



**CAIRO INSTITUTE
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS STUDIES**
Institut du Caire pour les études des droits de l'homme
مركز القاهرة لدراسات حقوق الإنسان

Human Rights Council: 27th Session
Oral Intervention- Item 10, General Debate (Yemen)
Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS)
25 September, 2014
Delivered by: Silvia Caterini

Thank you Mr. President,

CIHRS, in cooperation with the Danish Institute for Human Rights and Yemen civil society, calls on the new government of Yemen to demonstrate its commitment to immediately and unconditionally appoint members to the national commission of inquiry created more than a year ago in order to investigate human rights violations in the context of protests within the country.

As recommended by the report submitted to this Council by the OHCHR, if the Yemenis government continues to remain unwilling or unable to ensure progress in this regard then this Council and UN member states have a duty to ensure that an international investigative body is established.

Accountability for past and ongoing human rights violations and ensuring justice for victims of these violations is the only way to ensure lasting stability in Yemen.

We also call on the government of Yemen to take immediate steps to ensure the creation of a fully functioning and independent National Human Rights Institution.

We congratulate the people and government of Yemen on the successful completion of its national dialogue. The primary conclusion of this dialogue reconfirmed the desire of Yemeni citizens for a democratic government which provides for the rights and dignity of its citizens. This must now be the litmus test by which we judge progress in Yemen.

Paragraph 13 (a) of the resolution on Yemen tabled this session encourages the Government of Yemen to ensure the development of a National Human Rights Action Plan in accordance with the pertinent “Handbook on National Human Rights Plans of Action. The creation of this action plan would be an important step in setting concrete goals to achieve reform in Yemen and should be created in cooperation with Yemen civil society with all due haste.

Thank you Mr. President.