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**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development**

Written statement* submitted by Forum for Development and Human Rights Dialogue, 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.

[22 May 2024]

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



Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children

The Forum for Development and Human Rights Dialogue expresses its concern about the tendency of terrorist militias to traffic in human beings, in order to obtain the necessary funds to finance their terrorist activities and purchase the necessary weapons and equipment, which led to the emergence of what is known as "Jihad of Marriage". Therefore, the record of terrorist organizations was full of the ugliest practices of human trafficking, as the practices of ISIS and other terrorist organizations set humanity back centuries, as well as recirculating terms and labels for behaviors that are supposed to have become extinct and not It is present in the dictionary of human relations.

We would like to refer to the crimes of the Houthi militias, which persist in committing such heinous humanitarian crimes, and the latest Houthi crimes, represented in the militias' seizure of several hospitals and turning them into secret massacres and headquarters for human trafficking gangs. Most of the victims of crimes committed by the Houthi militias are considered the poorest or those who suspect that they are not loyal to the militias.

According to local sources, there are more than 20 children in Sana'a, Al-Bayda, and other governorates kidnapped by militias. They were found weeks later on one of the roads and they were subjected to internal operations. Moreover, it was found that some of the victims lost half of their kidneys, liver, and other viscera, and one of the victims died in Al-Bayda governorate from the theft of his kidney.

The Forum for Development and Human Rights Dialogue also indicates that a quarter of human trafficking operations worldwide within the African continent, where the phenomenon of "child trafficking" is exacerbated in the continent, through various means, including "suspicious adoption" and the recruitment of children in extremist groups. For example, in Chad, we find that the fragile security reality of the state and the undermining of the legal system allowed the spread of these crimes in the north and east of the country, and in the end, the most affected women and children as both vulnerable groups. More than 93,000 children were recruited to participate in armed conflicts between 2005 and 2020, with the largest number of child victims from within Africa coming from the Congo and Somalia, according to UN estimates.

We would also like to refer to the marriage jihad, in the places where ISIS was present in the Syrian Arab Republic and Iraq. The weapon of sex and women is widely used to attract fighters and attach them to its terrorist camps, and it has been revealed that some women receive amounts ranging from 300 to 500 dollars per month as a result of their presence inside ISIS to spend them on their children or themselves in exchange for serving the men of the organization and practicing jihad marriage with ISIS members. The age of women who have children and take care of household affairs is between nine and seventeen years of age most of the time.

Also, ISIS, after 2014, recruited about 4 thousand women, and its first task was to empty the sexual repression of men as jihad is a Purpose, and the man must be psychologically prepared for this jihad. So, the organization issued many fatwas on the discharge of desires of instinctive suppression among men as a result of their preoccupation with wars most of the time.

In this regard, the Forum for Development and Human Rights Dialogue calls for the need for international cooperation between countries to eliminate the crime of human trafficking, especially after this crime has taken international forms. In addition to counting it cross-borders, this necessitates cooperation at the international level, especially the country of origin, the transit country, and the destination country, with the need to emphasize the adoption of an international position on countries that do not comply with international conventions in the field of combating trafficking in persons.