UN Human Rights Council, 51st regular session
(12 September - 7th October 2022)

6th October 2022

Item 10: General debate. Technical assistance and capacity-building

Joint Statement on Yemen

Statement delivered in English.

Speaker: Aicha Madi

This is a joint statement with the Women International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF).

We regret that the Houthis rejected the UN-brokered proposal for a truce extension. The 10th report of the National Commission of Inquiry (National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR)) documented cases of violations of women’s rights by all parties, including arbitrary detention, torture and ill-treatment, such as flogging, and unfair trials based on false sex work and espionage claims in Sana’a; increased restrictions for civil society work, including storming shelters of women survivors of violence in Mareb; and forced closure of women-led civil society organisations in Aden.

We are concerned that the National Commission’s mandate, which needs renewal every two years, is due to end in 2023. We are also concerned that in the last two years, OHCHR’s technical assistance promised to the National Commission has been rather limited.

We call on the Council to:
1. Request provision of technical assistance to the National Commission including on gender analysis, investigation of impacts of explosive weapons, and use of satellite imagery analysis.
2. Urge for the improvement of women’s access to justice by supporting reforms of the judiciary system, and the creation of a judicial special police unit for protection of judges; and
3. Demand human rights training for security and military forces.