



## REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

The National Commission to Investigate  
Alleged Violations to Human Rights

# The 12th PERIODIC REPORT

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on the Activities Carried out by the National  
Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations to  
Human Rights (NCIAVHR) in Yemen

from 01/08/ 2023 to 31/07/2024





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## First: Introduction

Based on the mandate of the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR) to investigate all violations committed across Yemeni territories by all parties to the conflict, as stipulated by Republican Decree No. 140 of 2012 and its amendments, and in accordance with various United Nations Security Council resolutions, including Resolution No. 2051 of 2012 and Resolution No. 2140 of 2014, as well as the Human Rights Council resolutions concerning the human rights situation in Yemen since 2011, most recently Resolution No. (A/HRC/RES/54/29) issued on 12 October 2023, the Commission continues its efforts in monitoring, documenting, and investigating all forms of human rights violations committed in contravention of national laws and international conventions by all parties to the conflict in Yemen.

With the continuation of an undeclared truce, this report is released amidst new developments and events on the regional and local landscape, which have had a direct impact on the humanitarian situation and the peace process in Yemen, which will be referenced in the context.

Through this report, the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR) aims to inform the local, regional, and international public about the developments in the human rights situation and the humanitarian conditions in Yemen during the reporting period. It includes a summary of the most significant activities and efforts of the Commission from 1 August 2023 to 31 July 2024, focusing on monitoring, documenting, and investigating violations across all Yemeni regions.

The report also provides a detailed account of the number of violations monitored and investigated by the Commission during the reporting period and their relation to the relevant parties. It presents several case studies of violations related to international humanitarian law and international human rights law that the Commission has investigated, along with the findings of these investigations. Additionally, it highlights the major challenges and obstacles faced by the Commission and offers recommendations to all parties to the conflict and the international community to enhance the protection of human rights, mitigate violations, and achieve the principles of accountability and justice for victims. This report also comes after the renewal of the committee's mandate for a two-year by republican Decree No. 16 of 2023.

This report complements and is an integral part of the previous reports issued by the Commission, particularly regarding the statement of mandate, legal framework, methodology, and working methods.

## Second: Methodology:

The National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR) reiterates its commitment to the methodologies, standards, and principles upheld by similar international investigative bodies. Key among these are transparency, independence, impartiality, objectivity, professionalism, and confidentiality. This adherence aligns with the mandate outlined in Republican Decree No. 140 of 2012, particularly paragraph (c) of Article No. 2, which obligates the Commission to perform its duties in accordance with international standards, national legislation, and treaties ratified by the Republic of Yemen.

Accordingly, the Commission bases its legal framework on national legislation, including the Constitution of the Republic of Yemen, general and military procedural and penal laws, the Law on the Prohibition of Anti-Personnel Mines, the Child Rights Law, among others. Furthermore, it draws on international agreements ratified by Yemen, such as the United Nations Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenants on Civil and Political Rights, and on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, the Conventions against Torture, and the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. Additionally, the Commission adheres to the Second Additional Protocol to the Geneva Conventions concerning non-international armed conflicts, and Common Article No. 3 of the Four Geneva Conventions, recognizing the conflict in Yemen as a non-international armed conflict as classified and agreed upon by the United Nations, its various bodies, and the International Committee of the Red Cross.

The National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR) has diligently monitored and documented all

violations occurring across Yemeni territories by all parties involved. This monitoring and documentation are conducted directly by the Commission's observers stationed throughout the governorates of the Republic. Additionally, the Commission receives reports of violations from civil society organizations working in this field, as well as complaints submitted to the Commission's headquarters in the interim capital, Aden, or its branches in Taiz and Marib. Reports can also be submitted through the Commission's website or its recently launched mobile application.

The Commission's investigative methodology involves conducting direct interviews with victims, their families, and eyewitnesses, along with gathering statements from informants. The Commission also consults experts in weaponry, forensic evidence, and forensic medicine, according to the resources available.

One of the key methodologies employed by the Commission is field visits to the sites of violations and areas affected by armed conflict. These visits are carried out either directly by members, assistant investigators, and observers in regions under the control of the legitimate government, or by observers in governorates outside the government's control.

## Third: The Context:

The human rights situation is influenced by the events and crises the country experiences across various levels. Here, we attempt to highlight some of the most significant political, military, security, and economic developments that have impacted human rights during the reporting period. Key points include the following:

### 1. On the Political Level:

During the reporting period, international and regional efforts continued to pursue

a political settlement to end the conflict in Yemen. By the end of 2023, Omani and Saudi mediation announced the drafting of a three-phase peace roadmap. This roadmap includes humanitarian and economic arrangements, political dialogue, the establishment of the state, elections, and a two-year transitional period. On 23 December 2023, the UN envoy announced that Yemeni parties had agreed to a set of measures within this roadmap, which is set to be signed at the beginning of 2024.

The peace process in Yemen was further complicated by recent tensions in the Red Sea, such as the Houthi seizure of the cargo ship *Galaxy Leader* at the end of 2023, and their continued military attacks in the Red Sea and Bab Al-Mandab. These actions led to the suspension of peace talks and hindered mediation efforts to finalize the UN-sponsored roadmap. The U.S. envoy noted that peace negotiations in Yemen had become impossible due to Houthi attacks, warning of a potential return to military confrontations. Similarly, the UN envoy stated that Red Sea tensions complicate mediation efforts to complete the UN-sponsored roadmap.

A sense of anticipation and anxiety prevailed regarding the fate of the political settlement following the Red Sea attacks. This anxiety was further compounded by a series of monetary decisions taken by the Central Bank of Yemen in Aden, including the cancellation of the old currency and a two-month period for its exchange with the currency circulated in government-controlled areas. These decisions were met with outright rejection by the Houthi group, which responded with escalato-

ry measures in the territories under its control and threatened to resume armed confrontations internally.

On 1 July 2024, a new round of negotiations between the Yemeni government and the Houthi group commenced, lasting for a week without any notable progress on the issue of war-related prisoners and detainees. The talks concluded with an agreement to hold another round of negotiations in two months, leaving the suffering of prisoners, detainees, and forcibly disappeared persons and their families unresolved.

Subsequently, on Tuesday, 22 July 2024, in response to the recent developments concerning the Central Bank's decisions, the office of UN Envoy Hans Grundberg announced an agreement between the legitimate government and the Houthi group on several measures to de-escalate tensions related to the banking sector and Yemen Airways. This agreement was documented in a written text received by the UN envoy from both parties<sup>1</sup>.

In reality, there are no serious and tangible indicators of the commencement of a comprehensive peace process in Yemen, with committed parties beginning its implementation under UN auspices.

Regarding the reopening of roads, during the reporting period, popular initiatives successfully reopened Al-Bayda - Al-Jawbah Marib Road and Al-Howban - Al-Qasr roundabout road in Taiz last June. These initiatives were a result of public pressure after the Houthi group had blocked the road for nine years.

**1) The statement includes four provisions as follows:**

1. Cancellation of recent decisions and measures against banks from both sides, and a future cessation of any similar decisions or measures.
2. Resumption of Yemen Airways flights between Sana'a and Jordan, increasing the number of daily flights to three, and initiating daily flights to Cairo and India or as needed.
3. Convening meetings to address administrative, technical, and financial challenges facing the partnership.
4. Commencing meetings to discuss all economic and humanitarian issues based on the roadmap.



## On the Security and Military Level:

### a. On the Military Level:

The reporting period did not witness any direct military confrontations on the internal fronts, indicating the continuation of an undeclared truce and a significant reduction in casualties among both combatants and civilians. However, several fronts experienced breaches of the ceasefire, leading to intermittent skirmishes. These breaches occurred in areas such as Al-Zahir Al-Had front in Al-Bayda Governorate, Harib front in Marib Governorate, Hayfan, Maqbnah, Salah, and Al-Mudhaffar fronts in Taiz Governorate, Hays in Hodeidah Governorate, and Murays and Al-Fakher in Al-Dhale Governorate, as well as Krish in Lahj Governorate. Some of these violations involved targeting villages and populated areas near conflict zones, resulting in civilian casualties. Additionally, there continued to be casualties, particularly among women and children, due to landmine explosions and remnants of war in various roads and agricultural areas.

Moreover, there was an assassination attempt on the Chief of Staff of the legitimate government's army in Marib. His convoy was targeted by a car bomb, an act for which the government accuses the Houthi group.

### b. On the Security Level:

- **Security Situation in Houthi-Controlled Areas:**

The Houthi group has continued to consolidate its security grip in the areas under its control, severely restricting freedom of opinion and expression. They employ direct repression through various agencies, including the Security and Intelligence Agency, which has been granted broad powers for arbitrary detention, home raids, accusations, torture, enforced disappearances, and other violations. This

has created a systematic atmosphere of fear among the general population. The group also enforces its security control through direct punitive measures without regard for legal procedures. For example, on 19 March 2024, in the city of Rada'a, they demolished several homes of peaceful citizens<sup>2</sup>.

- **Impact of Houthi Attacks in the Red Sea and Bab Al-Mandab:**

The Houthi attacks on international shipping in the Red Sea and Bab Al-Mandab in late 2023 led to a coalition response led by the United States and the United Kingdom, with support from Australia, Bahrain, Canada, and the Netherlands. This coalition launched air and missile strikes on locations within Yemen, including Hodeidah, Sana'a, Al-Bayda, and Dhamar, starting on 12 January 2024, and continuing until the drafting of this report. An unprecedented development occurred when the Houthi group targeted Tel Aviv with drones on 19 July 2024, prompting Israel to launch airstrikes on Yemen, targeting Hodeidah port and power facilities, oil installations, and fuel storage sites, causing casualties. This escalation has serious implications for the security, military, and humanitarian situation in Yemen.

These events have led to an increase in violations, repression, raids, and arrests, including a campaign that targeted UN employees of international and local NGOs, former embassy staff, owners of businesses, pharmaceutical companies, and some of their employees. The campaign of arrests against educators and activists continues up to the drafting of this report.

- The continued mobilization of fighters and the recruitment of children under the pretext of supporting the Palestinian cause and liberating Jerusalem.
- The Houthi group's use of its judiciary to

2) Please refer to page ( ) of this report.



legitimize its violations, notably through what is referred to as the Specialized Criminal Court and Prosecution, to impose severe punishments on civilians, including the death penalty, following periods of enforced disappearance and torture inflicted by the so-called Security and Intelligence Agency.

- **The security situation in areas controlled by the legitimate government**

The security situation in areas controlled by the legitimate government remains unchanged from previous periods. Various security units on the ground have not been unified, and many do not fall under the Ministry of Interior of the legitimate government. There is a lack of official security coordination between these entities. Despite previous decisions to integrate military and security units under the Ministries of Defense and Interior since 2017, and subsequent announcements by the Chairman of the Presidential Leadership Council to form a joint security and military committee to reintegrate army and police forces, tangible results have yet to be achieved. This has led to ongoing violations of citizens' rights and freedoms, such as arbitrary arrests, enforced disappearances, and torture of journalists and activists. A notable incident that sparked public outcry involved the abduction of Lieutenant Colonel Ali Al-Ashaal Al-Ja'dani, which prompted the Supreme Security Committee to suspend Aden's Counter-Terrorism Commander, Yusran Al-Maqtari, and refer him for investigation on July 9.

On the other hand, during its recent field visits, the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR) observed an improvement in the security situation in some governorates. The enhanced coordination and unified command of security agencies have facilitated better management

and control, which is a notable positive development. However, during its visit to Al-Mukalla prison, the Commission noted the continued detention of over 36 prisoners whose sentences had expired, yet they were not released due to the alleged refusal of higher security authorities, citing their involvement in terrorism and affiliation with armed groups.

Similarly, the Commission observed overcrowding in the Political Security Prison in Marib, where many detainees have not been presented to judicial authorities. This issue also persists in Taiz, Shabwah, and the western coastal districts of Taiz and Hodeidah. The Commission investigated numerous violations in these areas, including arbitrary arrests and enforced disappearances of dozens of residents. The lack of an adequate number of judges and prosecutors has led to the overcrowding of detainees and the prolonged detention of many individuals without due judicial process.

- **Security Situation and Al-Qaeda:**

During the reporting period, a security campaign was launched to pursue Al-Qaeda elements in the Omran Valley, Madiyah District, Abyan Governorate. This campaign was in response to several attacks by the organization, notably the assassination of the Security Belt commander in Abyan, Brigadier General Abdul Latif Al-Sayyed, and several of his security details through an improvised explosive device in August 2023. The resurgence of Al-Qaeda activities during this period presents a significant challenge to the security and stability of the affected areas.

### c. On the Socio-economic Level:

The lack of any political settlement and stalled progress in the peace process has adversely impacted Yemen's economic and social conditions, exacerbating humanitarian suffering. This has fostered an environment condu-

cive to continuous deterioration, reinforcing the division of monetary policy and creating a de facto dual economy. The continued halt in oil and gas exports, declining government revenues, and the depreciating currency in government-controlled areas—where the exchange rate exceeded 1,890 riyals per US dollar as of the report’s drafting—have led to unprecedented economic decline.

In response, the Central Bank of Yemen in Aden issued several measures aimed at stabilizing the currency and unifying monetary policy. These included the abolition of the old currency and a two-month exchange period, as well as mandates for certain banks to relocate their headquarters to the interim capital, Aden. However, these measures were met with resistance and counteractions from the Sana’a authorities, who had previously minted a 100-riyal coin for circulation in the areas under their control. They also detained four aircrafts belonging to Yemen Airways and threatened to resume hostilities, prompting international pressure via the UN envoy to delay the Central Bank’s decisions until the end of August to facilitate peace and negotiation processes. Ultimately, these decisions were rescinded following an agreement announced by the UN envoy on July 22.

Despite this, no urgent mechanism has been established to halt the rapid currency depreciation, rising prices, deteriorating essential

services, or to improve living standards in government-controlled areas. The performance of Aden Port remains subpar compared to the revitalized Hodeidah Port, which saw lifted import restrictions during the reporting period. Concurrently, salaries for public employees in Houthi-controlled areas remain unpaid, and the group continues to impose excessive levies on both small and large businesses under various pretexts, coercively seizing assets and properties from political adversaries. They have also restricted the operations of humanitarian organizations, particularly following the recent arrests of UN staff, which has impacted the delivery of humanitarian aid. Additionally, the Houthis impose double taxation on goods passing through the areas linking government-controlled and Houthi-controlled regions, equivalent to the customs and tax duties on imports via Hodeidah Port. This has forced import companies and traders to cease importing through Aden Port, shifting instead to Hodeidah Port, thereby directly harming state revenues, particularly with the ongoing cessation of oil exports.

The attacks in the Red Sea have had a significant impact on the economic situation, leading to increased costs of basic goods due to higher shipping and insurance fees caused by the risks associated with these attacks and the ongoing conflict. This has also resulted in the cessation of humanitarian and relief aid deliveries.

## **Fourth: NCIHVHR’s Relations with the Parties to the Conflict and Other Relevant Entities:**

During the reporting period, the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR) undertook various activities aimed at engaging with the parties to the conflict to uncover the truth behind the al-

leged violations by each side and to strengthen cooperation in line with its strategy to create a conducive environment for protecting and promoting human rights. Key activities included the following:

**a. The Government of Yemen (GoY) and Government- Affiliated Entities:**

Throughout the reporting period, the Commission maintained communication and coordination with the legitimate government through various forms, including direct meetings and official correspondence. These communications involved requests for responses to the Commission’s inquiries regarding incidents under investigation attributed to government-affiliated entities and individuals. Additionally, the Commission provided numerous recommendations to government bodies aimed at protecting human rights. Notable activities included the following:

**1. Direct Meetings with Government Leadership and Local Authorities:**

- A meeting was held with His Excellency Dr. Rashad Al-Alimi, President of the Presidential Leadership Council, and members of the National Commission on Monday, 4 September 2023, at Ma’ashiq Palace. During the meeting, the eleventh report of the National Commission was presented to inform the government about the human rights violations and freedom infringements documented during the reporting period. The government was called upon to address these issues in accordance with its national and international commit-

ments and to implement the recommendations falling within its jurisdiction.

- - The National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR) engaged in several direct meetings from April to June 2024 with various ministers, governors, local authority leaders, security directors, military commanders, and directors of political security and military intelligence branches in the governorates of Aden, Hodeidah, Taiz, Marib, Shabwah, Hadhramaut, and Al-Mahrah. Additionally, a meeting was held with the Head of the Counter-Terrorism Unit. These discussions centered around human rights violations attributed to these entities, the state of human rights in these areas, and facilitating the Commission’s work and access to regions and victims.

**2. Correspondence with Government Entities to Complete the Investigations:**

During the reporting period, and in line with its mechanism for completing investigations through inquiries directed at the accused entities, reviewing internal accountability procedures, and ensuring human rights protections, the Commission issued 51 official memorandums to the government and its affiliated institutions and agencies.

No.	Entity	Subject of the Memorandum	Response
1	Minister of Interior	A memorandum regarding the Commission's inquiries pertaining to a complaint of the families of detainees in a number of prisons affiliated with the Ministry of Interior.	No response received
2	Attorney General	A memorandum regarding the Commission's inquiries about the attack suffered by citizens in Aden Governorate	Responded

3	Chief Prosecutor of Al-Dhale Appeals and Governor of Al-Dhale Governorate	A memorandum inquiring about the circumstances of the violations (arbitrary arrest and assault) to which citizens were subjected and whether the relevant paperwork was sent to them by the Security Department of Al-Dhale Governorate	No response received
4	Governors of Hadramaut, Marib, Al-Mahrah and Shabwah Governorates	A memorandum requesting facilitating the work of the commission team to review prisons as well as inquire about some of the cases that have been monitored	Responded
5	Director of the Military Intelligence and Reconnaissance Authority and Head of Division in Taiz Governorate	A memorandum inquiring about the violation (arbitrary detention) to which a number of citizens were subjected and attributed to them in Taiz Governorate	Responded
6	Director of the Political Security Agency in Marib Governorate	Two memorandums inquiring about a number of violations (arbitrary detention) to which citizens were subjected	Responded
7	Security Belt forces in Aden	A memorandum inquiring about a number of incidents attributed to the Security Belt forces, including a number of violations, e.g. arbitrary arrests and forced deportations A memorandum requesting facilitating the work of the Commission's team of observers during field visits.	Responded to only one memorandum
8	Commander of the Facilities Protection Forces	A memorandum inquiring about violation of an attack on citizens in Aden Governorate	No response received
9	Director General of Taiz Governorate Police	A memorandum inquiring about the incident of the alleged arrest of 13 citizens in Taiz Governorate	No response received
10	Director of Security Al-Dhale Governorate	A memorandum inquiring about a complaint about the arrest of a citizen in Al-Dhale Governorate	Responded
11	Director of Military Intelligence and Commander of the Military Police in Marib Governorate	Memorandums requesting facilitating the work of the members of the Commission and its field team to visit prisons and detention centers and respond to inquiries about some of the violations that have been monitored	Responded
12	Commander of the Military Police of the National Resistance	A memorandum inquiring about a case of violation involving the arrest of a citizen on the West Coast	No response received

13	Director of the Police of Aden Governorate	A memorandum inquiring about some violations attributed to the Police Stations in Aden Governorate, including five cases of arrest of a group of citizens in various districts in Aden.	No response received
14	Taiz axis leadership	Memorandums inquiring about some of the violations attributed to them, including arbitrary arrests, house raids and extrajudicial killings	No response received
15	Director General of Hodeidah Police	Memorandums inquiring about the alleged violation (arbitrary arrest) of citizens and attributed to them	No response received

### c. The Arab Coalition in Support of Legitimacy:

The National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR) has continued to take investigative actions regarding incidents attributed to the Arab Coalition's air operations, occurring prior to the truce announcement. Correspondence regarding these incidents has been ongoing. A meeting was held at the NCIAVHR office in the interim capital, Aden, on 30 October 2023. This meeting included the Chairman and members of the NCIAVHR and the Joint Incident Assessment Team. They discussed new incidents under investigation and their locations, aiming for collaborative efforts and coordination between the two sides. This cooperation ensures that all targeted victims are reached and internal accountability is maintained.

### d. The Houthi Group:

Since commencing its duties in the interim capital, Aden, in 2016, the NCIAVHR has consistently reached out to the Houthi leadership in Sana'a. Numerous memoranda were addressed to the head of the group's political office, requesting responses to inquiries about human rights violations attributed to the group, which the Commission is investigating. Additionally, the Commission has repeatedly asked for the designation of a liaison

officer to respond to these inquiries. Despite the Commission's persistent efforts and multiple requests, no response has been received from the group to date. This lack of response mirrors the group's general approach towards most national and international human rights entities.

