The meeting hailed the great efforts made by the alliance coalition led by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to alleviate the humanitarian crisis in Yemen. It praised the support of the coalition countries for the international humanitarian and relief efforts to alleviate the suffering of the Yemeni people and the launching of the comprehensive humanitarian operations plan in Yemen and their contribution to financing them. It also commended the great efforts to deliver the humanitarian assistance to the needy, to facilitate their passage and to address the threats of the Houthis to the humanitarian corridors
- 6- The meeting affirmed commitment to the relevant UN Security Council resolutions, in particular resolution 2201 (2015), which supports the constitutional legitimacy in Yemen, condemns and sanctions all those who hinder and scuttle the political process. It also affirmed compliance with UN Security Council 2216 (2015), which called on the Houthis, under Chapter VII of the UN Charter to withdraw their forces from all the areas they seized and to surrender all the heavy and medium weapons to the state's authority, and with the resolution banning provision of arms to them, and other relevant resolutions adopted by the OIC, the League of Arab States and the Gulf Cooperation Council.

- 7- The meeting condemned all violations committed by the coup forces, namely the arrests, assassinations, recruitment of children for war, siege of cities, denial of humanitarian access to those affected, looting funds, insistence on military operations inside Yemen and across borders, threatening movement and navigation in international and regional corridors and waters, and other war crimes punishable under international law, international humanitarian law and international covenants.
- 8- The meeting condemned the terrorist attack by the Houthis on the Saudi Arabian oil tankers on 27 July 2018 in the Red Sea, resulting in the suspension of Saudi oil tankers from passing through Bab Al-Mandab Strait. The consequences of Houthi's continuing terrorist acts are a flagrant violation of international law and norms, a threat to international navigation and trade, international stability and security, and a clear indication of Houthi's continued desire to prolong the Yemeni crisis.
- 9- The meeting strongly condemned the military actions of the Houthi militias on the Yemeni-Saudi border and targeting facilities and citizens inside Saudi territory, considering this as flagrant aggression on Saudi soil and a threat to regional peace and stability
- 10- The meeting strongly condemned the military actions of the Houthi militias on the western coast of Yemen, particularly the bloody events in Hodeidah, its airport and main port. The Houthis used civilians as human shields and placed mines in every area they left, considering it a violation of international human rights law. The meeting demanded these militias to withdraw from Hodeidah and its Port.
- 11- The meeting condemned the rejection by the Houthi militias of United Nations proposals to increase commercial and humanitarian shipments through the Red Sea ports, including the new arrangements for the management of Hodeidah Port, which would improve the humanitarian situation in Yemen.
- 12- The meeting stressed the need to continue joint and tireless work to prevent Yemen from turning into a haven for violent groups and terrorist organizations and a source of threat to the security and stability of neighboring countries and to take all necessary measures to achieve this.
- 13- The meeting condemned the absence of the Houthi militias from the Geneva negotiations on 6 September 2018 under the auspices of the United Nations. The meeting affirmed its support for the efforts of the United Nations Special Envoy for Yemen, Martin Griffiths, and his efforts to find a political solution to the crisis in Yemen and to spare the country more strife and destruction. It stressed the need for Mr. Griffiths to continue his efforts in reviving the Yemeni negotiations and call on all Yemeni parties, forces and political parties to the negotiating table within the framework of the GCC initiative and its executive mechanisms, the outcomes of the comprehensive national dialogue conference 2014, the Riyadh Declaration 2015 and the UN Security Council resolution 2216 (2015).
- 14- The meeting rejected the allegations and claims contained in the report of the United Nations Panel of Experts on Yemen issued on 28 August 2018 and all its conclusions,

recommendations and annexures. It denounced the Panel of Expert's holding the legitimate government in Yemen and the coalition states supporting legitimacy in Yemen fully responsible. The report ignored the real causes of the conflict, which are the coup by the Iran-backed Houthi militias against the legitimate government in Yemen, Iran's negative role and its meddling to prolong the conflict in Yemen.

- 15- The meeting called on the international community and the relevant organs of the United Nations to provide technical support to Yemen in the area of human rights, in accordance with the requirements and needs identified by the legitimate government in Yemen and to extend the necessary support to the national committee to investigate the claims of human rights violations in Yemen so that the committee can fulfil its functions and commitments in accordance with the republican decision number 140 of 2012 and its amendments.
- 16- The meeting expressed the appreciation of King Salman bin Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia for his generous directives to deposit 2 billion US dollars in the Yemeni Central Bank, in support of Yemen's legitimacy, improving the Yemeni economy and alleviating the suffering of the Yemeni people. It also commended the role of the members of the Arab coalition and all Arab and Muslim countries to support the legitimacy in Yemen as well as the Yemeni people, the peaceful solution and reconstruction. The members of the contact group urged Member States to intensify and coordinate their efforts to reach a political solution to the Yemeni crisis, to support the legitimate authorities of the State, to provide more humanitarian and development assistance.
- 17- The meeting expressed its thanks and appreciation for the support provided by Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and other Member States for the reconstruction of Yemen and the financing of humanitarian operations there, and encouraged all other Member States to do more to assist the Yemeni people in facing the deteriorating crisis and humanitarian tragedy.
- 18- The meeting welcomed the results of the donors' conference in Geneva on 25 May 2017 for the financing of the Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan 2017. In this regard, it commended Member States' contributions to humanitarian and development assistance in Yemen and called on all Member States to continue to provide political, security, economic and financial assistance to the Yemeni government to meet the humanitarian challenges and reconstruction efforts in the country.
- 19- The Meeting welcomed the Republic of Turkey'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.