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Agenda item 4

Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

Written statement* submitted by Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, 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.

[4 February 2024]

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



An Overview of the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on the Islamic Republic of Iran's Performance since Last Year

As a member of the civil society in the Islamic Republic of Iran, we expected the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on the Islamic Republic of Iran (FFMI) to establish and maintain a constructive dialogue with the state in line with the Human Rights Council (HRC) resolution 5/2.

We also expected the Fact-Finding Mission to maintain its independence and refrain from prejudice as indicated by the title of the mission and specified in the Human Rights Council Resolution A/HRC/RES/S-35/1 as well as the resolution that adopted the Code of Conduct for the HRC Special Rapporteurs.

We draw the attention of the Council to the fact that, since the establishment of the one-year mandate of the FFMI, our NGO has tried to initiate dialogue with the mandate, presenting the available, relevant information to the Mission as well as making efforts to communicate with the mandate.

In addition, we would like to draw the attention of both the Mission and the Council to the fact that according to international norms, the responsibility of addressing any form of domestic dissatisfaction is first and foremost placed on the shoulders of the states. In the case of the failure of domestic mechanisms to address social dissent, international mechanisms are required to ensure access to justice for any potential victims. This is while the hasty establishment of Iran FFMI interferes with the functioning of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Special Committee which has been providing the victims with adequate remedy and redress. The Islamic Republic of Iran's Special Committee has been involved in a series of measures including "investigating any complaints lodged by the victims and those who have... [been]... pursuing the compensation of the citizens who have suffered material damages or spiritual injuries during the riots". (1)

Considering the establishment of two country mandates under item 4 to investigate the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, we call on the Human Rights Council to focus on the constructiveness and efficiency of the country mandates instead of adding to their quantity which proves the political prejudice behind the establishment of such mandates rather than any good will to contribute to the promotion of human rights in the concerned country.

We call on Islamic Republic of Iran to urge the Special Committee to publish its findings as well as a report of the measures adopted by the Committee.

1- <https://en.specialcommittee.ir/portal/home/?246490/Legal-Framework>