Nonetheless, the Commission continues to monitor and investigate all human rights violations occurring in Houthi-controlled areas through its researchers and monitors in the governorates of the Capital of Sana'a, Sana'a, Hajjah, Saadah, Dhamar, Amran, Al-Mahweet, Ibb, Hodeidah, Al-Bayda, and all areas under the group's control. These field operatives conduct interviews with victims and their families, gather witness testimonies, and inspect sites where violations occurred. The Commission calls upon the Houthi leadership to cooperate and appoint a liaison officer to address the Commission's inquiries regarding the allegations against the group.

## Fifth: the Most Important Tasks Carried out by the Commission during the reporting period

The National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR) engages in various tasks as mandated by its establishment decree. During the reporting period, the Commission's team and its various units have successfully executed several activities within the scope of its mandate. These activities include monitoring, documenting, and investigating human rights violations, as well as conducting numerous initiatives aimed at bolstering the Commission's work. The Commission has also enhanced cooperation with the judiciary and civil society to improve the human rights situation, mitigate the impact of violations on victims, prepare mechanisms for transitional justice, activate accountability processes and redress mechanisms, and refer completed investigative files to the Public Prosecution. Additionally, the Commission has engaged in multiple activities with United Nations mechanisms and the international community, all in accordance with its annual plan.

**The most significant activities undertaken by the Commission during the reporting period are as follows:**

### First: Monitoring and Documenting the Violations:

The monitoring and documentation process carried out by the Commission's observers involves conducting direct interviews with victims and witnesses of human rights violations and documenting the information provided. This process adheres to ethical and professional principles, including confidentiality, verification of the accuracy and validity of information, objectivity, and neutrality. The Commission places paramount importance

on monitoring and documentation, ensuring daily oversight as it enables the Commission's presence in all Yemeni governorates and guarantees access to all victims.

During the reporting period, the Commission's 44 observers continued their daily, weekly, and monthly monitoring of human rights violations affecting victims, perpetrated by all parties without exception, across all governorates. This effort was supplemented by cooperation with several volunteers in remote and distant districts, aiming to reach the maximum number of victims and document all violations affecting various social groups across Yemen. Key activities in this domain include the following:

#### A. Monitoring and Documentation Activities During the Reporting Period:

During the reporting period, the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR) successfully conducted direct monitoring and documentation through its observers for more than 3,055 alleged violations across various governorates of the country. These violations spanned over 36 different types of human rights infringements, affecting a total of 13,028 victims of both genders. Since its inception in January 2016 until the date of this report, the Commission has documented a total of 29,701 incidents of violations, with a cumulative number of 63,772 victims.

Throughout the reporting period, the Commission interviewed over 8,398 witnesses, informants, and victims, reviewed approximately 7,886 documents, and analyzed hundreds



of photographs and video clips related to the violations. All this information has been systematically cataloged and stored in the Commission’s database.

### B. Capacity Building for Observers, Investigators, and Administrative Staff:

Enhancing the capabilities of field researchers and investigators is a critical component of the Commission’s work programs. This focus aims to improve their legal knowledge and field skills to ensure high-quality outcomes in monitoring, documenting, and investigating activities. Additionally, the Commission has prioritized the capacity building of its technical and administrative staff. During the reporting period, the following activities were carried out:

- A workshop for 40 field observers on the specificities of documentation and accountability in human rights cases, held from 28 July to 2 August 2023, funded by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).
- An advanced training workshop for assistant investigators of the NCIHVHR in

Cairo from 20 to 27 November 2023, focusing on “Laws and Regulations Governing Human Rights,” in partnership with the Shaf Center for Future Studies and Analysis of crisis and Conflicts in Cairo.

- A regular meeting with 40 field observers to review and evaluate the Commission’s work over the past year, held from 26 to 28 February 2024, funded by the OHCHR.
- A training workshop for 25 technical and administrative staff of the NCIHVHR on 11 December 2023, addressing the protection of civilian objects under international humanitarian law. Thus, the OHCHR has implemented only the aforementioned activities during the reporting period.

Table illustrating the main types of human rights violations that the National Commission to investigate alleged violations of human rights (NCIAVHR) has monitored and investigated during the period from 1/8/2023 to 31/7/2024.

No.	Type of violation	No. of incidents	No. of victims	Classification of victims			Responsibility		
				Men	women	children	GoY	Houthi	Other
1	Killing and injuring civilians	694	887	635	82	170	78	562	54
2	Planting anti-personnel land-mines	128	138	104	12	22	0	128	-
3	Assault on Medical facilities and staff	3	-	0	0	0	1	2	-
4	Assault on religious, cultural and historical objects	17	-	0	0	0	0	16	1
5	Forced displacement	165	9952	0	0	0	6	153	6
6	Child Recruitment	126	193	0	0	196	1	122	3
7	Blowing up houses	22	-	0	0	0	0	22	0



No.	Type of violation	No. of incidents	No. of victims	Classification of victims			Responsibility		
				Men	women	children	GoY	Houthi	Other
8	Destruction and damage to public property	6	-	0	0	0	2	4	0
9	Destruction and damage to private property	737	-	0	0	0	43	551	143
10	Assault on physical integrity	48	51	41	4	6	10	33	5
11	Arbitrary arrest	616	871	755	71	45	156	460	-
12	Enforced disappearance	39	41	40	0	1	3	35	1
13	Extrajudicial killings	74	90	85	3	2	12	42	20
14	Torture	28	31	31	0	0	4	22	2
15	Restrictions on movement	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	0
16	Assault on schools	12	-	0	0	0	1	10	1
17	Assault on Peaceful Assemblies	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
18	Assault on journalists and media outlets	3	3	1	0	0	1	1	1
19	Illegal trials	29	116	113	3	0	1	28	0
20	Obstruction and confiscation of humanitarian aid	4	24	0	0	0	0	4	0
21	Assault on organizations and unions	3	3	0	0	0	0	3	0
22	Administrative arbitrariness	43	137	123	14	0	3	40	0
23	Rape and sexual violence	2	2	0	0	2	0	1	1
24	U.S. drone strikes	4	7	5	0	2	0	0	4
25	Terrorizing civilians	93	157	110	31	16	6	81	6
26	Using civilians as human shields	5	7	7	0	0	0	4	1
27	Infringement of freedom of opinion and belief	4	4	2	1	1	1	3	0
28	Planting anti-tank landmines and Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs)	98	186	103	8	58	0	76	22
29	Other violations	49	125	21	1	1	3	46	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>3055</b>	<b>13028</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>2451</b>	<b>271</b>

## Second: Investigating Human Right Rights Violations

From its inception, the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR) has endeavored to engage with the highest number of victims, witnesses, and informants from diverse societal sectors, as mandated by its founding decree. The Commission has employed various mechanisms to ensure the integrity of the investigative process, aiming to substantiate facts, identify perpetrators in accordance with national laws and applicable international conventions, and uphold the utmost standards of accuracy and objectivity. This approach ensures that violators are held accountable, victims receive justice, and harm is redressed.

**The Commission's investigative efforts have primarily centered around several key activities, including:**

### A. Field Visits to Governorates and Regions Witnessing Incidents of Human Rights Violations

During the reporting period, the Commission undertook numerous field visits to various governorates. These visits aimed to assess the human rights situation and conduct direct on-site investigations into significant incidents. The Commission examined locations where violations occurred, collected available field evidence, and listened to witnesses and informants. Additionally, the Commission inspected prisons and detention centers to evaluate whether detainees and prisoners were afforded their rights as guaranteed by national laws and international conventions. The Commission documented any violations encountered, prepared for further investigations, and gathered testimonies and demands from detainees of both sexes, subsequently reporting these needs to the relevant authorities. The following outlines some of the Com-

mission's key activities in this domain:

### Field Visits to Taiz Governorate

During the reporting period, the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR) conducted multiple field visits to Taiz Governorate, undertaking several on-site investigations, including the following:

#### 1. Field Visits to Al-Qahirah and Salah Districts

On 6 October 2023, the Commission's team conducted field visits to Al-Qahirah and Salah districts. They investigated incidents of indiscriminate shelling in residential neighborhoods within these districts, documenting damages to buildings, rooftops, windows, and remnants of projectiles. The team also interviewed victims and their families from the neighborhoods of Al-Kamb, Al-Da'wah, the Faculty of Medicine, Al-Shamasi, and Al-Zahra.

#### 2. Visit to the Central Security Prison and the Criminal Investigation Prison

On 7 November 2023, the Commission's team visited the Criminal Investigation Prison in Taiz to assess the conditions of detainees. Subsequently, on 7 July 2024, the team revisited both the Central Security Prison and the Criminal Investigation Prison, examining the facilities and the situation of the inmates and detainees, totaling 950 individuals, including 25 women and 18 juveniles aged between 17 and 19. The team recorded the inmates' and detainees' primary demands, particularly concerning their right to a fair trial and the expedited resolution of their cases.

#### 3. Visit to Al-Shabakah Prison and the Detention Center at Al-Shamaytayn District Police Department

In response to complaints from inmates at Al-Shabakah Prison in Al-Turbah, Taiz, the

Commission's team conducted field visits to Al-Shabakah Prison and the Al-Shamaytayn District Police Administration. The first visit, on 11 November 2023, reviewed the conditions of 90 inmates at Al-Shabakah Prison and 25 detainees at the Detention Center at Al-Shamaytayn Police Department. The second visit, on 17 July 2024, involved inspecting the three detention rooms housing 113 detainees.

#### **4. Field Visit to Al-Maqatirah District**

Continuing the investigation into the alleged detention of 28 residents of Al-Maqatirah District, Lahj Governorate, the invasion of homes, and the degrading treatment of women by the Fourth Mountain Infantry Brigade, the designated NCIAVHR team conducted a field visit to Al-Maqatirah on Wednesday, 10 January 2024. The team conducted interviews with the detainees' families, listened to several eyewitnesses, and recorded their demands.

#### **5. Visit to the Political Security Prison, Military Intelligence Agency, and Taiz Police**

On 8 July 2024, the Commission conducted field visits to the detention centers of the Political Security, Military Intelligence, and Taiz Police. The team inspected the facilities, assessed the services provided to detainees, and listened to numerous detainees, including those held for war-related reasons, documenting their legal demands.

Visit to the Detention Center Managed by Taiz Security and the Checkpoint at Al-Qasr Roundabout, Salah District

Responding to social media reports by activists regarding mobility restrictions following the opening of Al-Qasr Roundabout - Al-Howban Road, the Commission's team visited the Taiz Police Station on 8 July 2024. They reviewed the measures implemented to facilitate movement to and from the city's districts

amidst the high volume of visitors and returnees. The team also inspected the temporary detention center, interviewed 20 detainees, and witnessed their release in the presence of the Commission. Furthermore, on 11 July 2024, the team visited the checkpoint at Al-Qasr Roundabout, near the frontline between the Houthis and the National Army. They listened to clarifications from the Chief of Staff of the 22nd Brigade and documented the technical and human resource needs to facilitate the daily movement of hundreds of citizens, ensuring their right to safety, freedom of travel, and mobility in alignment with the residents' right to security and stability.

#### **6. Field Visit to Al-Shaqab Area in Saber Al-Mawadem District**

On 13 July 2024, the NCIAVHR conducted a field visit to several villages in Taiz Governorate to continue investigations into numerous war-related violations. The team listened to testimonies from over 68 individuals of both genders and met with numerous civilian victims in the villages of Habur, Al-Aqmah, Al-Awat, Al-Muharazah, Al-Quba, Jannahmi, Shaheer, and Najd Al-Muraqab in Al-Shaqab area of Al-Najada subdistrict.

### **Field Visit to Displacement Camps in Aden Governorate**

On 3 December 2023, the NCIAVHR conducted a field visit to displacement camps in Aden Governorate. The aim was to assess the conditions of the camps and the displaced persons. The team gathered live testimonies from victims who suffered disabilities due to landmines and indiscriminate shelling. The visit included examining the physical injuries sustained by the victims, evaluating the extent and impact of their disabilities on their daily lives, and understanding the permanent physical and mental impairments caused by these incidents.

### 1. Field Visit to Al-Mahrah Governorate

On 28 May 2024, during the reporting period, the NCIAVHR conducted a field visit to Al-Mahrah Governorate. The team visited the central prison and the detention center at the Criminal Investigation Department, along with their associated sections and facilities. During the visit, the team found 267 detainees and prisoners, including three female detainees. The Commission listened to the detainees and prisoners, documented their demands and needs, and assessed their legal situations.

### Field Visit to Hadhramaut Governorate

During the reporting period, the NCIAVHR conducted several field visits to Hadhramaut Governorate, where various on-site investigations were carried out:

#### 1. Visit to the Central Prison Sections in Mukalla, Hadhramaut

On 2 June 2024, the NCIAVHR team visited the sections of the central prison in Mukalla. The team, along with the Head of the Hadhramaut Appeals Prosecution and the Head of the Criminal Prosecution, listened to the inmates of the central prison, which houses 704 prisoners and detainees, including 12 women, held on various charges in the governorate's prosecutions and courts. The team documented their demands for expedited case processing, the completion of release procedures for 37 inmates eligible for release, and the improvement of detention conditions, particularly health and services.

#### 2. Visit to the Detention Center at the Criminal Investigation Department in Al- Mukalla

On 3 June 2024, the NCIAVHR members visited the detention center at the Criminal Investigation Department in Mukalla. They listened

to the 20 detainees, inspected the health, social, and legal conditions of detention, and discussed with the Director of Criminal Investigation the measures aimed at ensuring detainees' rights.

### Field Visit to Marib Governorate

From 3 to 8 June 2024, the NCIAVHR members conducted a field visit to Marib Governorate, performing various activities and investigations, including:

#### 1. A Visit to the Central Prison, Women's Prison, Criminal Investigation, and Juvenile Section in the New Prison

The NCIAVHR team inspected the central prison, women's prison, Criminal Investigation, and Military Police in Marib Governorate. The team reviewed the legal conditions of 542 prisoners and detainees in the central prison and Criminal Investigation, including 20 women. They documented the inmates' demands for improved prison conditions and expedited case processing by the prosecutions and courts. The team also visited the new central prison facilities and listened to 10 juvenile detainees held on various charges, assessed their legal and service conditions, and recommended their release in accordance with the law.

#### 2. Visit to Detention Centers of Political Security and Military Intelligence

The NCIAVHR team inspected the detention centers affiliated with Military Intelligence and Political Security, as well as the detention center at the Military Police in the governorate. They assessed the conditions of the prisoners, evaluating the health and nutritional status within these prisons. The team listened to the demands of several detainees and documented their requests and reasons for detention.

#### 3. Field Visits to Security Zones

The NCIAVHR team conducted field visits

to four security zones in Marib Governorate. They inspected the detention rooms, listened to several detainees held on various charges, and assessed their legal conditions. The team ensured that detainees were afforded their rights according to international standards and national law, verifying the legality of the detention procedures.

## Field Visit to Shabwah Governorate

On 8-9 June 2024, the NCIAVHR members conducted a field visit to the city of Ataq, performing various activities and investigations, including the following:

### 1. Visit to the Central Prison, Criminal Investigation Department, and Ataq District Police Station

The NCIAVHR team inspected the conditions at the central prison, the Criminal Investigation Department, and Ataq District Police Department. They reviewed the legal status and services provided to 269 prisoners and detainees. The team listened to several inmates and detainees, documenting their demands for improved conditions and expedited case processing by the relevant prosecutions and courts.

### B. Conducting Public and Confidential Hearing Sessions

Hearing sessions are one of the core activities within the investigative mechanisms employed by the NCIAVHR. These sessions aim to amplify the voices of victims and eyewitnesses, uncover the truth about the violations experienced by the victims, and assess the physical, health, and psychological impacts resulting from these violations. They also serve to strengthen the investigation's evidence through diverse live testimonies.

During the reporting period, the Commis-

sion held several hearing sessions for victims of violations across various governorates. Among these sessions were:

#### 1. Public Hearings for Live Testimonies from Children:

- On 18 November 2024, coinciding with International Children's Day, the Commission conducted a hearing session at its office in Taiz Governorate. This session involved listening to nine children who had endured various severe violations, leading to severe suffering, including bodily disfigurement, limb amputation, deprivation of humanitarian aid, and the right to education. Additionally, ten live testimonies from professionals in child protection and civil society organizations were documented.
- The Commission also held a closed hearing session at its office in Marib Governorate on 4 June 2024, in conjunction with the International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression. This session included live testimonies from eight child victims and their families. The victims recounted the details of the violations they endured, along with the resulting physical, material, and psychological suffering that deprived them of their normal lives and hindered their educational pursuits.

#### 2. Hearing Session for Women Victims of Human Rights Violations Coinciding with the International Campaign to End Violence Against Women:

On 3 December 2023, the NCIAVHR held group hearing sessions at its office in the interim capital, Aden. The session involved 25 women from the governorates of Aden, Lahj, Hodeidah, Taiz, Sana'a, and Ibb, who had suffered severe and dangerous human rights vio-

lations that infringed upon their fundamental rights guaranteed by international covenants and national laws. The session documented the violations committed against these women by all parties and explored their wartime experiences. These experiences highlighted the severity of the violations, including targeting residential areas and environments protected under international humanitarian law, leading to severe injuries and disfigurements, forced displacement resulting in homelessness and need, loss of security and housing due to the destruction of their homes, arbitrary detention and restriction of freedom in illegal locations, and the loss of husbands and breadwinning sons during the war. Their demands for justice, compensation, and reparation were also recorded.

### **3. Hearing Session for Disabled Victims Coinciding with the International Day of Persons with Disabilities:**

As part of its work, and during the reporting period, the NCIAVHR conducted a hearing session on 3 December 2023, in the interim capital, Aden, for five victims of severe human rights violations who are disabled. The session involved listening to their testimonies about the violations they endured, which led to amputations and disfigurements due to shelling and landmines, resulting in physical disabilities that affected their ability to lead normal lives, and for some, caused permanent mental disabilities.

### **4. Hearing Sessions for Various Human Rights Violation Testimonies:**

During the reporting period, the NCIAVHR held several individual and group hearing sessions at its offices in Aden, Taiz, and Marib. These sessions included the following: A group hearing session for several victims at the Commission's office in Marib on 15 Febru-

ary 2024. A hearing session at the Aden office for members of the Association of Wounded and Victims on 12 March 2024. Closed hearing sessions at the Commission's office in Taiz for victims of arbitrary detention who had been released, held from 17-19 April 2024. During these sessions, victims provided testimonies about their severe suffering and deprivation of their rights to physical and psychological safety, dignity, and work.

### **Third: Enforcing accountability and collaborating with the judiciary:**

The judiciary is a cornerstone in protecting and promoting human rights and represents a safe haven for individuals to protect their freedoms and guarantee their rights. From this standpoint, the Commission is keen to meet periodically with the judicial authority and coordinate with it to strengthen efforts aimed at curbing human rights violations, ensuring the realization of justice, redressing victims, activating accountability mechanisms, and guaranteeing non-impunity in accordance with the principles and charters of human rights ratified by Yemen and the applicable national laws. In this context, the Commission conducted a number of meetings as follows:

- On 24 July 2024, the Commission held two separate meetings with the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Council, Judge Mohsen Yehya Talib, and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Judge Dr. Ali Al-Awash. These meetings addressed several important topics, reaffirming the ongoing cooperation and coordination between the Commission and the judiciary in protecting human rights and emphasizing the activation of accountability mechanisms to ensure that human rights violators do not escape punishment. The meetings also dis-



cussed the Commission's observations gathered during its field visits to several governorates.

- The Commission also held meetings with members of the judiciary, including heads of prosecution and appellate and primary courts, as well as deputies of criminal and military prosecutions in the governorates of Hodeidah, Marib, Taiz, Shabwah, Al-Mahrah, and Hadhramaut. These meetings, conducted during the Commission's routine field visits, focused on discussing the Commission's observations regarding the conditions of courts and prosecutions, which could negatively impact the rights of prisoners and undermine the principles of fair trial.

