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Written statement* submitted by Organisation internationale pour les pays les moins avancés (OIPMA), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

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* Issued as received, in the language(s) of submission only.



Situation in Yemen

In order to meet the challenges, overcome constraints and obstacles of the chronic and complicated situation in Yemen, the starting point to Conflict prevention, post-conflict peacebuilding requires deep analysis of the root causes of the conflicts in this country, followed by comprehensive measures with crucial resolution by the United Nations Security Council to end war in Yemen.

The war that took place in Yemen five years ago is mainly due to the spread of extremism, intolerance, growing hatred which have been caused by countless economic, political and social causes. As such the spread of illiteracy paved the way for political Islam to disseminate the spirit of fanaticism and hatred, consolidating terrorism and violent extremist groups. This constitutes a threat for security and stability and led to perpetrate grave violations of human rights in Yemen.

It is known that religious beliefs bring hope to societies, and contribute to the promotion of tolerance, peace and reconciliation. However, when misused, as in the case of Yemen, it becomes the engine of terrorism, as it is the case for political Islam operating in Yemen.

Events in Yemen have proven that the Houthis and the Islah are a catastrophic group because they adopt strategies in the name of Islam to spread extremism, fanaticism, hatred and brainwashing among students and youth through private schools, mosques, charities and social media that can lead to violence. Terrorism and the creation of chaos and sectarian wars in Yemen.

The devastating effects of the war in Yemen are produced by the emergence of the two mentioned groups. On the one hand, the Houthis (Supporters of God) believe that their leader Abdul - Malik al - Houthi was sent by God, as a descendant of the prophet. Their slogan "Allahu Akbar, Death to America, Death to Israel, curse the Jews, Victory to Islam" has been implemented in the school's curriculum, circulated in channels, the press, social media and on billboards. Under this slogan the Houthis mobilize thousands of children to participate in the conflict and push them to the frontline.

On the other hand, the Islah Party who represent in practice the Muslim Brotherhood and as (decision maker of the internationally recognized government of Yemen) considered as a mother of Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula is doing its best to brainwash the citizens, especially children and the youth, spreading jihadist ideas to achieve their political objectives and establish an Islamic Caliphate.

Nonetheless, although the conflict going on between these two conflict parties (the Houthis and the Islah Party), they believe that any declaration regarding restoring the southern state by the Southern Transitional Council would cause loss of their previous domination over the south and of their economic interests.

Indicators, events and facts confirmed that the Houthis' cooperation and participation with the military high rank officers belong to the Islah party in the legitimate government of Yemen, clandestinely, began in recent weeks and still going on in order to take power in southern Yemen.

Beside the logistics provided by the Islah Party to the Houthi militias to invade the South, new facts said that, On 30 May 2019, the Southern resistance captured dozens of soldiers and officers belonging to the legitimate government brigades in Marib, supervised by Vice President of Yemen Ali Mohsen al-Ahmar, have been fighting alongside with the Houthis to reoccupy the South by attacking the southern province of Dhali, where the Southerners are struggling to restore their Sovereign state as it was before 1990.

It is thus evident that there is an increasing tendency to re-occupy the south by these Two conflicting parties in the north, which indicates a change in the dynamics of the conflict, rather than between the northern parties to the conflict, now between the latter and the South represented by the Southern Transitional Council stand up against these attacks to defense their land and dignity. They are struggling for the restoration of their independence.

As a response to the attack launched by the Houthis at the beginning of May this year, when the Houthis tried to invade the city of Dhalie in the south with aim of occupying the

south, the southern people expressed their determination in defending their land and dignity and to restore their independent and sovereign state.

In this context, a southern Declaration was issued by Major General Aidarus al-Zoubaidi, the former governor of Aden and the current president of the Southern Transitional Council declared on May 19th the mobilization of the southerners and establishing Joint Operations Command to regulate the performance of all the southern military sectors to defend the Southern borders and to liberate Hadramout Valley from the military zone, belonging to the Islah party which is considered as a safe haven for Al-Qaeda.

It is worth noting that the unification of the country of 1990 was defeated after 4 years when President Ali Salem al-Beidh invoke the breach as a ground for terminating the treaty and declared the withdrawal of the unity agreement on May 21st, 1994, based on Article 60 of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties of 1969.

In this regard, the Southern Transitional Council has already entered dialogue several times with Mr. Martin Griffiths the Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General for Yemen and with his office, expressing its willingness to cooperate in further negotiations.

It is vital to consider the statement made by Mr. Martin Griffiths the Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General for Yemen on 15th May 2019 at the Security Council meeting 8525th on the situation in the Middle East (Yemen), where he stated that a comprehensive peaceful agreement would only be possible if it includes a broad range of voices and enhancing the southerner's participation.

However, the intransigence of the Houthis and the Yemeni government alike and their refusal to stop the war and resume negotiations for a comprehensive solution has become a major obstacle to peace and stability in the region, this is reflected in President Hadi's letter of 22 May 2019 to the Secretary-General of the United Nations requesting the end of the mandate of the Special Envoy because of his recommendation to the Security Council to include southerners in the negotiations.

On the other hand, we observe the this intransigence is reflected in the position of the Houthis who escalated their attacks over Dhalie, (the Southern governorate) where they perpetrated gross human rights violations against civilians, threatening the freedom of international shipping by striking oil tankers as well as oil pipelines in the region. Thus, the Houthis and the Yemeni government has become a major constraint for any comprehensive solution which will lead to the restoration of the two states in the south and north as they were before 1990.

Nowadays, the situation indicates that the starting point for a comprehensive solution and to achieve a breakthrough to the actual conflict, OIPMA recommends the Human Rights Council, to call upon the Security Council to take over the following measures:

- To identify the Lords of War and perpetrators of gross violations of Yemen from both sides, the Houthis militias and the legitimate government for a referral to the International Criminal Court. This is the only way to stop the conflict.
- To enable the Southern Transitional Council to declare of the Southern Federal State, in the territory of the former Democratic Republic of Yemen, especially since the people of the South, led by the Southern Transitional Council, has proven to eliminate extremism and terrorism in alliance with the United Arab Emirates who provide the South a comprehensive assistance south in capacity-building during the last 4 years.
- To prepare framework for establishing transitional council in the North to control the Northern governorates and to manage the transition from the central state to a federal state in the former Yemen Arab Republic in accordance with its injustices.

in order to guarantee long-lasting peace among the north and the south, should be followed by a negotiation among all the two states in order to maintain peace and stability in the region, benefiting from the United Arab Emirates experience in consolidating the values of peace and respect, countering extremism and hate, the Two future States could benefit from the experience of the United Arab Emirates. The country, which has already become a

model at the regional and international level after many practical measures taken for the elimination of ideological intolerance, cultural and religious hate.

The United Arab Emirates is a good example for them as it has also declared the year 2019 as the year of tolerance, and issued an Antidiscrimination Act, setting up centers to combat extremism, terrorism, appointing a Minister for Tolerance, as well as launching institutions and programs to combat intolerance and hatred. It has, furthermore, promoted and signed the "document of fraternity for world peace and living together" with Dr. Ahmed al-Tayeb, Sheikh of Al-Azhar and the Pope Francis in Abu Dhabi last February 2019 with the presence of worldwide religious leaders.