#### **Fourth: Promoting human rights and cooperating with local and international civil society organizations:**

Since its inception, the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR) has endeavored to strengthen its relationship with active civil society organizations. The Commission recognizes the pivotal role these organizations play in protecting and promoting human rights, advocating for justice and equality, respecting human dignity, supporting and aiding victims, monitoring and enforcing human rights standards, and holding violators accountable. Coordination and cooperation between NCIAVHR and civil society organizations in monitoring and documenting human rights violations remain a priority, aligning with the Commission's objectives to mitigate violations and alleviate their impact on victims. In this context, the Commission maintains direct and in-

direct communication with civil society organizations through various activities, including meetings, workshops, and victim referrals. Key activities during the reporting period included the following:

#### **Workshops and Meetings:**

Concurrently with the National Commission's visits to several governorates and its international engagements, a number of direct workshops were held with local and international active civil society organizations to review the human rights situation and exchange information about cases that have suffered various violations. This documentation ensures accountability, redress, and reparation for victims. Notable workshops include:

- A Panel discussion with civil society organizations in Geneva on 22 September 2023, on the sidelines of the 54th session of the Human Rights Council. The session presented human rights developments in Yemen and the National Commission's work in monitoring, documenting, investigating, and ensuring accountability. Approximately 28 participants attended, including representatives from diplomatic missions of the United States of America, several European Union countries, and Arab and African states in Geneva, as well as local, regional, and international civil society organizations active in documenting violations and advocating for victims.
- A comprehensive meeting with several members of the Parliament, the Shura Council, civil society, and media professionals at the Yemeni Embassy in Cairo, Egypt, on Wednesday, 27 September 2023. The meeting aimed to present the most important contents of the eleventh periodic report and the Commission's find-



- ings from field investigations and visits to various detention centers and prisons.
- A panel discussion was held on 20 November 2023 in the interim capital, Aden, coinciding with World Children's Day. Forty participants from governmental institutions, including the Ministries of Justice and Legal Affairs and Human Rights, the Attorney General's Office, as well as representatives from local and international civil society organizations, attended. The discussion focused on the role of committees, governmental institutions, and civil society organizations in protecting children's rights in Yemen. Several working papers were presented. The session concluded with participants making several recommendations, emphasizing the need to activate necessary legal protections for children. These included establishing alternative (non-judicial) mechanisms for dealing with children involved in armed conflict, creating procedural regulations that consider the specific needs of children during investigations, and integrating the principle of the best interests of the child in all legal rulings and judicial and administrative decisions.
  - A workshop was conducted with civil society organizations in the coastal city of Mocha in western Taiz Governorate on 26 October 2023. Twenty-eight organizations, unions, and entities working in the field of human rights in the western coastal districts participated. The workshop discussed guarantees for protecting and promoting human rights in the western coast, civil society interventions, enhancing communication, and referring victims to the NCIHVHR observers.
  - An extensive meeting with civil society organizations was held in Al-Mahrah Governorate on 30 May 2024, with thirty civil society organizations involved in monitoring and documenting human rights violations in Al-Mahrah participating. Recommendations were made to activate the mechanism for referring victims from civil society to the NCIHVHR to complete investigations into violations.
  - A consultative meeting was conducted with active civil society organizations in Hadhramaut Governorate on 1 June 2024, focusing on protection, empowerment, awareness, monitoring, and promoting human rights. Thirty-three representatives from various organizations participated. The meeting reviewed the latest human rights developments in the governorate, the impact of recent political, military, and economic events on the humanitarian and human rights situation in Hadhramaut, and the roles of civil society in mitigating these impacts. The meeting concluded with several recommendations aimed at improving the human rights environment and practices and ensuring the exercise and protection of rights.
  - An extensive meeting was held in Shabwah Governorate on 10 June 2024, with twenty-three representatives from civil society organizations, human rights institutions, media, and activists working in monitoring and documenting human rights violations in the governorate. The workshop produced several recommendations focusing on key determinants to activate mechanisms for joint cooperation between the NCIHVHR and civil society organizations in the governorate. These recommendations aim to enhance reporting and referring violations to the NCIHVHR, ensuring victims' rights, and promoting respect for human rights and

freedoms.

- A workshop was held in Taiz Governorate on 15 July 2024, with twenty-eight participants, including judges, lawyers, legal professionals, unions, general federation, and victim associations. The workshop focused on “Roles and Opportunities in Achieving Accountability and Redress for Victims of Violations.” The workshop concluded with several recommendations aimed at enhancing the right to access justice and achieving justice.

### Reports Issued by Civil Society:

The National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR) is committed to reviewing and examining all reports issued by international and local organizations, as well as the Journalists’ Syndicate, concerning violations and the overall state of human rights. During the reporting period, some valuable information from these reports was relayed to the Commission’s observers in the governorates for verification, monitoring, and documentation. Additionally, local and international civil society participated in the discussion of the Commission’s periodic reports and press releases.

## Fifth: Collaboration with United Nations Mechanisms on the Human Rights Situation in Yemen, and the International Community:

### 1. UN Security Council Sanctions Team:

During the reporting period, the Chair and members of the NCIAVHR held two meetings with the UN Security Council Sanctions Committee team at the Commission’s headquarters in the interim capital, Aden, on 3 August 2023 and 7 March 2024. These meetings discussed the latest developments in human

rights in Yemen, explored future cooperation prospects, and exchanged information on incidents monitored by the Sanctions Committee that occurred on Yemeni soil, which are also being investigated by NCIAVHR. These incidents include the recruitment of children and women, depriving students of education and preventing them from taking exams prior to military training, and identifying units involved in such practices. Discussions also covered violations faced by civilians in conflict areas, such as sniping, landmines, and intermittent clashes, as well as the situation of families living in these areas who are unable to flee due to financial constraints.

### 2. Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR):

Human Rights Council resolutions on Yemen from 2015 to the 54th session in October 2023 mandate the OHCHR to support NCIAVHR in capacity building, advisory, legal, and technical support. This is in line with the OHCHR’s role in implementing Human Rights Council resolutions and its general secretariat, aimed at promoting human rights globally, especially in countries where the OHCHR has offices. Based on this, a relationship was established between NCIAVHR and the OHCHR office in Yemen. However, during the reporting period, the OHCHR only facilitated one meeting between the Commission and its 44 observers from 26 to 28 February 2024. Subsequently, the Commission was unexpectedly informed by the OHCHR Yemen office director, Mr. Renaud Detalle, that the OHCHR would cease its support and halt all activities. In response, the Commission sent an official memorandum on 23 June 2024 through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to inquire about the cessation of support. Later, the Commission received a response from the Head of the Asia, Pacific, Middle East, and North Africa Division on 11

July 2024, stating that the OHCHR lacked the necessary funding to support the Commission as budgeted, due to several member states not paying their contributions to the UN general budget, resulting in the suspension of activities. This action has completely undermined the Commission's expectations of OHCHR support, particularly in capacity building, technical, and advisory assistance. Consequently, the relationship with the OHCHR has become nearly defunct due to its failure to implement Human Rights Council resolutions.

### 3. Embassies and Countries Interested in Yemen's Human Rights Situation:

The National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR) maintains ongoing communication with various international actors and stakeholders, keeping them informed about the latest human rights developments in Yemen, and the Commission's efforts in documenting and investigating violations, as well as other aspects of accountability and redress. Aiming to expand cooperation mechanisms with these entities to better achieve its goals, the Commission conducted several group and personal meetings with ambassadors and representatives of diplomatic missions interested in Yemen's human rights situation during the reporting period, including the following:

- Multiple meetings with Dutch diplomatic missions, including a meeting with Dutch Ambassador to the Human Rights Council in Geneva, Paul Bekkers, on 21 September 2023. Ambassador Bekkers commended the Commission's crucial role in preserving victim data and evidence and affirmed the Netherlands' support for the Commission's efforts as a national mechanism contributing to justice and redress. Additionally, meetings were held with Dutch

Ambassador to Yemen Jeannette Seppen and political attaché, Tessa Schulman in Jordan on 10 September 2023, and at the Commission's office in Aden on 21 November 2023. Another meeting was held and was attended by the Middle East and North Africa Officer at the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mark Geertsen, on 4 November 2024. These meetings discussed the human rights situation in Yemen, the Commission's efforts in reaching victims, overcoming monitoring and investigative challenges, and opportunities for accountability and peacebuilding. On 13 September 2023, a meeting was also held with the Ambassador for Human Rights and the Middle East and North Africa Departments and the Multilateral Organizations and Human Rights Department at the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs in The Hague, along with the Yemen file official at the Middle East Department. The discussions focused on the current human rights context in Yemen, patterns of violations experienced by victims in the recent period, and the Commission's role in ensuring accountability and redress for victims of both genders.

- A meeting with Zahra' Langhi, Senior Advisor to the UN Envoy to Yemen, at the Commission's headquarters in Aden on 31 August 2023. The discussion focused on the role of documentation and investigation of human rights violations in building a comprehensive and effective peace, ensuring victims' participation and legal rights.
- A meeting with the Deputy Head of the International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP) and Director of Policy Mr. Andreas Kleiser, and ICMP's legal officer for the Middle East Nawal Ramadan, in The Hague, Netherlands, on 15 September 2023.

- The meeting explored cooperation mechanisms in capacity building for the Commission's staff and the use of anthropological laboratory work to identify the remains of missing persons under investigation.
- A meeting with Dr. Mohammad Al-Nsour, Chief of the Middle East and North Africa Section at the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and Christian Salazar, Director of the Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division at the OHCHR in Geneva, on 19 September 2023. The meeting reviewed the Commission's role in monitoring and investigating human rights violations in Yemen, and the importance of increasing technical support from the Human Rights Council through the OHCHR to keep pace with the significant expansion in monitoring, documentation, and investigation activities.
  - A meeting with the European Group in Geneva on 19 September 2023, attended by representatives from the diplomatic missions of the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Austria, Finland, Ireland, Romania, Belgium, and the European Union. They expressed their appreciation for the Commission's efforts and their strong support for integrating human rights into the peace process.
  - A meeting with the Arab Group ambassadors in Geneva on 20 September 2023, on the sidelines of the Commission's participation in the 54th session of the Human Rights Council. The meeting reviewed the Commission's field investigations and the latest human rights developments in Yemen, with ambassadors expressing their appreciation for the Commission's work and support for its efforts.
  - A meeting with representatives of the Swedish International Development Co-operation Agency on 16 October 2023 at the Commission's headquarters in Aden. The discussion addressed various challenges related to monitoring and reaching victims, and the Commission's priorities in the coming period to ensure victim redress and compensation.
  - A meeting with French Ambassador to Yemen, Catherine Corm-Kammoun, in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on 4 February 2024. The discussion covered recent human rights developments in Yemen and the importance of the Commission's work as a mechanism for accountability and victim redress.
  - A meeting with US Ambassador to Yemen, Steven Fagin, at the US Embassy in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on 5 February 2024. The discussion focused on the human rights situation in Yemen after the official humanitarian truce ended, and the ongoing investigation and victim outreach efforts across Yemen, hoping for redress through national courts and transitional justice mechanisms.
  - A meeting with the Head of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Office in Aden, Al-Turbah, the western coast of Taiz, and Hodeidah, including the Protection Department, on 17 July 2024. The discussion covered the results of the Commission's visits to war detainees, the role of the ICRC in communicating with their families and facilitating reunifications, the status of three foreign detainees in Mukalla, and opportunities for cooperation in raising awareness and expertise in international humanitarian law.
  - Over 13 recommendations were presented by representatives of UN member states participating in Yemen's fourth Uni-

versal Periodic Review on human rights before the Human Rights Council from 1 to 3 May 2024. These recommendations called for supporting the NCIAVHR, continuing its investigative work, and facilitating its access to all areas and victims.

### **Issuing Monthly Press Releases and Internal Reports:**

Driven by a sense of responsibility, the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR) is committed to informing the local and international public about its activities and the outcomes of its work. This is achieved through the issuance of monthly press releases, as well as statements coinciding with various global human rights events. During the reporting period, the Commission issued three press releases. These included updates on its monthly investigative activities, news related to the Commission's field visits, and its assessment of areas where human rights violations have occurred. The Commission consistently emphasizes in these

statements the rule of law, the necessity of respecting human rights, protecting children's rights, combating violence against women, and ensuring accountability to prevent perpetrators from escaping justice. Additionally, the Commission issued a comprehensive statement outlining its achievements in the year 2023.

Believing in the importance of facilitating initial reporting mechanisms for victims and ensuring the prompt handling of their complaints, the Commission launched its electronic application named "NCIAVHR" on 18 February 2024. This app is now available for download on Google Play. The launch of this service aims to expand the channels for reporting violations faced by victims across all Yemeni governorates, regardless of the perpetrating entity. In this context, the Commission calls on all civil society organizations working in the field of human rights protection to help raise awareness about the importance of reporting violations and to inform victims about the available and designated reporting methods.

## **Sixth: Findings of the Investigations Carried out by the Commission:**

### **Section 1: Findings of the investigations carried out by the Commission on violations related to the International Humanitarian Law:**

Given that the ongoing armed conflict in Yemen is classified as a non-international armed conflict, it is subject not only to national laws and legislations but also to the provisions of international humanitarian law. Specifically, it adheres to Common Article No. 3 of the four Geneva Conventions and Additional Protocol II relating to the protection of victims

of non-international armed conflicts, as well as customary international law applicable to such conflicts, which must be respected.

Throughout the reporting period, NCIAVHR examined occurrences of alleged breaches of international humanitarian law and human rights law by all factions involved in the conflict. The report outlines several significant inquiries as follows:

- 1. Notable Investigations into Violations of International Humanitarian Law:**

The Commission recognizes the significant



risks that witnesses, informants, and victims may face and greatly values the sensitivity and specificity of information related to violations. Therefore, it ensures their protection and carefully selects the cases published as examples in its periodic reports. Based on this approach, we present some of the key incidents of violations that the Commission has completed investigating as follows:

### First: Killing and Injuring Civilians

This type of violation is a primary focus of the Commission's monitoring and documentation efforts. It represents an assault on fundamental rights protected under national laws and international agreements. Given the severe impact of these violations, including the number of victims and the nature of the harm caused by indiscriminate and erroneous attacks on civilians and residential areas, resulting in death, mutilation, injuries, and widespread terror among the populace, the Commission has paid considerable attention to this type of violation. During the reporting period, the Commission recorded and investigated a total of 694 incidents of civilian killings and injuries, resulting in 294 deaths, including 13 women and 52 children, and 593 injuries, including 118 children and 69 women. The re-

sponsibility for these incidents is distributed among the parties to the conflict as follows:

- Houthi Group: Responsible for 168 deaths and 473 injuries.
- Arab Coalition Airstrikes and Government Forces: Responsible for 100 deaths and 62 injuries.

#### A. Examples of Incidents of civilian killings and injuries investigated by the Commission attributed to the Houthi group:

##### 1. Shelling on the house of Saleh Abdul Ilah Abdullah Al-Habagi in Al-Habag subdistrict, Al-Zaher district, Al-Bayda governorate, on 28 April 2019.

According to the case file held by the Commission, at approximately 2:00 pm on 28 April 2019, Al-Habag subdistrict in Al-Zaher district, Al-Bayda governorate, came under intense artillery shelling by armed groups affiliated with the Houthi militia, stationed on the surrounding mountains. One of the shells struck the house of Saleh Abdul Ilah Abdullah Al-Habagi. This incident left one of Saleh Abdul Ilah's children (aged one year and a half) dead, his wife and two other children injured, with the family's home completely destroyed.

### Victims' names and details:

No.	Name	Gender			Age	Victim status
		Men	Woman	Child		
1	Ali Saleh Abdul Ilah Abdullah Al-Habagi			✓	A year and a half	Killed
2	Nadhrah Omar Sheikh Abdullah Al-Habagi		✓		54 years	Injured
3	Bashayer Saleh Abdul Ilah Abdullah Al-Habagi			✓	16 years	Injured
4	Hana'a Saleh Abdul Ilah Abdullah Al-Habagi			✓	14 years	Injured

According to the report from the field investigation team appointed by the Commission and the testimonies of witnesses, including

S.A.H.A and M.A.S.A, on 28 April 2019, Houthi forces stationed on the mountains surrounding Al-Habag village indiscriminately shelled

the residential areas of the village, located in Al-Zaher district, Al-Bayda governorate, despite the absence of any military targets or barracks in the vicinity. Following the shelling, a loud explosion was heard at the house belonging to Saleh Abdul Ilah Abdullah Al-Habagi, a 59-year-old resident of Al-Habag village. Local residents and neighbors rushed to the scene and found the victim's home nearly destroyed. They extracted the body of a deceased child and rescued the injured, including the victim's wife and three children, who were promptly taken to the hospital for treatment of shrapnel injuries sustained in various parts of their bodies, as confirmed by the attached medical reports. The shelling also led to the complete destruction of the house of the family.

### Findings:

Through the investigations conducted by the Commission and the examination of the rem-

nants of the projectile that targeted the house, as well as the testimonies of witnesses, the statements of the victims, and the reports of the field investigation team appointed by the Commission, it was confirmed that the violation occurred, and the party responsible for it is the Houthi group, led by Hamoud Mohammed Shatan Shemila, the supervisor of the governorate.

## 2. Targeting Civilians at Al-Rown Mosque in Hays district, Hodeidah governorate, on 2 December 2022

### Summary of the incident:

According to the case file at the National Commission, on Friday 2 December 2022, while worshippers were performing the Friday prayer at Al-Rown Mosque, located west of Hays city, Hodeidah governorate, a mortar shell went through the rear end of the mosque, leaving one person dead and three others injured.

### Victims' names and details:

No.	Name	Gender			Age	Victim status
		Men	Woman	Child		
1	Ayyoub Mohammed Mohammed Hassan Mu'afa	✓			18	Killed
2	Hamid Qaid Ghaleb Al-Ahdal	✓			45	Injured with shrapnel in various parts of his body
3	Ali Abdullah Omar Mashhour			✓	12	Injured with shrapnel in his leg
4	Ali Mansour Mohammed Abadil Al-Ahdal	✓			22	Injured with shrapnel in his right thigh, resulting in a fractured thigh

According to the report from the field investigation team appointed by the Commission, the statements from the victims and their families, the attached photographs, and the testimonies of witnesses including (M.M.H), (A.M.M), and (A.M.M), it has been confirmed that at 12:00 pm on Friday, 2 December 2022, while worshippers were attending the Friday prayer at Al-Rown Mosque, located west of Hays

city in Hodeidah governorate, a Houthi drone fired a mortar shell. The shell penetrated the rear end of the mosque, which is made of corrugated iron sheets, and was filled with worshippers. The explosion caused shrapnel to be scattered throughout the mosque, resulting in the death of Ayyoub Mohammed Mohammed Hassan Mu'afa and injuries to several others: Ali Abdullah Omar Mashhour suffered shrapnel



wounds to his leg, Hamid Qaid Ghaleb Al-Ahdal sustained multiple shrapnel injuries across his body, and Ali Mansour Mohammed Abadil Al-Ahdal suffered shrapnel wounds to his right thigh, leaving his thigh fractured. After completing its attack, the drone returned in the direction of Al-Garrahi district, located north of the village, despite the absence of any military sites or forces in the village, which is approximately five kilometers away from the front lines.

### Findings:

Through the investigations conducted by the Commission in this incident, the report of the field investigation team, the testimonies of witnesses, the statements of the victims' families, and the photographs and medical reports attached to the case file, it was confirmed that the party responsible for the violation is the Houthi group, led by Yousef Al-Madani, the commander of the Fifth Military Region.

### 3. Shelling the house of Saheem Ahmed Yehya Al-Amri, in Al-Siyanah area, Al-Mudhaffar district, Taiz governorate, on 31 October 2022

#### Summary of the incident:

According to the case file held by the National Commission to investigate alleged violations of human rights (NCIAVHR), Al-Siyanah neighborhood in Al-Mudhaffar district, Taiz governorate was targeted with artillery shelling. One of the shells hit the home of the victim, Saheem Ahmed Yehya Al-Amri, leaving two people dead and another injured.

According to the statements of the victims' families, the documents, photographs, and medical reports attached to the file, and the testimonies of witnesses, including (S.A.Y), (S.N.N), and (A.M.S), at 3:30 pm on 31 October 2022, the Houthi armed group, stationed in Al-Rabie area, launched an artillery shelling on Al-Siyanah neighborhood in Al-Mudhaffar dis-

trict, Taiz governorate. One of the shells hit the courtyard of the home of the victim, Saheem Ahmed Yehya Al-Amri, a 36-year-old resident of Al-Siyanah neighborhood. The explosion resulted in his death and that of his son, Sami Saheem Ahmed Yehya Al-Amri, and injured Ameer Shareef Ahmed Yehya Al-Amri with deep wounds. He was immediately rushed to receive medical treatment, which resulted in the amputation of one of his feet. It is worth noting that the area is inhabited by civilians and does not contain any military targets.

### Findings:

Through the investigations conducted by the Commission in this incident, the testimonies of witnesses, the statements of the victims' families, and the photographs and medical reports attached to the case file, it was confirmed that the party responsible for the violation is the Houthi group, led by Abdul Latif Hamoud Yehya Al-Mahdi, the commander of the Fourth Military Region.

### 4. Targeting Civilians in Al Madinah District, Marib Governorate on 22/05/2018

As detailed in the case file held by the National Commission to investigate alleged violations of human rights (NCIAVHR), Al Madinah District, Marib Governorate was targeted with a Katyusha rocket that landed near Adhban Mosque, leaving two individuals dead and five others injured, as documented in the case file.

### Victims' names and details:

No.	Name	Status
1	Helmi Mohammed Ahmed Ali Al-Ghurab	Killed
2	Naseeb Saif Ali Nasser Al-Ja'ami	Killed
3	Mohammed Mohammed Abdul Hamid Saeed	Injured

4	Hamoudi Mohammed Ibrahim Kaddash	Injured
5	Abdu Ismail Ali Ayyash	Injured
6	Hadiyah Ali Mohammed Al-Hawari	Injured
7	Muneeb Ali Qaid Adlan	Injured

According to the testimonies of the victims, their families, and the witnesses heard by the Commission—namely (S.A.M.A.) and (H.M.A.K.)—at precisely 1:15 AM on Tuesday, 22 May 2018, in Al- Madinah district, Marib Governorate, Al- Madinah district was shelled by a Katyusha rocket launched from areas controlled by the Houthi group adjacent to Marib. The rocket landed near Adhban Mosque, scattering shrapnel throughout the vicinity. Citizens rushed to the scene to rescue the victims, finding one person deceased and six others with varying injuries. They were immediately rushed to the military hospital for treatment. The following day, another victim succumbed to his injuries.

### Findings:

Based on the investigations conducted by NCIHVHR, the testimonies of the victims and their families, the witnesses' accounts, and the accompanying documents, the entity responsible for this violation is identified as the Houthi forces, led by the Houthi-appointed Commander of the Third Military Region, Mubarak Saleh Al-Mashan Al-Zayidi.

### B. Examples of Incidents of Civilian Casualties Investigated by the Commission Attributable to Government Forces and the Arab Coalition Air Forces:

#### 1. Targeting Civilians in Al-Mutalawi Village, Wadi Al-Hisn Area, Al-Aaqibah Subdistrict, Fara' Al-Udayn District, Ibb Governorate, on 23/12/2016

As detailed in the case file held by NCIHVHR, the residence of Adnan Ali Mas'ad Al-Shameeri

in Al-Mutalawi Village, Wadi Al-Hisn area, Al-Aaqibah Subdistrict, Fara' Al-Udayn District, Ibb Governorate, was bombarded by a missile from Arab Coalition aircraft. This airstrike left seven civilians dead, and their residence completely destroyed.

### Names of the Victims (killed):

No.	Name	Age
1	Naseem Adnan Ali Musaed Al- Shameeri	17
2	Risalah Adnan Ali Musaed Al- Shameeri	8
3	Abdul Hafiz Adnan Ali Musaed Al- Shameeri	7
4	Mudeerah Adnan Ali Musaed Al- Shameeri	5
5	Muneerah Adnan Ali Musaed Al- Shameeri	1
6	Mudeer Adnan Ali Musaed Al- Shameeri	6
7	Na'yim Hazza Mish'al Al-Fakhri	41

According to the case file held by the Commission, the statements of the incident informants, and the testimonies of eyewitnesses interviewed by the Commission, including (A.M.M.K.M.A), (A.M.Q.A.Q), and (D.S.S.M), at exactly 11:00 PM on Friday, 23/12/2016, an Arab Coalition aircraft flew at a low altitude over the area and targeted the residence of Adnan Ali Musaed Al- Shameeri in Al-Mutalawi Village, Wadi Al-Hisn area, Al-Aaqibah Subdistrict, Fara' Al-Udayn District, Ibb Governorate, with a direct missile that reduced the house to rubble. All family members of the victim inside the house, including his six children and his wife, were killed and torn into pieces due to the explosion. The airstrike also completely destroyed the targeted house.

### Findings:

Based on the investigations conducted by the Commission, the testimonies of witnesses, the information detailed in the incident file,

the field visit report, the opinion of the military expert appointed by the Commission, and the photographs of the incident site and victims' remains, all collected evidence consistently confirms that the entity responsible for this violation is the Arab Coalition and government forces.

## 2. Targeting Civilians in Al-Wahbiyah Area, Al-Sawadiyah District, Al-Bayda Governorate on 16/12/2018

According to the case file held by the National Commission to investigate alleged violations of human rights (NCIAVHR) and the accompanying documents and reports, the incident occurred at 10:30 AM on Sunday, 16/12/2018. In Al-Wahbiyah area, Al-Sawadiyah District, Al-Bayda Governorate, a missile struck an Isuzu truck designated for water transportation on the road linking Harriya Dam to Al-Wasi'ah Village. This attack left two children dead, their father injured, and their vehicle destroyed.

### Names of the Victims:

No.	Name	Status
1	Abdullah Ali Abdul Ilah Al-Wahbi	Injured
2	Ali Abdul Ilah Ali Al-Wahbi	Killed
3	Ali Abdullah Ali Al-Wahbi	Killed

NCIAVHR initiated an investigation by visiting the incident site, interviewing the injured victim, and listening to several witnesses from the local area, including (A.S.H) and (A.S.A.A). All testimonies confirmed that coalition aircraft were flying intensively over the area. The residents of the area were shocked with an airstrike targeting the road connecting Harriyah Dam to the village of Al-Wasi'ah, an area far from the conflict. Residents rushed to the scene where the missile had landed and found three victims on the ground. Two children had died, while the

third victim, Abdullah Ali Abdul Ilah Al-Wahbi, was severely injured. The locals quickly rushed him for medical care. The charred bodies of the two children were taken to the morgue at Al-Thawrah Hospital in Al-Bayda.

### Findings:

Based on the investigations conducted by NCIAVHR, witness testimonies, statements from the victim and his relatives, and the death certificates of the two children, it was confirmed that the violation occurred due to an airstrike. Given that the airspace over the Republic of Yemen was controlled exclusively by the Arab Coalition Forces supporting the legitimate government during the period of the violation, NCIAVHR confirms that the Arab Coalition aircraft and government forces are responsible for this incident.

## 3. Car Bombing in East Al-Hajjan, Harib District, Marib Governorate on 17 January 2022

According to the case file held by the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), a Suzuki Vitara was hit by an airstrike in Al-Hajjan, Harib District, east of Marib Governorate. The attack left four individuals dead and another injured while they were en route to a farm owned by one of the victims, as detailed below:

### Names of the Victims:

No.	Name	Status
1	Naif Ahmed Mohammed Al Haddad	Killed
2	Miqdad Naif Ahmed Mohammed Al Haddad	Killed
3	Ahmed Naif Ahmed Mohammed Al Haddad	Killed
4	Saif Ali Saleh Al Qamash	Killed
5	Hussein Ahmed Saleh Al Qamash	Injured

According to testimonies from the victims' relatives and witnesses, including (M.A.N.Q), (A.A.A.S), and (K.A.M.A), at 8:30 AM on 17 January 2022, the sound of a military aircraft was heard. Subsequently, the vehicle of Naif Ahmed Mohammed Al-Haddad was targeted by a missile from an aircraft belonging to the Arab Coalition forces. Witnesses confirmed there were no military installations near the bombing site.

The case file indicates that the missile directly hit the vehicle carrying Naif Ahmed Mohammed Al-Haddad along with his two sons, Miqdad and Ahmed, and two others. This resulted in the deaths of four victims and the injury of the fifth, Hussein Al-Qamash. The vehicle was completely destroyed, as shown in the photographs attached to the incident report held by the Commission.

### Findings:

The investigations conducted by the commission, including field team reports from Marib Governorate and statements from victims, witnesses, rescuers, and the surviving victim, along with photographic evidence of missile fragments and the targeted vehicle, reveal the occurrence of this violation. The responsibility for the attack lies with the Arab Coalition forces.

#### 4. Targeting the House of Victim Mohammed Abdul Wahab Al-Humayqani and the Killing and Injury of His Children in Dhu Mukhashab Area, Al-Zahir District, Al-Bayda Governorate on 31/08/2023

According to the case file with the National Commission to investigate alleged violations of human rights (NCIAVHR), on the evening of Thursday, 31 August 2023, in Dhu Mukhashab Area, Al-Zahir District, Al-Bayda Governorate, government forces stationed in Al-Hadd Dis-

trict, Yafa, bombarded the area, hitting the house of Mohammed Abdulwahab Al-Humayqani. This assault resulted in the death of a young girl and the injury of another child.

Based on the testimonies of the victims' families and the statements of witnesses, including (A. S. M. A.) and (A. M. M. A.), on the evening of Thursday, 31 August 2023, amid ongoing clashes with Houthi elements in that area, government forces stationed in Al-Hadd District, Yafi', at the site overlooking Al-Sirr checkpoint, shelled the area with artillery. One of the shells struck the house of Mohammed Abdulwahab Al-Humayqani. Consequently, a young girl, Yusra Mohammed Abdulwahab, sustained injuries to her chest and abdomen, leading to her immediate death. Additionally, child Mohammed Khaled Abdulwahab was injured by shrapnel in his abdomen and other parts of his body and was taken to Al-Zahra'a Hospital in the city of Azzah, Al-Bayda Governorate, as detailed in the documents.

### Findings:

The investigations conducted by the National Commission, along with the statements of the victims' families, witness testimonies, and the documents and reports in the case file, confirmed that the responsible party for this violation is the government forces stationed in Al-Hadd District, Yafa, specifically the 4th Thunderbolt Brigade under the command of Brigadier General Abdulaziz Al-Mansouri, and the Giants Brigade led by Brigadier General Nasser Al-Shouhati.

### Second: Child Recruitment

The recruitment and use of children by parties to the conflict constitute a flagrant violation of children's rights. It is one of the six grave violations against children prohibited by national legislation and international conventions, particularly the "Convention on the

Rights of the Child,” which the Republic of Yemen has ratified, and the “Optional Protocol to the Convention,” both of which forbid the use and recruitment of children in armed conflicts. The “Yemeni Child Rights Law,” aligned with the Convention, also prohibits such practices.

Recognizing the severity and inhumane ramifications of this violation, as well as the dangers posed by children’s direct involvement in combat or providing support to combatants, the National Commission to investigate alleged violations of human rights (NCIAVHR) has prioritized addressing this issue. During the reporting period, the Commission documented 126 cases of alleged child recruitment under the age of 18. Of these, 122 incidents were attributed to the Houthi group, while three cases of child recruits killed in US air strikes on Hodeidah where the responsibility is shared between the Houthi group and the US forces, while one incident was attributed to government forces and their affiliates..

#### A. Below are examples of incidents investigated by the Commission, attributed to the Houthi group:

##### 1. Recruitment of Child (M.A.A.A.), 15 years old - Al-Mina District, Hodeidah Governorate on 3/4/2024

According to the case file held by the Commission, on 3 April 2024, 15-year-old (M.A.A.A.) from Al-Mina District, Hodeidah Governorate, was killed after being recruited by the Houthi group and forced into their ranks.

Witnesses (M.M.A.F.), (Kh.A.A.Sh.), and (T.A.A.Sh.) testified that on 3 April 2024, Houthi elements recruited the child (M.A.A.A.) and took him to Al-Mina Camp, where he received military training to monitor ships in territorial waters and target them under the pretext that they were supporting Israel. While the victim was at the port performing the assigned tasks, an American airstrike targeted the site with missiles, killing the child.

#### Findings:

The Commission’s investigation into this incident, including witness testimonies, confirmed that the Houthi group, led by Nabil Al-Harb, Abu Fardous Al-Sharafi, and Taha Al-Ashwal, was responsible for this violation.

##### 2. Recruitment of Child (S.M.M.A.), 13 Years Old - Yareem District, Ibb Governorate on 1/9/2019

The incident, as documented in the case file with the National Commission to investigate alleged violations of human rights (NCIAVHR), involves the recruitment of a 13-year-old child, (S.M.M.A.), by the Houthi group in Yareem District, Ibb Governorate, on 1 September 2019. The child was enlisted into the ranks of the armed group and sent to fight against government forces in Ibb Governorate, despite not having completed his basic education.

According to the informant’s testimony and the statements of witnesses interviewed by the Commission, including (A.A.M.S.), (A.A.M.A.), and (M.S.M.S.), Houthi security elements led by Abu Ammar Al-Shahari recruited the child (S.M.M.A.), during the school term. The children were influenced through sectarian orientation lectures, cultural and incitement courses, and the promise of a monthly salary, exploiting their financial circumstances and family conditions. Initially, they were deceived into believing they would be fighting against ISIS but were soon sent to the frontlines to fight government forces. The child remains with the Houthi group at the time of this report.

#### Findings:

The Commission’s investigation into this incident, and the witness testimonies it gathered, confirmed that the Houthi group, under the leadership of their supervisors in Yareem District, Ibb Governorate, specifically Abu Ammar Al-Shahari, is responsible for this violation.



### **3. Recruiting the Child (S.M.A.G), 12 years old - Sheraton Neighborhood, Azaal District, the Capital of Sana'a - on 18 July 2022**

As detailed in the case file held by the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), on 18 July 2022, Abdul Salam Al-Mutawakkil, a supervisor affiliated with the Houthi group, along with his brother Yousef Al-Mutawakkil, recruited a 12-year-old child (S, M, A, G) and sent him to the front lines. His fate remains unknown.

According to the testimonies of the victim's family and witnesses, namely (M, H, H, G) and (A, M, A, B), the child (S, M, A, G) was recruited while attending a summer camp organized by the Houthi group at what is referred to as Al-Shaheed School [Martyr School], from June to July 2022, in Sheraton neighborhood of the Azaal district, the Capital of Sana'a. During his participation in the summer camp, the child was indoctrinated with the group's ideological beliefs and persuaded by Abdul Salam Al-Mutawakkil to enlist as a fighter on the front lines, with the knowledge of his family.

After the family conducted extensive searches, they were informed by friends with connections to the Houthi group that the child was fighting on the Marib front, having been recruited and enlisted by Abdul Salam Al-Mutawakkil and his brother Yousef Al-Mutawakkil. The victim's family has confirmed to the Commission that they have had no contact from the child and have no information about his whereabouts since his disappearance, only knowing that he was taken to fight on the Marib front. They are unaware of whether he is still alive.

#### **Findings:**

Based on the investigations conducted by the Commission, the informant's statement, the tes-

timonies of witnesses, and the accounts of the victim's family, it has been confirmed that the entity responsible for this violation is the leadership of the Houthi group in the Azal District, Capital of Sana'a, specifically the leaders Abdul Salam Al-Mutawakkil and Yousef Al-Mutawakkil.

### **4. Recruitment and Death of Child Victim Majed Mohammed Hassan Mehdi, 14 Years Old, from Girbat Al-Alam, Al-Hawafir Al-Motoon District, Al-Jawf Governorate on 5/5/2024**

The incident, as outlined in the case file with the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), occurred on 5 May 2024. The victim, a 14-year-old child (M. M. H. M.), was recruited and sent to the battlefield, resulting in his death.

According to the statements of the victim's family and the testimonies of witnesses, including (Y. Sh. M. A.), (A. A. H. M.), and (H. M. Y. A.), on 5 May 2024, the 14-year-old victim (M. M. H. M.) was taken from his school, where he was a seventh-grade student. His family was informed that he had been selected to participate in a closed summer camp in the Wadi Mour area on the outskirts of Ma'een district in the governorate. However, the child was taken without his family's knowledge to the Al-A'lam frontline in Al-Jawf Governorate to participate in the ongoing conflict between government forces and the Houthi group. A month after his disappearance, the family received a call informing them that the victim had been killed at the frontline and were asked to retrieve his body.

#### **Findings:**

The Commission's investigation, along with the evidence in the case file, revealed that the Houthi group, led by Basheer Hamoud Al-Adma'i, the mobilization officer of the Houthi group, and Munsif Ahmed Hamzah, the sheikh of the area, is responsible for this violation.

## B. Example of a Child Recruitment Incident Investigated by the Commission and Attributable to Government Forces:

### 1. Recruitment and Death of Child Victim Al-Zubair Qa'id Al-Bukali, 14 Years Old, 203rd Mechanized Infantry Brigade - Al-Wadi District, Marib Governorate on 18 September 2022

The incident, as detailed in the case file with the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), involves the recruitment of a 14-year-old child (A. Q. A.) from the Utmah area in Dhamar Governorate by the 203rd Mechanized Infantry Brigade, resulting in his death from a war remnant projectile.

Witnesses, including (A. A. A. S.), (H. M. A. Q.), and (A. A. M.), confirmed to the Commission that the 14-year-old victim was a seventh-grade primary school student residing with his family in Al-Jufaynah displacement camp in Marib City. The family, along with other residents from Utmah district, had fled to the camp in 2017 to escape a Houthi attack. According to the case file, the victim was forcibly recruited into the 203rd Infantry Brigade by his father, who was an officer in the Utmah Battalions of the National Army. The child was enrolled in the recruitment camp, and witnesses reported that he attempted to escape several times, only to be forcibly returned each time for military training.

On 18 September 2022, while wandering in the camp, the child found a spent BMP projectile. Acting on his natural childhood curiosity, he began playing with it, striking it against the camp walls and rocks. The projectile exploded, killing him instantly and injuring five others nearby. The child was immediately taken to the mortuary at Marib General Hospital, and his body was later buried in the Martyrs'

Cemetery in Marib City.

### Finding:

The Commission's investigations verified the occurrence of the incident and established that the person responsible for recruiting the child and involving him in combat operations was the commander of the 203rd Brigade of the legitimate government, Brigadier General Hilal Al-Qamis.

## Third: Planting Anti-personnel Landmines

Landmines pose a humanitarian, social, and economic threat. Their deployment constitutes a violation of international humanitarian law, specifically the Ottawa Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production, and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines, ratified by the Republic of Yemen in 1998. Consequently, the National Commission to investigate alleged violations of human rights (NCIAVHR) has prioritized the inclusion of landmine planting within its scope of monitoring and investigation. During the period covered by this report, the Commission concluded its investigation into 128 cases of anti-personnel landmine explosions, resulting in 52 fatalities, including 2 women and 12 children, and 86 injuries, including 10 women and 10 children. All these incidents were attributed exclusively to the Houthi group.

### A. Examples of Investigations Conducted by the Commission on Landmine Planting Attributed to the Houthi Group:

#### 1. Injury of Saleh Mohammed Omar Abdullah by a Landmine Explosion, Al-Jarba Neighborhood, Al-Durayhimi District, Hodeidah Governorate on 23 December 2023

The incident, as detailed in the case file held by NCIAVHR, occurred at approximately 6:00



PM on 23 December 2023. An explosive device detonated, causing severe injuries to the victim, resulting in permanent disability.

According to the statements provided by the victim and witnesses interviewed by the Commission, including (S.A.S) and (A.K.A), at around 6:00 PM on the stated date, the victim was gathering firewood in Al-Girbah neighborhood of the Al-Durayhimi district in Hodeidah Governorate. His foot encountered a buried object on the pathway, which subsequently exploded. This detonation inflicted deep wounds and severe fractures upon him. He was then rushed to a hospital for medical treatment, where doctors ultimately decided to amputate his left leg due to the extent of the injury. Additionally, he sustained wounds to his other foot and scattered shrapnel injuries in his hands.

### Findings:

The Commission's investigation, supported by documents, photographs, and witness testimonies in the case file, determined that the Houthi group, under the command of Yousef Al-Madani, the commander of the Fifth Military Region, is responsible for this violation. The Houthi group uniquely engages in this type of violation, distinguishing itself from other parties involved in the armed conflict in Yemen.

### 2. Landmine Explosion Involving Victim Musa'id Hussein Qassem Hussein in Al-Hayqi Area, Qa'atabah District, Al-Dhale'e Governorate on 5 December 2023

The incident, as detailed in the case file with the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), occurred at 6:00 PM on 5 December 2023. An anti-personnel landmine exploded, resulting in the death of the victim, Musa'id Hussein Qassem, in Al-Hayqi area of Qatabah District, Al-Dhale'e Governorate.

According to the testimonies of the victim's relatives and witness statements heard by the commission, including individuals A. M. M. and D. A. S., the victim was returning from the village of Ghul Al-Daymah. Upon reaching Al-Hayqi area within Qatabah District, he was struck by an antipersonnel landmine planted by the Houthis during the period when the area was under their control. The explosion violently mutilated the victim's body, resulting in immediate death.

### Findings:

Through its investigation, supported by the testimonies of information sources, witness statements, and the documentation, photographs, and medical reports in the case file, the Commission determined that the Houthi group in Al-Hayqi area of Qa'atabah District, under the leadership of Salah Ahmed Hatabah and Ahmed Hatabah, is responsible for committing this violation.

### 3. The Explosion of an Anti-Personnel Landmine in Al-Qubbaytah District, Lahj Governorate on 2 February 2022

According to the details in the case file held by the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), as well as the accompanying documents, an incident occurred at precisely 12:00 PM on 2 February 2022. An anti-personnel landmine exploded, claiming the lives of the victims, Hamoud Ahmed Muhammad Saif and his wife, Wilah Mohammed Salem Qaid, in the village of Karb Anqan, located in Al-Qubbaytah District of Lahj Governorate.

As reported in the testimonies from the victims' family members and witnesses interviewed by the commission—identified as (A.A.M.) and (F.M.)—the victims were on their way to their farm, situated 150 meters from their home. While they were plowing the land,

a landmine detonated. It was later confirmed that this landmine had been planted by armed members of the Houthi group prior to their withdrawal from the village, which was previously under their control.

### Findings:

Through its investigation, supported by the testimonies of information sources, witness statements, and the documentation, photographs, and medical reports contained in the case file, the Commission determined that the Houthi group in the village of Karb Anqan, Al-Qubbaytah District, Lahj Governorate, is responsible for this violation.

#### 4. **Incident of the Killing of Victim Haleef Ahmed Musleh Haleef by a Landmine Explosion, Al-Razwah Al-Hanshat Village, Nihm District, Sana'a Governorate on 27 August 2023**

According to the case file held by the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), the incident occurred on 27 August 2023. An anti-personnel landmine exploded, resulting in the immediate death of the victim, Haleef Ahmed Saleh Haleef, aged 33, in the village of Al-Razwah, Al-Hanashat District, Sana'a Governorate.

Witnesses from the local community, along with reports from the commission's team, provided statements. Among those interviewed were witnesses (A.M.A.) and (A.A.H.), who recounted that while the victim was passing through the Kiyal Al-Rubah area—approximately 5 kilometers from his village and adjacent to Mount Al-Qutb—the landmine detonated. This device had been planted by the Houthi group, which controls the region, during the clashes with government forces. Despite taking control of the entire Nham District, the Houthi group did not remove all the mines from the area. The explosion resulted in

shrapnel piercing the victim's body, leading to his fatality on the spot.

### Findings:

Through its investigation and the witness testimonies contained in the case file, the Commission confirmed the responsibility of the Houthi leadership in Nihm District, Sana'a Governorate, for this violation.

#### 5. **Injury of the Child Layth Nasser Salem Mohammed Al-Awadhi in Girban Area, Bayhan District, Shabwah Governorate on 22/04/2024**

According to the case file with the National Commission to investigate alleged violations of human rights (NCIAVHR), the incident occurred at precisely 2:00 PM on Monday, 22 April 2024. The victim, a 13-year-old boy named Layth Nasser Salem Mohammed Al-Awadhi, was heading to a nearby area to graze his sheep when a landmine exploded, resulting in his injury.

Statements from the victim's family and witnesses (M. S. A. D. and B. A. S. A.) indicated that the explosion took place near a watercourse, half a kilometer from their home. This location, in Girban area of Bayhan district, is commonly used by shepherds and villagers to graze their animals. The landmine, dislodged by floods from the nearby mountains, caused injuries to the boy's head and chest. Immediate medical attention was provided, and he was taken to the hospital for treatment. He continues to suffer from the effects of the injury.

### Findings:

Through its investigations, medical reports, and gathered evidence regarding this and other incidents involving the planting of anti-personnel landmines, NCIAVHR has determined that the Houthi group is responsible for these violations, distinguishing itself by engaging in this type of violation more than other parties

involved in the armed conflict.

#### **Fourth: Assault on Cultural, Historical, and Religious Sites**

Cultural, historical, and religious sites enjoy legal protection under national laws and international agreements due to their significance as shared human heritage. These sites embody the identity, history, and symbols of the peoples. Consequently, the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR) has prioritized monitoring and documenting violations against these sites. Such assaults are criminal under national legislation and constitute severe breaches of international agreements, including the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, ratified by the Republic of Yemen. Additionally, these actions violate Article 16 of the Second Protocol to the Geneva Conventions, which pertains to non-international armed conflicts and prohibits hostile acts against historical monuments and works of art that form the cultural and spiritual heritage of peoples.

In this context, during its recent operations, the Commission has monitored and investigated 17 alleged incidents of assault and damage to cultural and historical properties across various regions. Sixteen of these incidents were attributed to the Houthi group, while one incident was found to be the responsibility of government forces and the Arab Coalition airstrikes.

##### **A. Examples of Investigations Conducted by the Commission on Assaults on Cultural, Historical, and Religious Sites Attributed to the Houthi Group:**

###### **1. Partial Destruction of Al-Khulafa'a Al-Rashideen Mosque in Al-Noor City, Al-Mudhaffar District, Taiz Governorate on 03/04/2023**

According to the investigation file held by the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), at approximately 5:30 PM on 03/04/2023 in Al-Noor City, Al-Mudhaffar District, Taiz Governorate, a projectile struck Al-Khulafa'a Al-Rashideen Mosque, causing damage to the mosque and inciting fear and panic among the local residents.

Based on the Commission's field reports, photographic evidence of the damage, and witness testimonies from (S. A. M. S.) and (S. S. A. M.), residents of the area heard a loud explosion and rushed outside to see what the matter was. They found out that a projectile had struck Al-Khulafa'a Al-Rashideen Mosque from the direction of Street 50, which is under the control of the Houthi group. The explosion caused significant damage to the mosque and nearby homes due to shrapnel dispersion.

##### **Findings:**

Through its investigations, along with the attached evidence and reports, and corroborated by witness statements, the Commission confirmed the occurrence of the violation. The responsible party for this incident was identified as the Houthi group, led by Abdul Latif Hamoud Yehya Al-Mahdi, the commander of the Fourth Military Region for the armed Houthi group in Taiz.

###### **2. Incident of Assault on the Historical Landmark in Beit Al-Faqih City (Beit Al-Faqih Castle) – Beit Al-Faqih District – Hodeidah Governorate on 08/09/2017**

Overview of Beit Al-Faqih Castle:

Beit Al-Faqih Castle is one of the most significant historical and touristic landmarks in Beit Al-Faqih District, Hodeidah Governorate. Historical sources indicate that the castle is 389 years old, having been established during

the Ottoman rule in 1038 AH by Prince Mustafa Pasha. It is situated east of the city on a mound rising 14 metres above ground level, surrounded by residential buildings. The castle, rectangular in shape and comprising two storeys, has undergone several renovations and exemplifies the unique architectural style characteristic of the historic cities in the Tihamma plain of western Yemen, similar to the ancient cities of Zabid and Hays.

It is noteworthy that the city of Beit Al-Faqih was founded in 650 AH by Sheikh Al-Faqih Ahmed bin Musa bin Ogayl. Initially named Beit Al-Faqih Ibn Ojayl to distinguish it from the then-existing city of Al-Faqih Ibn Hashir, the city was renamed Beit Al-Faqih after the latter's decline. Together with its castle, it remains a testament to the grandeur and history of Yemeni civilization.

According to the incident file held by the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), the Houthi group handed over the historical Beit Al-Faqih Castle to an investor who altered its structure and used it for personal business activities.

The file, along with attached documents, photos, and reports, and the testimonies of witnesses interviewed by the Commission, including (A. M. Y. Q.), (M. A. A. Sh.), and (A. A. A. J.), confirms that the Houthi group, represented by Hussein Sahl, appointed by the group as the General Director of Beit Al-Faqih District in Hodeidah, along with the group's security supervisor, leased Beit Al-Faqih Castle to an investor. This investor subsequently assaulted the castle, misused it by installing power generators in its courtyard to sell electricity, and continued to make changes in the castle leading to the alteration of the castle's historical features, thereby violating the protections afforded to cultural and historical landmarks.

## Findings:

Based on the investigations conducted by the Commission, the field team's report from Hodeidah Governorate, statements from the residents of Beit Al-Faqih, and witness testimonies, the Commission confirms that the Houthi group in Hodeidah is responsible for this incident.

### B. Examples of Incidents Concluded by the Commission Attributed to Arab Coalition Airstrikes and Government Forces:

#### 1. Incident of Bombing the Historical Hassan House in Damt City, Damt District, Al Dhale'e Governorate on 24/04/2015

The Dar Al-Hassan building, constructed around 1930, is believed to be much older. It served as the residence of Hassan, the ruler of Damt city in Al-Dhale'e Governorate.

According to the case file held by the National Commission to investigate alleged violations of human rights (NCIAVHR) and the attached documents, the incident occurred at precisely 12:00 PM on 24 April 2015. Coalition aircraft bombed the historic Dar Al-Hassan building, leading to its complete destruction. This action was taken due to its use by Houthi forces as a military barracks at the time.

## Findings:

Through its investigations, including informant testimonies, witness testimonies, and the documents and photographs contained in the case file, the Commission determined that the Arab Coalition forces and government forces are responsible for this violation.

## Fifth: Targeting of Medical Sites and Personnel

The assault on medical sites and personnel during armed conflicts constitutes a grave violation of national laws and international agreements, particularly the provisions of the Second Additional Protocol to the Geneva Conventions and Common Article No. 3 of the four Geneva Conventions, ratified by the Republic of Yemen. During the reporting period, the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR) concluded investigations into three cases of alleged targeting of medical sites and personnel in various regions. Two cases were attributed to the Houthi group, while one was attributed to government forces.

### A. Examples of Concluded Investigations Attributed to the Houthi Group:

#### 1. Incident of Assault on Al-Khansa'a Specialized Medical Clinic and Expulsion of its Director and Staff – Al-Zaher District – Ibb Governorate on 21/02/2021

According to the case file held by the National Commission to investigate alleged violations of human rights (NCIAVHR), the incident occurred at precisely 12:00 PM on Sunday, 21 February 2021. Ahmed Al-Asri, a supervisor affiliated with the Houthi group in Ibb Governorate, along with a group of armed individuals, assaulted and forcefully entered the Al-Khansa Clinic, taking control of the building and expelling all its staff.

Based on the documents and photographs attached to the file, as well as witness testimonies heard by the Commission, including (A. M. G.) and (M. Q. M.), it was confirmed that on 21 February 2021, Al-Khansa Medical Clinic was stormed. The director, along with all administrative staff, were expelled. All doctors and nurses were in-

formed that the administration of the Clinic had been changed, and the director was threatened against returning. Notably, the clinic provided affordable medical services to displaced persons and orphans. Despite being privately owned, it was entirely seized and appropriated.

### Findings:

Based on the site inspection report submitted by the Commission's field team and witness statements, the Commission determined that the Houthi group in Ibb Governorate is responsible for this violation.

#### 2. Targeting and Destroying the Health Unit in Mala'a Area, Harib District, Marib Governorate on 16/01/2022

According to the case file held by the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), at approximately 2:00 PM on Sunday, 16/01/2022, the Houthi group targeted the health unit building in Mala'a, Harib District, Marib Governorate with a ballistic missile, resulting in its complete destruction.

Documents attached to the Commission's file, the site inspection report submitted by the Commission's field team, and witness testimonies from (N. M. M. A. Q.), (M. S. M.), and (F. M. A. A.), confirm that residents of Mala'a heard a loud explosion caused by a ballistic missile launched by the Houthi group at the health unit in Mala'a, Harib District, Marib Governorate. They observed that the health unit building had been reduced to rubble. Additionally, shrapnel from the ballistic missile caused extensive damage to the home of a civilian named Saleh Mohammed Mohsen Al-Ghunaymi. Notably, there were no military targets near the health unit.

### Findings:

Based on the site inspection report submit-



ted by the Commission's field team, witness testimonies, photographic evidence of the shrapnel scattered across the remains of the building, and analysis by the Commission's military expert, the Commission determined that the Houthi group, led by the Houthi-appointed governor Ali Mohammed Tuayman and military commander Mubarak Saleh Al-Mashan Al-Zayidi, is responsible for this violation.

## B. Examples of Concluded Investigations Attributed to the Legitimate Government

### 1. Incident of Assault on Al-Thawrah Hospital and Threatening Dr. Yehya Al-Jubaili and Abu Bakr Razzaz, Al-Thawrah Hospital, Al-Saleh District, Taiz Governorate on 16/06/2022

According to the case file held by the National Commission to investigate alleged violations of human rights (NCIAVHR), the incident occurred at precisely 7:00 PM on Thursday, 16 June 2022. Armed elements from the 22nd Mechanized Brigade of the Taiz Axis, affiliated with the legitimate government, forcibly entered the premises of the Al-Thawrah Hospital Authority in Taiz without any legal justification.

Documents and photographs attached to the file, along with witness testimonies and statements from the hospital's medical staff, including (M. A. A.) and (Y. A. A.), confirm that Hamoud Al-Rua'ini, an officer in the 22nd Mechanized Brigade, led the incursion. He requested reinforcements from the brigade, surrounded the hospital, and ordered that neither Dr. Yehya Al-Gabali nor the liaison officer of the Criminal Investigation Department, Abu Bakr Razzaz, be allowed to leave.

This incident followed the arrival of three individuals injured by an explosive device. One had already died upon arrival, and the other two were in critical condition and subsequently

died in the emergency room due to the severity of their injuries. The armed individuals proceeded to break into the operating room and the medicine storage, searched all facilities, and caused the immediate cessation of operations in the Operations Ward in the hospital.

### Findings:

Based on the site inspection report submitted by the Commission's field team and corroborated by witness statements and testimonies from the medical staff at Al-Thawrah Hospital, the Commission confirmed that the leadership of the 22nd Mechanized Brigade of the Taiz Axis, specifically Hamoud Al-Rua'yni, is responsible for the assault on Al-Thawrah Hospital, in violation of the principles and provisions of international humanitarian law.

## Sixth: Forced Displacement

Forced displacement constitutes a grave violation of human rights and is prohibited under international humanitarian law and national legislation. Given the severe negative impact of this violation, the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR) has prioritized monitoring, documenting, and investigating such incidents. During the reporting period, the Commission concluded investigations into 165 incidents of both mass and individual forced displacements in various regions of Yemen. Of these, 153 incidents were attributed to the Houthi group, six to government forces and their affiliates, and six to both parties to the conflict.

### A. Examples of Concluded Investigations Attributed to the Houthi Group:

#### 1. Incident of Forced Displacement of Residents from Al-Sulay' Village, Al-Mokha District, Taiz Governorate on 05/02/2018

According to the information source and wit-



ness testimonies heard by the National Commission to investigate alleged violations of human rights (NCIAVHR), including (N. S. A.), (B. M. T.), and (A. S. A.), as documented in the case file, the incident occurred at precisely 9:00 AM on 5 February 2018. Houthi leaders arrived in the village of Al-Sulay' in the Al-Mokha District of Taiz Governorate, demanding that the residents vacate their homes and leave the area. When the villagers refused, the Houthis returned with military reinforcements. They opened fire on the village using various light and medium weapons, aiming to terrorize the residents and force them to abandon their homes. Fearing for their lives and the safety of their children and families, the villagers fled. A total of 339 individuals were displaced. Subsequently, the village was converted into a military barracks.

### Findings:

Through its investigations, repeated field visits, interviews with victims, and analysis of documents and information contained in the case file, the Commission confirmed that the Houthi group is responsible for this violation.

## 2. Forced Displacement of Residents from Anshur Village, Sirwah District, Marib Governorate on 07/03/2022

According to the case file held by the National Commission to investigate alleged violations of human rights (NCIAVHR), on 7 March 2022, armed groups affiliated with the Houthi Group forcibly entered the village of Anshur in Sirwah District, Marib Governorate, displacing its residents.

Documents, reports, and victim statements, as well as witness testimonies heard by the Commission, including those of (A. H. A.), (A. A. H.), and (A. A. S. T.), indicated that these armed groups indiscriminately fired heavy and medium weaponry at the village's 30 homes. They informed the villagers that those who remained would face death. Amidst the terror and panic

caused by the intense gunfire and threats, the villagers began to flee, leaving behind all their possessions and heading on foot towards the mountains, as the main roads were blocked by the armed groups. The armed factions then occupied the village, looted and plundered citizens' properties, and destroyed schools and farms, converting the area into a military barracks. Some families fled to Marib, while others sought refuge in Al-Abr, living in tents.

It is noteworthy that the group had previously displaced residents from other villages in Sirwah District. According to documented records with the Commission, approximately 36 individuals were displaced to Al-Abr camp.

### Victim Names:

No.	Victim's Names
1	Ahmed Mohammed Nasser Huthal
2	Hamda Huthal
3	Saud Mohammed Nasser Huthal
4	Maha Mohammed Nasser Huthal
5	Nasser Mohammed Nasser Huthal
6	Mohammed Mohammed Nasser Huthal
7	Abdulwahid Mohammed Nasser Huthal
8	Saleha Hussein Mohammed Nasser Huthal
9	Haniyah Huthal
10	Qathal Huthal
11	Mabkhoot Huthal
12	Tayyibah Huthal
13	Naji Huthal
14	Ali Huthal
15	Naji Ali Mohammed Huthal
16	Maryam Ali Mohammed Huthal
17	Ali Ali Mohammed Huthal
18	Mohammed Ali Mohammed Huthal
19	Aliyaa Abdullah Ahmed Omair

20	Hussein Mohammed Ali Al Talibi
21	Shaikha Mohammed Ali Al Talibi
22	Mohammed Mohammed Ali Al Talibi
23	Haifa Mohammed Ali Al Talibi
24	Sawiyah Mohammed Ali Al Talibi
25	Mabkhoot Hassan Huthal
26	Hassan Mabkhoot Hassan Huthal
27	Zaid Mabkhoot Hassan Huthal
28	Naji Mabkhoot Hassan Huthal
29	Amani Mabkhoot Hassan Huthal
30	Qamari Hassan Mohammed Huthal
31	Marah Huthal
32	AfraH Huthal
33	Ameera Huthal
34	Ali Mohammed Nasser Huthal
35	Aliyaa Mohammed Mohammed Tuayman
36	Naji Mohammed Nasser Huthal

### Findings:

Through the investigations conducted by the Commission, along with witness testimonies and victim statements, it was determined that the Houthi group, represented by its leadership overseeing Marib Governorate, specifically the Houthi-appointed governor Ali Mohammed Tuayman and military commander Mubarak Saleh Al-Mashan Al-Zayidi, is responsible for this violation.

### B. Examples of Forced Displacement Incidents Concluded by the Commission Attributed to the Legitimate Government and Its Affiliates

#### 1. Forced Displacement of Residents from Al-Sha'oub Village, Hays District, Hodeidah Governorate on 24/11/2021

According to the case file held by the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), at 5:00 PM on 24/11/2021, in Al-Sha'oub Village, Hays District, Hodeidah Governorate, were subjected to mass displacement from their homes and farms. The victims identified by the Commission are as follows:

No.	Name
1	Mohammed Ahmed Yehya Shabeel
2	Abdulrahman Mohammed Ahmed Yehya Shabeel
3	Shaker Mohammed Ahmed Yehya Shabeel
4	Wadi' Mohammed Ahmed Yehya Shabeel

Victim statements and witness testimonies from individuals such as (M. A. A. Y.), (Sh. S. M. A.), and (M. A. Y. N.) confirm that forces from the First Giant Brigade forcibly displaced the residents of Al-Sha'oub Village, including the aforementioned victims. The armed forces expelled them from their homes at gunpoint. The displacement was accompanied by heavy gunfire and threats from the armed personnel, coercing the victims to leave. Additionally, they looted the contents and furniture of Mohammed Ahmed Abdu Yehya Shabeel's home, as well as some medications from the health unit where he worked.

### Findings:

Based on the Commission's investigations, witness testimonies, victim statements, and documentary evidence, the Commission confirmed the occurrence of the violation. The entity responsible for this violation is the First Giant Brigade of the legitimate government, led by Brigadier General Raed Al-Gubhi.

## **Section Two: Findings of Investigations Carried out by the Commission on Violations Related to International Human Rights Law**

### **First: Extrajudicial Killings**

The right to life is fundamental, and its effective protection is essential for the enjoyment of all other human rights. Consequently, international human rights law strictly prohibits arbitrary deprivation of life. Extrajudicial killing is criminalized under the laws of the Republic of Yemen, including the constitution, the general and military penal codes, the civil and military procedural laws, and the Police Authority Law. This prohibition is also enshrined in international treaties ratified by Yemen.

During the reporting period, the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR) monitored 74 allegations of extrajudicial killings by various parties across Yemen. The Commission concluded investigations into all these cases, establishing the responsibility of the Houthi group for 42 cases and the responsibility of government forces and associated security entities for 12 cases.

#### **A. Examples of Incidents Concluded by the Commission Attributed to the Houthi Group:**

##### **1. Incident of Sniping the Victim Mohammed Amin Ali Aboud in Murays, Qa'atabah District, Al-Dhale'e Governorate on 30/10/2023**

According to the case file held by the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), at 7:00 AM on Monday, 30 October 2023, Mohammed Amin Ali Aboud, aged 16, was fatally shot by a sniper while on the main road in Murays area, Qa'atabah District, Al-Dhale'e Governorate.

As reported by the victim's family, documented in the case file, and corroborated by witness

testimonies from (Sh. A. A.) and (A. H. A.) heard by the Commission, the incident occurred while the victim was on his way to Wadi Solan in Murays area. He was riding his motorcycle on the main road when a sniper's bullet, fired by a Houthi militant stationed in Hajlan, Murays area, struck him in the head, killing him instantly.

#### **Findings:**

Based on the Commission's investigations, the statements from the information source and witnesses, and the documents contained in the case file, the Commission determined that the Houthi group in Damt District, led by Salah Ahmed Hataba, is responsible for this violation.

##### **2. Extrajudicial Killing of the Child Victim (Zaid Thabet Sahl) and Injury of the Victim (H.M.Y) in the Village of Giyyah, Aflah Al-Yemen, Hajjah Governorate, on 24/4/2024**

According to the case file with the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), on 24 April 2024, the child victim, Zaid Thabit Sahl, was fatally shot by the guard of Al-Farouq School, located in Gayyah Village, Aflah Al-Yemen District, Hajjah Governorate.

The case file, which includes photographic evidence and statements from the informant (H. A. M. A.) and witnesses heard by the Commission (H. A. M. and A. A. M. A.), details the incident as follows: As Zaid Thabit Sahl arrived at the gate of Al-Farouq School—renamed by the Houthi group to the School of the Great Messenger—for a closed summer camp organized by the Houthis, the school guard, Saeed Mohammed Sahl, appointed by the Houthi group, aimed his firearm at Zaid and shot him dead.

At the moment of the child's killing, a passer-by, identified as (H. M. Y.), accompanied by his son, witnessed the incident. He objected to the guard's act, deeming it an unlawful killing.

In response, the guard shot (H. M. Y.), preventing anyone from approaching the victims or offering assistance. This led to severe bleeding for (H. M. Y.), who, after over an hour, was transported to the capital, Sana'a, and admitted to the intensive care unit of a local hospital.

According to the informant and witnesses, Mohammed Mohsen Dhafer, appointed by the Houthi group as the district supervisor and overseer of the summer camp, had instructed the guard to prevent anyone from approaching the closed summer camp, even if it required the use of firearms.

### Findings:

Following the investigations conducted by NCIAVHR, which included photographic evidence and witness testimonies, it was confirmed that the Houthi group, under the leadership of Saeed Mohammed Sahl and Mohammed Mohsen Dhafer, appointed by the group as the supervisor of Aflah Al-Yemen district in Hajjah Governorate, was responsible for the violation.

### 3. Extrajudicial Killing of 8- year- old Child Sadiq Kamal Rizq Al-Huzzi, Rada'a District, Al-Bayda Governorate, on 23/3/2024

According to the case file with the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), at 10:00 am on 23/3/2024, a member of the Houthi group, who was working at the Rada'a Security Department under the group's control, killed the child Sadiq Kamal Rizq Al-Huzzi, aged 8, while he was playing in front of the Rada'a Security Department in Al-Bayda Governorate.

Based on the testimony of the informant (A.A.H.S) and the witnesses (A.M.A.J and Z.A.S) interviewed by the committee, the child Sadiq Kamal Rizq Al-Huzzi, aged 8, from the village of Hazza, Rouhan subdistrict, Al-Rujm district,

Al-Mahweet Governorate, had been taken by his father to Al-Bayda Governorate, Rada'a district, to visit his aunt, i.e. the victim's father's sister, whose house is located next to the Rada'a Security Department. At around 10:00 am on 23/3/2024 (13 Ramadan 1445 AH), the child went out to play in the street in front of the Rada'a Security Department. While playing, an armed Houthi member from the Security Department building came out, shouting at the child, "Why are you playing here? You are disturbing our sleep," and then returned to the building. The child continued playing, which enraged the armed man, who came out again, verbally abusing the child. He then aimed his personal weapon at the child's leg and shot him. The child fell to the ground, screaming and crying, but the armed man shouted at him to be quiet. He then fired another shot, hitting the child in the chest, which led to his death. The armed man then fled into the Rada'a Security Department building. According to the witnesses, the Houthi group concealed the perpetrator and took no action to apprehend him or provide justice to the victim's family.

### Findings:

Based on the investigations conducted by the committee, and the statements from the informant and witnesses, the committee confirmed that the party responsible for this violation is the Houthi group, represented by their armed member who killed the victim, identified as Saleh bin Saleh Sarran, appointed by the Houthi group as the Director of Rada'a Security in Al-Bayda Governorate, and Abu Hussein Al-Harman, appointed by the group as the supervisor of Rada'a Security.

### 4. Extrajudicial Killing of Victims: 1- Eidhah Saleh Mohsen Hadi Rabou 2- Muejeb Saleh Mohsen Hadi Rabou 3- Child Hael Mohammed Rabou, and Injury of Victim Uloum Eidhah Saleh

**Rabou, Aged 8 Years, and Destruction of Their Home, Al-Lajbah Area, Al-Safra District, Saadah Governorate, on 2/9/2023**

According to the case file with the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), photographic evidence, and the statement of the informant (Y.A.M.Q.A), as well as testimonies from witnesses (A.H.M and A.A.A.D), the incident is summarized as follows:

A tribal dispute arose between the Al-Mahdi tribe (Al-Rabou family) and the Al-Salah tribe over a piece of land in the Al-Lajbah area, Al-Safra district, Saada Governorate. Both parties sought arbitration from Sheikh Al-Awjari, who ruled in favor of Eidhah Saleh Hadi Mohsen Rabou and his brothers. However, the Al-Salah tribe refused to comply with the ruling, reigniting the conflict. On 2/9/2023, Houthi leader Yehya Al-Rezami, commander of the so-called Hamdan Axis, dispatched an armed campaign led by Abdullah Arfaj. The campaign, comprising several armed and armored vehicles with various light and heavy weapons, aimed to seize the disputed land and hand it over to the Al-Salah tribe, which includes several Houthi commanders, despite the arbitration ruling against them.

Eidhah Saleh Hadi Mohsen Rabou and his brothers attempted to prevent the armed forces from approaching the land, leading to clashes. When they failed to stop the takeover, they retreated to their nearby home. The Houthi group then reinforced their position with additional forces, encircling and besieging the Rabou family home. As women and children tried to escape, Houthi militants directly targeted them with gunfire, killing 7-year-old Hael Mohammed Rabou and injuring several women. The armed forces then shelled the house with artillery, RPGs, and ma-

chine guns, destroying it with people inside. This assault resulted in the deaths of Eidhah Saleh Mohsen Hadi Rabou (aged 52), his brother Muejeb Saleh Mohsen Hadi Rabou (aged 40), and the child Hael Rabou. Eight-year-old girl child Uloum Eidhah Saleh Rabou and three others, mostly women, were injured; however, the Commission could not obtain their names. Four Houthi militants, including the campaign leader Abdullah Arfaj appointed by Yehya Al-Rezami, were also killed.

**Findings:**

Based on NCIAVHR's investigations, including the informant's statement, witness testimonies, reports, and photographic evidence, it was established that the Houthi group, led by Yehya Al-Rezami and the armed elements responsible for the violation, is accountable for this violation.

**5. Extrajudicial Killing of Victim Ahmed Naji Hatim Alahan and Injury of Victim Ali Mohammed Al-Qahouri Alahan, Al-Yatmah Area - Qarn bin Shaman Checkpoint, Khab wa ash Sha'af District, Al-Jawf Governorate, on 16/8/2023**

According to the case file with the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), on Wednesday, 16/8/2023, at approximately 4:00 pm, a group of Houthi militants opened fire on victims Ahmed Naji Hatim Alahan and Ali Mohammed Al-Qahouri Alahan as they passed through a checkpoint at Qarn bin Shaman, west of Al-Yatmah in Khab wa ash Sha'af District.

Based on testimonies from the victims' families and several witnesses, including (M.S.A.S), (M.N.H.A), and (F.H.S.A), the incident unfolded as follows: a group of armed Houthi members stationed at the Qarn bin Shaman checkpoint stopped the vehicle of Ahmed Naji



Hatim Alahan and Ali Mohammed Al-Qahouri Alahan, both of whom were tribesmen from the Dhu Hussein tribe, one of the Dahm tribes in Al-Jawf Governorate. Upon searching their vehicle and discovering agricultural fertilizers, the Houthi members demanded a fee to allow the fertilizer through. The victims explained that the fertilizer was for personal use on their farms. However, the checkpoint personnel were not convinced and pointed their weapons at the victims, subsequently opening fire. This resulted in the immediate death of the first victim and the injury of the second, who was taken to the hospital for treatment. The victims' families gathered at the scene, demanding that the Houthis hand over the perpetrators, but their demands were refused.

### Findings:

From the investigations conducted by the National Commission and based on the statements of the victims' relatives and witness testimonies, it was determined that the party responsible for this violation is the Houthi group, under the leadership of their appointed governor of Al-Jawf, Faisal Ahmed Qaed Haidar.

## B. Incidents Investigated by NCIHVHR Attributed to Government Forces:

### 1. Extrajudicial Killing of Nasser Mohammed Al-Huraibi in Maas Village, Ataq District, Shabwa Governorate on 24/01/2022:

According to the case file and accompanying documents and reports held by the NCIHVHR, at approximately 11:00 PM on Saturday, 24/01/2022, the victim, Nasser Mohammed Al-Huraibi, was shot by security personnel after he refused to surrender to them. He was left bleeding throughout the night and subsequently died.

Based on the case file and the testimonies of witnesses interviewed by the NCIHVHR, in-

cluding (M.Kh.M.A) and (M.S.S.A), a group of general and special security forces from Shabwah Governorate arrived in Maas Village, Ataq District, in military vehicles. Upon their arrival, they demanded that the victim surrender. When he refused, the security personnel opened fire, wounding him. They left him on the ground, where the victim, Nasser Mohammed Al-Huraibi, bled throughout the night until he passed away.

### Findings:

Through its investigations conducted by NCIHVHR and the testimonies provided by the informant and other witnesses interviewed by NCIHVHR, it has been confirmed that the responsible party for this incident is the government forces in the governorate, specifically the general and special security forces, as well as the Governorate Security Department.

### 2. Extrajudicial Killing of Ali Mohammed Mujib and Injury to His Mother in Al-Jahmaliyah Area, Al-Qahirah District, Taiz Governorate on 30/12/2023:

#### Summary of the Incident:

According to the case file held by the National Commission to investigate alleged violations of human rights (NCIHVHR), which includes documents, reports, and photographs, and based on the testimonies of the victim's relatives and other witnesses such as (A.A.H), (H.A.A), and (H.M.Q), the incident occurred at 3:30 PM on 30/12/2023. Several armed men affiliated with the 22nd Mechanized Brigade, dressed in military uniforms and one in civilian clothing, stormed the residence of Mr. Ali Mohammed Mujib Ghalib, located in Sa'ila Al-Qamat, Western Al-Jahmaliyah, Al-Qahirah District. The armed men fired multiple shots at Ali Mohammed Mujib Ghalib inside the living room as he exited his room. They also shot his



mother in the leg, who was beside him. The assailants, who arrived in three armed vehicles and surrounded the house, then left. The victim and his mother were subsequently rushed to Al-Thawrah Hospital. After fifty days, Ali Mohammed Mujib succumbed to his injuries and passed away on 02/02/2024.

### Findings:

Following its investigation, including witness testimonies, statements from the victim's relatives, and the attached photographs and medical and forensic reports, the NCIHVHR has determined that the responsible party for this violation is the 22nd Mechanized Brigade under the Taiz Axis and the Security Committee of the governorate, both affiliated with the legitimate government.

### 3. Extrajudicial Killing of Musa Saif Mudihish Al-Dumaini in Al-Dahi Neighborhood, Al-Mudhaffar District, Taiz Governorate on 3/2/2021:

According to the case file held by the National Commission to investigate alleged violations of human rights (NCIAVHR), at approximately 9:00 AM on Wednesday, 3/2/2021, personnel from the military police checkpoint in Al-Dahi, Al-Mudhaffar District, Taiz Governorate, opened fire on Musa Saif Mudihish Al-Dumaini as he drove past the checkpoint, resulting in his immediate death. The victim's vehicle and another car were damaged due to the collision with a streetlight.

Based on the statements of the victim's relatives and the testimonies of witnesses interviewed by the NCIHVHR, including (Y.A.H.A) and (A.H.A.A), the victim, Musa Saif Mudihish Al-Dumaini, was driving a green truck returning from Al-Hikma Hospital towards Taiz City. As he passed the military police checkpoint in Al-Dahi on the main road leading to the traffic police roundabout- Al-Mudhaffar District,

Taiz Governorate, he was shot at by personnel from the military police checkpoint in Al-Dahi area. One individual, named Asa'ad Abdul Wahid, fired three shots into the air from beneath Al-Nubla'a School signboard. Subsequently, Salah Hilmi Al-Absi aimed his weapon directly at the Dyna truck and fired from a distance of approximately thirty to forty meters. The bullet penetrated the rear door of the truck, passed through the driver's seat, and hit the victim's neck, exiting above his nose. The victim died instantly, lost control of the truck, and crashed into a streetlight, shattering the windshield. Another vehicle was also damaged in the incident as result of the crash of the victim's truck.

Following the shooting, the checkpoint personnel approached the truck on a motorcycle, found the driver dead and returned to their post. Local residents rushed to the scene, found the deceased driver, and transported him to Al-Thawrah General Hospital, where his body was placed in the morgue.

The authorities conducted the necessary investigations, securing two empty bullet casings from the crime scene. The suspects, Asa'ad Abdul Wahid and Salah Hilmi Al-Absi were summoned by the authorities, but the former and current military police commanders, Mohammed Salem Al-Kholani and Jalal Abdul Qader Al-Ramisi, refused to hand them over despite multiple judicial orders and communications.

### Findings:

Based on the investigations conducted by the NCIHVHR, including witness testimonies, the field visit report by the Commission team, and the attached photographs and documents, it was confirmed that the individuals responsible for this violation are: Asa'ad Abdulwahid and Salah Hilmi Al-Absi, members of the military police in Taiz; Mohammed Salem

Al-Kholani, the former military police commander in Taiz Governorate; and Jalal Abdul Qader Al-Ramisi, the current military police commander in Taiz Governorate.

## Second: Arbitrary Detention and Enforced Disappearance:

Both international humanitarian law and international human rights law prohibit arbitrary detention. No one shall be deprived of their liberty except on grounds and in accordance with procedures established by law, as stipulated in Article No. 9 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to which Yemen is a signatory. Enforced disappearance constitutes a grave violation of human rights, as it violates numerous fundamental rights and affects not only the direct victims but also their families and the entire community. Due to the severity of this violation, the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance was adopted and proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly resolution 47/133 dated 18/12/1992.

During the reporting period, the National Commission to investigate alleged violations of human rights (NCIAVHR) monitored and investigated 655 cases of arbitrary detention and enforced disappearance carried out by various parties across all regions of the Republic of Yemen. The Houthi group was found responsible for 495 cases of arbitrary detention and enforced disappearance, while government forces and security agencies affiliated with the government were responsible for 159 cases.

The following are examples of incidents investigated by the Commission:

### A. Incidents Attributed to the Houthi Group:

#### 1. Arbitrary Detention of Victims (S.A.M.A), (M.M.D.A), and (M.H.S.A) in the Capital of Sana'a on 13/10/2023

#### and the subsequent death of (S.A.M.A) in detention:

According to the case file held by the National Commission to investigate alleged violations of human rights (NCIAVHR), at approximately 5:00 PM on 13/10/2023, armed members of the Houthi group arrested the victims: (S.A.M.A), (M.M.D.A), and (M.H.S.A) at the group's security checkpoint in Naqeel Yasleh, Sana'a Governorate.

Based on the testimony of the informant (M.M.S.G) and witnesses interviewed by the Commission, identified as (W.A.M.A) and (Y.M.S.A), the victims were travelling to Dhamar Governorate on a training mission as employees of the Ministry of Education. When they reached the Houthi-controlled checkpoint in Naqeel Yasleh, armed men affiliated with the Houthi group forcibly removed them from their vehicle and transported them in a **Shas** military vehicle manned by armed personnel in black military uniforms similar in color and details to uniform worn by the group's counter-terrorism forces. They were led by an individual known as Abu Nidhal. The victims were taken to the group's Security and Intelligence Prison in Bani Hushaysh, Sana'a, where they were forcibly disappeared without allowing them to have any communication or provide any information regarding their whereabouts to their families. Their families came to know about their whereabouts only through Houthi security officials with connections with friends and colleagues of the victims' families.

On 25/3/2024, the family of victim (S.A.M.A) was devastated to learn of his death while in custody. The Houthis returned his body, but the other victims remained detained, with no information about their status or condition. A Houthi security leader subsequently threatened the family, warning them not to discuss the cause of death, prohibiting an autopsy or media state-

ments, and forbidding official condolences. Despite calls for transparency from human rights activists, educators, and some members of parliament, the family, fearing repercussions, felt compelled to proceed with the burial.

According to the informant and witnesses, the Houthis accused the victims of espionage, alleging they reported on curriculum changes to international organizations and media. The committee could not verify whether the death resulted from torture or other causes, but the informant and witnesses stated that the family received information suggesting the victim suffered torture leading to his death, along with severe medical neglect, as he had heart disease and diabetes.

### Findings:

Based on the investigations carried out by the Commission and the testimonies of the informant and witnesses, the responsible party for this violation is the Houthi group, its Security and Intelligence Agency, as well as the personnel at Naqeel Yasleh checkpoint who carried out the arrest.

#### 2. **House Raid, Arrest, and Disappearance of Yasser Ahmed Ali Al-Almani in Haddah Area, Al-Sabeen District, Capital of Sana'a on 13/06/2024:**

##### Summary of the Incident:

According to the documented case file held by the National Commission to investigate alleged violations of human rights (NCIAVHR), at approximately 5:00 AM on Thursday, 13/06/2024, the home of Yasser Ahmed Ali Al-Almani, a UNICEF correspondent, located in Al-Sabeen District near Al-Kumaym Market, Capital of Sana'a, was raided by an armed military unit consisting of seven armed men. The victim was arrested and taken to an unknown location.

As detailed in the case file, and corroborat-

ed by the victim's family and witnesses, including (M.M.A.A), (M.M.A.Q), and (A.M.N.F), the family was asleep when the armed assailants broke in, causing terror and panic. The victim was assaulted in front of his wife and children before being blindfolded and restrained. The assailants ransacked the house, taking the victim's laptop, mobile phones, and some documents, then led him away to an undisclosed location. Since then, his whereabouts have remained unknown. Some reports suggest he is detained by the Security and Intelligence Agency, while others claim he has been moved to Saadah Governorate. The exact location of his detention is unconfirmed, and some family members have faced threats for pursuing information about his fate or location.

### Findings:

Following the investigations conducted by the Commission, the testimonies of informants, and the statements of witnesses, it has been confirmed that this incident is part of a broader Houthi campaign of widespread arrests targeting employees of UN agencies, as well as international and local organizations. The Commission has identified the party responsible for this violation to be the Houthi group, led by Abu Gibreel Hamzah bin Muqbil Al-Ayati.

#### 3. **Arbitrary arrest of the victim, Adnan Ali Hussein Al-Harazi, and subsequent death sentence against him, along with the detention of ten employees of his company on 11 January 2023, at Al-Zubairi Street, Ma'een District, Capital of Sana'a.**

According to the case file held by the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR) and the evidence it contains (documents, official records, and photographs) on Wednesday, 11 January 2023, armed elements affiliated with the Houthi group raided the headquarters of

Prodigy Systems. This company, located on Al-Zubairi Street opposite the Sabafon building in Ma'een District, Capital of Sana'a, specializes in monitoring and evaluating projects related to the World Food Programme (WFP) and UNICEF, ensuring humanitarian aid reaches its rightful recipients as a third-party monitor. Established in 2006, the company's premises were stormed, and its equipment, devices, and servers were looted and confiscated. Additionally, the company's director and owner, Adnan Ali Hussein Al-Harazi, along with ten other employees, were arrested. The names of the employees detained are as follows:

No.	Name
1	Kamal Mohammed Basheer Al-Sabri
2	Fikri Mohammed Naji Basheer
3	Amr Saeed Al-Qadhi
4	Yehya Al-Gayifi
5	Hazem Ahmed Salamah
6	Mohammed Abdul Hakim Al-Rua'yni
7	Ihab Al-Hajj
8	Musleh Al-Wa'al
9	Hamdi Al-Wishah
10	Abdullah Al-Ghayli

Simultaneously, the Houthi forces raided Medics Connect Medical Services and confiscated its equipment and servers, alleging that Adnan Ali Hussein Al-Harazi owned a stake in it. However, the director and employees of Medix Connect were not arrested. This action resulted in both companies ceasing operations, thereby depriving over a thousand employees of their jobs, salaries, and financial entitlements.

According to the evidence in the case file, the Houthi group detained the victims within their Security and Intelligence Agency, accusing Adnan Ali Hussein Al-Harazi of espionage

and collaborating through his company, Prodigy Systems, with foreign entities (the United States, the United Kingdom, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and international organizations, among others). Numerous company employees and human rights activists, who issued solidarity statements, asserted that these accusations were baseless and lacked any evidence. They contended that the Houthi group's objective behind these arbitrary actions and serious violations, particularly against Prodigy Systems and its owner, was to seize control of the company due to its credibility with international organizations, and to pressure him through the trial to relinquish it to them.

The Houthis gradually released the ten "Prodigy Systems" employees after a month, with the last released after three months, following their families providing commercial guarantees. However, Adnan Al-Harazi remains detained, having been referred to the Houthi-controlled specialized criminal court, without the basic guarantees of a fair trial. His first court session was held on 19/08/2023. On 01/06/2024, the court sentenced Adnan Al-Harazi to death by discretionary punishment and ordered the confiscation of all his assets, including "Prodigy Systems" and its financial holdings.

### Findings:

Based on the investigations conducted by the NCIAVHR, and the evidence in the case file (documents, official records, photographs), it is confirmed that the responsible party for the violations is the leadership of the Houthi group, specifically the leaders of the Security and Intelligence Service, the prosecution, and the Specialized Criminal Court under their control.

#### 4. The arrest of 26 victims from the village of Dammaj, Al-Sawadiyah District, Al-Bayda Governorate, on 9 May 2023.

According to the case file with the National

Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), at dawn on Tuesday, 9 May 2023, a Houthi armed force stormed the village of Dammaj in the Al-Sawadiyah District of Al-Bayda Governorate. They surrounded the homes of the residents and arrested 26 victims without any legal justification. The names of the victims are as follows:

No.	Victims Names
1	Ibrahim Ali Ahmed Al-Sawadi
2	Ahmed Ali Abdullah Al-Sawadi
3	Ali Mohammed Ali Al-Sawadi
4	Al-Khader Hussein Ali Al-Sawadi
5	Abdulrahman Hussein Ali Al-Sawadi
6	Ahmed Saleh Al-Wuhaishi
7	Abdul Khaleq Saleh Al-Wuhaishi
8	Ahmed Saleh Al-Wuhaishi
9	Qusay Ali Al-Faqir
10	Abdul Rahman Saleh Al-Faqir
11	Hussein Mohammed Al-Faqir
12	Abdullah Mohammed Abdullah Ibrahim
13	Mohammed Saleh Al-Faqir Al-Sawadi
14	Al-Khader Saleh Masoud
15	Nayif Mohammed Al-Sawadi
16	Musaed Al-Sawadi
17	Ammar Abduh Abdul Rab Al-Sawadi
18	Zayed Al-Sawadi
19	Abdul Rahman Abduh Al-Sawadi
20	Shareef Mohammed Alawi Al-Sawadi
21	Sultan Mohammed Alawi Al-Sawadi
22	Mohammed Ali Al-Khader Al-Sawadi
23	Khalid Ali Al-Khader Al-Sawadi
24	Hussein Ali Al-Khader Al-Sawadi
25	Alawi Ateq Al-Sawadi
26	Khader Abdul Rab Ali Al-Sawadi

According to the testimonies of the victims' families and villagers of Dammaj, as well as witnesses, including M.A.A. and M.A.A., a

Houthi force comprising several armed vehicles and personnel carriers raided the village of Dammaj in Al-Sawadiyah District, Al-Bayda Governorate. They stormed homes, terrorized women and children, seized personal weapons and valuable items, and arrested 52 victims from the village. The commission was able to document the detention of 26 individuals. The detainees were then transported to prisons in Rada'a, Al-Bayda Governorate. According to official Houthi statements, their security forces claimed to have apprehended a cell affiliated with the so-called "aggression" and working with the legitimate government.

### Findings:

Through the investigations conducted by the commission and the witness testimonies, it was determined that the party responsible for this violation is the Houthi group, led by the Director of Al-Bayda Police, Security Supervisor Abdullah Mohammed Al-Arbagi.

### B. Violations Attributed to the Legitimate Government and Government-Affiliated Entities:

#### 1. Arbitrary Arrest of Five Victims in Bani Al-Hudaysh Village, Hays District, Hodeidah Governorate, on 12 January 2024

The incident, as detailed in the investigation file held by the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), involved armed individuals from the 13th Brigade of the Guards of the Republic and the 2nd Tihama Brigade. On 12 January 2024, they raided the homes of the victims in Bani Al-Hudaysh village, Hays District, Hodeidah Governorate. The armed forces assaulted the victims, forcibly took them in four military vehicles, and transported them to Abu Musa Prison in Al-Khawkhah under the accusation of collaborating with the Houthi group.



### Names of the Victims:

No.	Victims Names
1	Maher Abduh Hassan Yehya Hudaysh
2	Abduh Hassan Yehya Hudaysh
3	Farouq Abduh Hassan
4	Zaki Abduh Hassan
5	Abduljabbar Thabit Hudaysh

According to the victims' testimonies and the statements of witnesses (Z.A.S.H. and A.T.H.Y.), while in detention, the victims were subjected to torture, including strangulation and being struck with rifle butts. They were held for twelve days, and upon failing to prove the charges against them, they were released.

### Findings:

Through the investigations conducted by the NCIHVHR, and based on the victims' statements, witness testimonies, and the documents included in the file, it was determined that the responsible parties for this violation are the forces responsible for this violation are affiliated with the legitimate government, specifically armed individuals from the 13th Brigade of the Republican Guards forces and the 2nd Tihama Brigade in Bani Al-Hudaysh village, Hays District, Hodeidah Governorate.

#### 2. Arbitrary Arrest of the Family of the Victim, Abdul Raheem Abdul Was'i Ali Al- Mulayki, and Others – Salah District – Taiz Governorate – on 17 August 2023

According to the investigation file with the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), the incident involved an armed group from the Political Security Agency in Taiz Governorate raiding the victim's home in Sa'ilat Al-Qamt, Salah District. They accused the victim of mur-

dering Colonel Adnan Al-Muhyya and also arrested the victim's wife, sister, and daughter-in-law.

### Names of the Victims:

No.	Victims Names
1	Abdul Raheem Abdul Was'i Ali Al-Mulayki
2	Najeeb Abdul Raheem Abdulwasa Ali Al- Mulayki
3	Ittifaq Ali Ibrahim Al-Barkani
4	Hadiyyah Abdul Was'i Ali Al- Mulayki
5	Arwa Abdul Rahman Mohammed Ali

According to the victims' families and witnesses (S.N.A.G. and S.H.A.A.), at exactly 12:00 PM on 17 August 2023, a group of armed men from the Political Security Organisation raided the home of Abdulrahim Abdul Was'i Ali Al-Maliki accusing him of killing Colonel Adnan Al-Muhayya. When they did not find the victim, they forcibly detained the women at the house, arresting the victim's wife, sister, and daughter-in-law, and placing them in the Political Security Agency prison. Later, the victim and his son were also detained and incarcerated in the same facility. The women were released on the morning of Friday, 18 August 2023, while the victim and his son remain detained without being referred to the judicial authorities.

### Findings:

Through the investigations conducted by the NCIHVHR, and based on the statements of the victims' families, witness testimonies, and the documents included in the file, it was determined that the entity responsible for this violation is the Political Security Agency in Taiz Governorate, led by Abdul Wahid Sarhan.

#### 3. Arrest of the Victim Omar Suleiman Ahmed Bama'as in Ghayl Ba Wazir District, Hadhramaut Governorate –



### on 15 August 2023

According to the case file with the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), the incident involves personnel from Al-Adwas checkpoint under the Second Military Region in Ghayl Ba Wazir District, Hadhramaut Governorate. These personnel detained the victim, Omar Suleiman Ahmed Bama'as, arrested him, and transferred him to the Criminal Investigation Department in Seiyun.

Based on the case file, the informant's and witness testimonies heard by the Commission, including those of (T. A. A) and (H. A. S), on 15/08/2023 at 2:00 PM, the victim was apprehended at Al-Adwas checkpoint by checkpoint personnel without legal justification or judicial orders. He was then transferred to the Criminal Investigation Department in the Wadi and Desert region of Seiyun. When his family inquired about him, the department denied they had him in custody.

On 10/09/2023, the Attorney General directed that the complaint be referred to the Seiyun Prosecutor's Office. While pursuing procedures at the Criminal Investigation Department, the victim's son requested to see his father to ensure his well-being and deliver medication, as he is 65 years old and suffers from chronic illnesses. This request was denied, with threats that he would be detained alongside his father if he did not leave. Upon presenting the Attorney General's directives, the Deputy Director read the document, discarded it, and stated it was not within his jurisdiction as the Deputy Director, noting that the Director of the Criminal Investigation Department was unavailable.

### Findings:

Through the investigations conducted by the NCIAVHR, and based on the informant's

statement, witness testimonies, and the documents included in the case file, it was determined that the responsible parties for this violation were members of Al-Adwas checkpoint affiliated with the Second Military Region and the leadership of the Criminal Investigation Department in Seiyun, led by Brigadier General Talib Saeed Abdullah Barjash.

#### 4. Arbitrary Arrest and Enforced Disappearance of the Victim (M.S.A.M) in Khormaksar District, Aden Governorate, on 1 April 2022

The incident, as detailed in the investigation file with the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), occurred when a group of armed men affiliated with the Security Belt Forces – 8th Sector in Aden Governorate, stopped and arrested the victim (M.S.A.M) in front of his house as he was leaving to go to the mosque, without any legal justification.

According to the witness testimonies heard by the commission (A.A.A.A. and A.S.A.S.), on at 6:00 PM on 1 April 2022, a security force affiliated with the Security Belt Forces was deployed in Al-Arish Neighborhood. As the victim was leaving his house to go to the mosque, a vehicle belonging to the 8th Sector of the Security Belt Forces stopped him. They arrested him and led him to an unknown location. Since that date, the victim remains detained, and his family has no information about his whereabouts. Despite follow-ups by the victim's family, the Specialized Prosecutor's Office ordered his release, but the Commander of the 8th Sector, Ala'a Al-Mashraqi, did not comply. When the Commander of the 8th Sector was replaced, and the victim's family continued to pursue the matter of his release, but the victim was not found in the sector's prison, and his location remains unknown.

## Findings:

Through the investigations conducted by the NCIAVHR and based on the case file of the arbitrary arrest submitted by the field team in Aden Governorate, as well as the statements of the informant and the testimonies of the witnesses heard by the commission, it was confirmed that the entity responsible for this violation is the Security Belt Forces – 8th Sector, led by Ala'a Al-Mashraqi.

### Third: Torture and Ill-Treatment

Torture is among the gravest violations inflicted upon human rights victims, as it degrades human dignity and causes profound suffering. International law unequivocally prohibits torture and all forms of cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment. This prohibition is enshrined in numerous international human rights treaties, foremost among them the Convention Against Torture, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 10th December 1984 and enforced in 1987. The Republic of Yemen ratified this convention on 5th November 1991. Torture is also a criminal offense under Yemeni legislation. In light of its significance, the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR) is committed to investigating such violations.

During the reporting period, the Commission monitored and investigated 28 allegations of torture and inhuman or degrading treatment across various regions of Yemen. The investigations established the Houthi group's responsibility for 22 cases of torture, while the Yemeni government's military and security forces were found responsible for 4 cases.

Below are examples of incidents investigated by the Commission:

## A. The Houthi Group

### 1. Arrest and Torture of Sultan Abdullah Saeed Ahmed Al-Zain – Wazaa Zaid Nabat Area – Moza District – Taiz Governorate – 16 August 2017

According to the investigation file with the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), several armed members of the Houthi group, riding a motorcycle, assaulted the victim, Sultan Abdullah Said Ahmed Al-Zain, while he was tending to his sheep in his area.

Based on the victim's statement and witness testimonies, including those of (R. A. A. A) and (A. M. A. A), at 3:00 PM on 16/08/2017, a group of armed men, later identified as Houthi affiliates, attacked the victim using rifle butts. They blindfolded him and took him to the AL-Tibee-gah station, where they interrogated and tortured him with iron wires.

After two months of torture, he was transferred to the Prison of the Criminal Investigation Department in Hodiedah Governorate, where a new round of interrogation, torture, and threats of execution began. Subsequently, he was moved to a prison in Sana'a in the Shamlan area, where he was tortured again by being struck in his left eye with a wire cable, leading to renewed loss of vision. He remained detained in Sana'a until he was released as part of an exchange deal in 2021.

### Findings:

The NCIAVHR's investigations, along with the victim's statements and witness testimonies, confirmed that the Houthi group in Hodeidah and Sana'a, led by Rasheed Abdullah Moqbel, was responsible for this violation.

### 2. Arbitrary Arrest and Torture of the Victim (A, A, M, Y, D) - Hamdan District - Sana'a Governorate - 15 January 2023

According to the case file with the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), on 15/01/2023, armed members of the Houthi group, led by an individual known as “Abu Ammar,” a supervisor in the Sana’a Governorate, arrested the victim (A. A. M. Y. D) in the village of Al-Gahiliyyah, Wadi’ah Hamdan, Hamdan District, Sana’a Governorate.

As detailed in the reports and official documents attached to the case file, along with the statement from the informant (N. M. A. D) and testimonies from the witnesses heard by the Commission, including (H. M. H. A) and (A. M. A. A), the armed members detained the victim from a relative’s home after summoning him for questioning. Upon his arrival, they held him until the evening, then transferred him to Al-Raqqa area in Hamdan, placing him in what is known as the Technical Institute Prison, which the group had seized in 2014 and converted into their headquarters, using part of it as a detention facility. The following afternoon, he was moved to an undisclosed location, and about a week later, his family discovered he was in the Prison of the Criminal Investigation Department under the Sana’a Governorate Security Department, where he was interrogated on charges of storing weapons in his home.

According to the informant and witnesses, the victim endured severe psychological and physical torture to force a confession of storing weapons. His family made numerous appeals to human rights activists and lawyers for assistance in securing his release. They provided legal representation and filed a complaint against the detaining authorities with the Attorney General appointed by the group, who ordered the victim’s release or referral to the Public Prosecution. Nevertheless, the group’s security apparatus refused to comply with these directives, continuing his detention until

he was released on 28/03/2023 after his family provided a commercial guarantee.

### Findings:

The NCIAVHR’s investigations, testimonies from the informant and witnesses, confirmed that the Houthi group, specifically its security leadership in the Criminal Investigation Department, Hamdan Security Department, and Abu Ammar and his accomplices, were responsible for this violation.

### 3. Arrest and Torture of 25 Victims from Various Locations in Dhamar Governorate between April and June 2020, and Sentencing them to Death on 1 June 2024

According to the case file held by the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), as detailed in the accompanying documents and the testimony of a released victim (A. A. A. M. A), Houthi-affiliated armed members conducted a series of arrests in Dhamar Governorate between April and June 2020.

During this period, 25 individuals from various areas within the governorate were arrested. Some were taken from their homes, while others were detained at Houthi security checkpoints located at city entrances and on roads connecting the city to districts within the governorate or neighboring governorates. Additionally, some were arrested at their workplaces and subsequently held in the Security and Intelligence building in Dhamar Governorate.

### List of Victims:

No.	Victim’s Name	Age
1	A. M. A. Q.	26
2	N. M. M. A.	28
3	S. H. M. A.	33
4	M. A. M. A.	36

5	Y. M. A. A.	46
6	N. A. M. A.	40
7	T. M. A. A.	34
8	M. A. A. A.	30
9	H. M. A. A.	29
10	A. A. A. M. A.	39
11	M. M. Q. H.	29
12	A. S. M. A.	26
13	G. A. A. A.	27
14	A. H. S. M.	35
15	S. J. A. A.	40
16	A. H. A. A.	30
17	M. A. S. A.	45
18	M. M. A. A.	29
19	A. A. A.	42
20	B. A. A.	32
21	H. A. A.	35
22	A. A. A.	27
23	M. A. A.	36
24	W. Q. A.	26
25	A. A. M. A.	40

Based on the testimony of the released victim (A. A. A. M. A), they were detained for over five months in the Security and Intelligence building in Dhamar Governorate. During this time, they were interrogated and subjected to physical and psychological torture using various methods to extract confessions to fabricated charges. Subsequently, they were all transferred to the Houthi-controlled Security and Intelligence detention center in Sana'a, where they encountered other detainees and faced further interrogation. The victim reported experiencing torture, including flogging, suspension, beatings, and nail extraction.

The victim was released on 13/08/2021 through tribal mediation and after providing a commercial guarantee, eventually fleeing

Houthi-controlled areas. However, the victim stated that his fellow detainees were not released, except for (W. Q. A), who was freed at the same time in 2021 but was reportedly re-arrested by the Houthis in 2023 and put on trial.

The victim (A. A. A. M. A) also reported that, despite his release, on 13/08/2021, the Houthis brought him and his fellow detainees, along with others, before the so-called Specialized Criminal Court under their control. This trial lacked the minimum standards required by international agreements, treaties, and national law. They faced charges of carrying out assassinations against Houthi members and collaborating with the legitimate government and the Arab Coalition, with confessions allegedly extracted under torture and coercion.

On 01/06/2024, the Houthis issued death sentences against 44 individuals, including the aforementioned victims, as well as the victim who met with the commission. Additionally, five other victims received prison sentences. The commission continues to investigate the circumstances surrounding the detention of six victims included in the Houthi verdict.

### Findings:

Based on the NCIAVHR's investigations, the case file's documents and written evidence, and the victim's testimony, the responsible party for these violations is the Houthi leadership, specifically its Security and Intelligence Agency in Sana'a and its branch in Dhamar, as well as the Specialized Criminal Prosecution and Court under their control.

#### **4. The incident of torture of the victim Shajea Mohammed Moqbel Al-Aythami in the weapons market area, Rada'a District, Al-Bayda Governorate, on 11 September 2018.**

According to the investigation file held by the National Commission to Investigate Al-

leged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), on 11/09/2018, a group of Houthi militants arrested the victim, Shajea Mohammed Moqbel Al-Aythami, a resident of Al-Qurayshiyah, while he was in the city's weapons market without any legal justification. He was taken to an undisclosed location.

According to the victim's family and witnesses, including (A. M. A. A) and (N. F. A. A), the armed members raided the weapons market, arrested the victim, and transported him to an unknown location. His family repeatedly approached the Houthi leadership in the district to ascertain his whereabouts, but they refused to acknowledge the arrest or disclose his location. After a year and four months, the family learned from a taxi driver transporting a relative that their son was detained in Haran Prison in Dhamar Governorate. He had suffered severe physical and psychological torture, leading to a loss of will to live and multiple suicide attempts.

Upon discovering his location, the family went to the prison and learned he had indeed attempted to hang himself and had been taken to the General Hospital in Dhamar Governorate. They found him mentally incapacitated due to the torture he endured. After considerable efforts by his family to secure his release due to his health condition, he was finally freed after they provided the necessary guarantee. The victim continues to suffer from physical and psychological trauma.

### Findings:

Through the investigations conducted by the National Commission, the testimonies of the victims' families, witness statements, and the attached photographs and documents, it has been established that the entity responsible for this violation is the leadership of the Houthi group in Al-Bayda Governorate, repre-

sented by the Houthi supervisor Abdullah Mohammed Al-Arbagi.

## B. Forces of the Legitimate Government and Government-Affiliated Entities:

### 1. The incident of the arbitrary arrest and torture of the child victim Mahmoud Ali Saleh Ali Al-Askari – Al-Barhah Village – Hays District – Hodeidah Governorate – on 26 March 2021.

According to the investigation file with the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), the Security Director of the Hays District unlawfully detained the child, Mahmoud Ali Saleh Ali Al-Askari.

As reported by the victim's family and witnesses (F. A. A. A) and (A. M. M. T), at 4:00 PM on 26/03/2021, the Security Director summoned the victim from the shop where he worked in Al-Barhah village, Hays District, hodeidah Governorate, to the Security Administration of the Seventh Brigade, Giants forces. Upon arrival, he was arrested and held for three months, then transferred between several other prisons. Eventually, his case was referred to the Military Prosecutor in the Fourth Region, which found his detention unlawful and ordered his release.

However, the administration of Abu Musa Al-Ash'ari Prison, where the victim is held, refused to comply with the release order. According to the case file and witness testimonies, the victim was subjected to various forms of torture, including beatings, electric shocks, water torture, and being thrown from heights. He now suffers from psychological disorders due to the torture and remains detained.

### Findings:

Through the investigations conducted by the National Commission, the testimonies of the victim's relatives, witness statements, and



the documents attached to the file, it has been established that the entity responsible for this violation is the legitimate government in Ho-deidah Governorate, led by Mohammed Ka-zeih, Director of Security of Hays District, and Ali Ahmed Al-Kutaybi, Commander of the Seventh Giants Brigade.

**2. Torture leading to the death of the victim Mohammed Hassan Abdu Mahdi in Qarn Ashal area, Mudiyah District, Abyan Governorate, on 9 July 2023.**

According to the case file with the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), the victim, Mohammed Hassan Abdu Mahdi, was stopped and arrested at a military checkpoint operated by the Third Support and Reinforcement Brigade on the main road in Qarn Ashal, Mudiyah District, Abyan Governorate. He was tortured until he died.

Based on the attached documents, testimonies from the victim's family, and witnesses (F. A. A) and (A. N. A), on 9/07/2023, the 60-year-old victim was travelling from Shabwa Governorate, where he worked selling water, to Ibb Governorate to spend the Eid holiday with his family. Upon reaching the checkpoint, he was detained and tortured for six days until he died on 16/07/2023. It is noteworthy that the victim had special needs, suffering from hearing and speech impairments.

**Findings:**

Through the investigations conducted by the National Commission and based on the information provided by the informant, witness statements, and the documents and photographs contained in the case file, the committee has determined that the forces of the Third Support and Reinforcement Brigade stationed at Qarn Ashal checkpoint in Mudiyah District,

Abyan Governorate, are responsible for committing this violation.

**3. Arrest and Torture of the Victim (M.A.A.A) on 5 September 2023 - Al-Madinah District - Marib Governorate.**

According to the case file held by the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), armed elements affiliated with the Assistant Director of Security for Marib Governorate arrested the victim (M, A, A, A) and detained him unlawfully in a facility belonging to the Criminal Investigation Department.

Based on the complainant's statement (M, A, A, A) and witness testimonies from (S, A, H, A) and (M, A, A, A), on Tuesday, 05/09/2023, elements under the command of Ali Al-Maamari, the Assistant Director of Security for Marib Governorate, arrested the victim (M, A, A, A) (an imam, preacher, and Quran memorization instructor). The victim was initially held in a Criminal Investigation Department prison until just before sunset, after which he was transferred to the residence of Ali Al-Maamari, who personally supervised the interrogation until midnight. The victim's personal belongings, including a mobile phone, passport, laptop, and digital watch, were confiscated before he was moved to the central prison.

On 10/09/2023, the victim was brought back to the Criminal Investigation Department for further interrogation by the investigation officer, Waeem Al-Aqra'a, for five hours. He was then returned to the temporary detention facility of the Criminal Investigation Department. After persistent efforts, the victim's family secured a visitation order from the prosecution, allowing them to visit him and check on his wellbeing. However, visitation was denied, and they were only permitted to send clothes.



During each interrogation session, the victim was blindfolded and subjected to torture and beatings with sticks all over his body. His beard was also burned, allegedly for defaming the director of the Eye Hospital affiliated with the King Salman Centre, an accusation of which he had no knowledge, except that a friend of his worked there. Subsequently, the victim was moved to Cell No. 7 in the basement of the Criminal Investigation Department, where he contracted numerous illnesses due to the lack of medical care. Upon his return to the Provisional Detention facility, fellow inmates were shocked by his altered appearance and deteriorating health condition, to the extent that he could no longer move.

### Findings:

Through the investigations conducted by the Commission and based on the statements of the informant and witnesses, it has been established that the entity responsible for this violation is the Public Security Administration of Marib Governorate, led by the Assistant Director of Security, Ali Al-Maamari, and the head of investigations, Waseem Al-Aqra'a.

#### **4. Torture Leading to the Death of the Victim Kamel Ali Mohammed Bin Talib and His Son Abdullah Kamel Ali Mohammed – Shibam District, Hadhramaut Governorate – on 30 July 2022.**

According to the case file held by the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), a group of armed elements affiliated with the Public Security Department of Wadi and Sahra Hadhramaut stormed the victim's home without a judicial search warrant, arresting the victim and his son.

Based on the case file and the statements provided by the informant (A.H.A.B), as well as the testimonies of eyewitnesses (W.A.S.B) and

(A.K.A.B), at 4:00 a.m. on 30/06/2022, a group of armed elements led by Abdullah Salmein Bin Hubaysh, from the Public Security Department of Wadi and Sahra Hadhramaut, forcibly entered the home of the victim, Kamal Ali Mohammed Bin Taleb, and arrested him along with his son. They broke down doors, terrified the family, and fired shots inside the victim's home without the presence of female police officers or arrest warrants, causing panic and fear among the women and children. During the arrest, the security director, who was present at the time, promised to return the father the next day. However, when the victim's family went to visit the next day, they were denied access.

After nearly a year and a half of continuous efforts to ascertain their whereabouts, the family approached the security director, who informed them that the father and son had died on the first day of their detention. When the family requested to retrieve the bodies, they found them unrecognizable due to severe torture, with their features completely altered.

The victims' family subsequently sought justice through the courts and filed a lawsuit against the security director. However, the case has not been pursued, as the security director and his forces have refused to comply with judicial summons and appear before the court.

### Findings:

Through the investigations conducted by the National Commission and based on the statements of the victims' relatives and witnesses, it has been established that the entity responsible for this violation is the elements affiliated with the Public Security Department of Wadi and Sahra Hadhramaut under the legitimate government, led by the Director of Public Security of the governorate, Abdullah Salmein Bin Hubaysh.

## Fourth: House Bombing

The demolition of homes constitutes a severe violation against victims and their properties, leading to displacement and forced migration. This violation may amount to war crimes. Due to the seriousness of this violation and the ongoing perpetration by one of the parties in the armed conflict (the Houthi group), which systematically practices it, the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR) has included it in its list of investigated violations. During the reporting period, the Commission monitored and investigated 22 cases of house demolitions. It is noteworthy that this type of violation is exclusively perpetrated by the Houthi group, as evidenced by the investigation results of some cases included in this report.

### 1. Bombing the Al-Zailai Family Homes, Al-Hufrah Neighborhood, Rada'a District, Al-Bayda Governorate, on 19 March 2024

According to the case file with the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), including testimonies from victims' families and medics, as well as photos and videos attached to the file, and the statements of witnesses such as (S. S. A. A) and (H. S. A. S), the following incident occurred:

At 6:00 a.m. on Tuesday, 19/03/2024, corresponding to 9 Ramadan 1445 AH, armed groups affiliated with the Houthi militia raided the Hara Al-Hufrah neighborhood in the Radman district of Al-Bayda Governorate, which has been under their control since 2015. They were searching for Abdullah Ibrahim Al-Zailai, accused of killing three Houthi militants in retaliation for the unlawful killing of his brother by the Houthis about a year prior.

The Houthi militants began storming and searching several homes in their pursuit of Abdullah Al-Zailai. When they failed to find him,

they threatened to demolish the Al-Zailai family home. At 6:55 a.m., the residents of Hara Al-Hufrah were awakened by loud explosions and the screams of women and children. Rushing towards the source of the noise, they found the homes of the Al-Zailai family had been demolished over the heads of their inhabitants. The Houthi militia had rigged two houses belonging to the Al-Zailai family with explosives. One house was occupied by the Al-Zailai family, and the other was rented out to the Al-Qarar (Al-Yareemi) family. Additionally, a nearby building used for gatherings and owned by the Al-Naqoos family was also levelled. The explosion resulted in the burial of an entire family under the rubble, specifically the family of the victim Mohammed Saad Al-Yareemi, killing nine family members and injuring five others. Four people from neighboring homes were also injured by the explosion, as Hara Al-Hufrah is a densely populated area with closely built houses.

The horrified residents rushed to rescue the victims from the debris. The explosion also destroyed the home of Ibrahim Ali Al-Zailai and four nearby houses, including those of Ahmed Al-Khalabi, Saleh Hadi, Alawi Mujahid, and Nouri Al-Faqih. Fourteen other neighboring homes sustained varying degrees of damage. These include the homes of Tawfiq Naqoos, Ali Alawi Al-Abshala, Mohammed Saeed, Abdullah Al-Sura, Ali Al-Ameer, the Al-Mawiri family, Aish Mohammed Al-Jadari, Mabrouk Ali Arib, brothers Adel and Waleed Ali Al-Matari, Ali Hassan Al-Matari, Aish Ali Sa'adni, Ali Al-Asta, the Al-Habsi family, and a commercial property owned by Najeeb Al-Ibby.

### Names of the Deceased from Al-Qarar Al-Yareemi Family:

No.	Victim's Name	Age
1	Mohammed Saad Hussein Qarar Al-Yareemi (Head of Family)	65
2	Sayida Ali Bahram Al-Yareemi (Wife of Head of Family)	55

3	Saad Mohammed Saad Al- Yareemi	32
4	Jabali Mohammed Saad Al- Yareemi	22
5	Ramzi Mohammed Saad Al- Yareemi	20
6	Mabroukah Mohammed Saad Al- Yareemi	19
7	Ali Mohammed Saad Yareemi	18
8	Karimah Ahmed Al-Adadi	27
9	Ibrahim Mohammed Saad Al- Yareemi	15

### Names of the Injured:

No.	Victim's Name	Age
1	Ibrahim Mohammed Saad Qarar	32
2	Khairiya Ayesha Bara'	31
3	Child Mohammed Saad Mohammed Saad Qarar	9
4	Child Ibrahim Saad Mohammed Saad Qarar	2
5	Child Lutfiya Saad Mohammed Saad Qarar	5

### Names of the Injured Victims from Neighboring Families:

No.	Victim's Name	Age
1	Radhiyah Saeed Abdullah Baydahah	1
2	Ahmed Khalbi (Husband)	65
3	Ayesha Al-Wadi (Wife)	55
4	Ali Ahmed Khalbi	35

Approximately twenty minutes after the explosion in Al-Hufrah neighborhood, the Houthi group launched a projectile at other homes inhabited by families known as marginalized individuals living in Al-Maydan neighborhood, also referred to as the old market. These homes were originally a series of old commercial shops built from mud and roofed with old tree wood, which had been converted into residences for marginalized people and some workers coming from outside the governorate. This shelling

resulted in the following casualties:

### Names of the Victims:

No.	Name	Age	Status
1	Basel Khalil Abdulrahman Nouri	8	Deceased
2	Malak Hamoud Ahmed Al-Qahsi	8	Injured
3	Jawaher Hamoud Ahmed Al-Qahsi		Injured
4	Mohammed Hamoud Ahmed Al-Qahsi	6	Injured
5	Hamoud Ahmed Salem Al-Qahsi	38	Injured

### Findings:

Based on the investigations conducted by the Commission, the attached reports and documents in the case file, the witness and rescuer testimonies, the statements of the victims, and the public declarations by Houthi leaders confirming the violation, the Commission concluded that the responsible party for this violation is the Houthi group. The responsible individuals include the following:

- General Supervisor of Al-Bayda Governorate: Houthi leader Sam Al-Malahi
- Abdullah Ali Idris: Houthi- appointed Governor of Al-Bayda
- Sheikh Saleh Nasser Al-Ratib Al-Jawf: Houthi- appointed Deputy Governor of Al-Bayda for Rada'a District Affairs
- Abdullah Mohammed Al-Arbagi: Houthi- appointed Director of Security for Al-Bayda Governorate
- Saleh bin Saleh Saran: Houthi- appointed Director of Security for the Seven Districts of Rada
- Mohammed Saleh Al-Awkbi (known as Abu Hussein Al-Harman): Houthi- appointed Director of Investigations for Rada'a Districts

- Mujalli Al-Jawfi: Houthi- appointed Director of Security for Walad Rabi' District
- Saleh Nasser Al-Riyami: Houthi- appointed Deputy Director of Political Security in Al-Bayda.

## 2. **Bombing the Homes of the Al-Dawlah Family and Several Adjacent Houses – Al-Zour Area, Sirwah District, Marib Governorate, on 3-5- 11/2/2023**

The incident, as documented in the case file held by the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), occurred on 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> February 2023. Armed groups belonging to the Houthi faction detonated explosives, destroying the homes of the Al-Dawlah family and several neighboring residences located in the Al-Zour area of Sirwah District, Marib Governorate.

According to the victims' testimonies and statements from witnesses (M.A.A.A., F.S.M.A., and A.A.N.A.), the Houthi forces advanced from the west with the intent of infiltrating Sirwah, a contested area between the Houthis and government forces. Upon entering Al-Zour, they proceeded to blow up the homes of the Al-Dawlah family, claiming disloyalty to their cause, in addition to several nearby homes.

### **Damaged Homes Due to the Explosion:**

No.	Name	Number of homes
1	Ahmed Nasser Mubarak Al-Dawlah	Two houses
2	Abdul Aziz Ahmed Nasser Al-Dawlah	One house
3	Majid Ali Ahmed Al-Ashawi	One house
4	Ahmed Zainullah Nasser Garwan	One house

### **Findings:**

Through the investigations conducted by the

Commission, along with the documents, reports, videos, and testimonies collected, it has been determined that the responsible party for this violation is the Houthi group, under the leadership of Ali Mohammed Tua'yman, who was appointed as the governor, and Mubarak Saleh Al-Mashan Al-Zayidi, commander of the Third Military Region.

### **Fifth: Assault on Freedom of Opinion and Expression**

The right to freedom of expression is guaranteed under Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and paragraphs (2-3) of Article No. 19 in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. The Yemeni Constitution also ensures the right to freedom of expression (Article No. 41). During the period covered by this report, the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR) completed investigations into 7 cases of assaults on freedom of opinion and expression, committed by various parties in different regions of the Republic of Yemen. The Houthi group was found responsible for 4 cases, while the army forces and security agencies affiliated with the government were found responsible for 2 alleged cases.

- Below are examples of some incidents investigated by the Commission:

#### **A. Incidents Attributed to the Houthi Group.**

##### **1. The Arrest of Journalist Khalid Ahmed Ahmed Al-Arasi - Al-Ribat Neighborhood - Al-Wahdah District, Sana'a - on 27/4/2024.**

According to the findings of the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), around 5:30 AM on Saturday, 27/4/2024, armed elements affiliated with the Houthi group raided the home of the victim, Khalid Ahmed Ahmed Al-Arasi, and

arrested him, taking him to an unknown location for 40 days.

Based on the attached documents, videos, and statements from the victim's family and the informant (S.A.M.), as well as the testimonies of witnesses heard by the Commission (A.A.M.Y. and M.A.H.A.), around 5:30 AM on Saturday, 27/4/2024, armed elements from the Houthi group arrived in a military vehicle, a black-windowed bus, a taxi, and an accompanying fire truck. Several female operatives, known as Zainabiyat, led by security official Musleh Nasr Al-Washali, also participated in the raid on the home of Khalid Al-Arasi, a human rights and media activist working for various journalistic outlets. Upon arriving at the house, they surrounded it and knocked on the door. The victim's 16-year-old son Yehya answered, and Al-Washali inquired about his father's whereabouts. When the boy said his father was not home, one of the armed men pulled him aside, and two female operatives entered the house. Shortly after, six armed men in military uniforms stormed in. About ten to fifteen minutes later, they brought out Khalid Al-Arasi, handcuffed and blindfolded, placing him in their vehicle and driving him to an unknown location, instilling fear and panic in his family. The incident caused such a shock to Khalid's mother that she lost consciousness and was taken to Al-Ribat Hospital.

The informant and witnesses reported that the victim remained hidden from his family for several days, with no information on his whereabouts. He was not allowed to communicate with his family, nor were they permitted to visit him until about two weeks after his arrest. It was later revealed that he had been transferred to the Criminal Investigation Prison in Sana'a, under Houthi control. His arrest was linked to his posts on Facebook, exposing the collusion of influential Houthi leaders with businessman Mr. Abdul Adheem Ahmed Dagh-san, a Houthi affiliate, to import a shipment

of the Israeli-manufactured pesticide methyl bromide, which is banned due to its highly carcinogenic and toxic properties with severe impacts on the environment and human health.

The arrest of journalist Khalid Al-Arasi garnered significant solidarity on social media and in traditional media outlets, particularly due to his campaign against the importation of the dangerous, expired pesticide, which had sparked widespread public outrage before his arrest. He was detained for approximately 40 days and was released on 6/6/2024.

### Findings:

Through its investigations and the documents, reports, videos, and witness statements in the case file, the NCIAVHR has determined that the entity responsible for the violation is the Houthi group, led by security official Musleh Nasr Al-Washali and his armed elements, along with the security leaders in the Criminal Investigation Department affiliated with the Houthi group.

#### **2. Raid on Iram FM Radio Station, Confiscation of Equipment, and Vandalism - 14th October Street - Al-Sabeen District - the Capital of Sana'a on 17/12/2023.**

According to the case file held by the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), armed elements affiliated with the Houthi militia raided the "Iram FM" radio station, vandalized its contents, and looted and confiscated its equipment, leading to its closure.

Based on the statement from the informant (S.H.A.Q) and the testimonies of witnesses (M.A.A) and (A.Z.M.A), at approximately 11:00 p.m. on Sunday, 17/12/2023, armed elements led by a Houthi supervisor named Gameel Al-Thulaya, also known as "Abu Nasr," stormed the premises of "Iram FM" radio station, owned by Walid Muhsen Sharaf Al-Din. This



station was dedicated to broadcasting music and Yemeni folk heritage.

Upon arriving at the radio station, seven armed individuals, led by Jamil Al-Thalaya, forcibly entered the offices while three others remained outside with their armed vehicle. Once inside, they disconnected the broadcasting equipment, confiscated it, and transported it using their military vehicle. They also looted and confiscated broadcasting and recording devices, audio purification equipment, six microphones, two Sony cameras, documents, and other office furniture.

The raid and looting instilled fear and panic among the staff present, including employees (F.B) and (T.S), although they were not harmed by the militants. The raid resulted in the immediate cessation of the radio station's operations, and it has not resumed broadcasting since.

According to witnesses who were near the building during the raid and observed the Houthi elements looting the radio station's equipment, one of the station's employees reported that the raid was allegedly due to the "immoral songs it broadcasted," as stated by the Houthi supervisor Gameel Al-Thulaya, and the station's failure to broadcast Houthi anthems [zawamil] and speeches by the group's leader, Abdul-Malik Al-Houthi.

### Findings:

Through its investigations, including the informant and witness statements and photographic evidence of the radio station's offices, the NCIAVHR has determined that the Houthi group, led by Gameel Al-Thulaya and his armed elements, is responsible for this violation.

## B. Incidents Attributed to the Legitimate Government and Affiliated Entities:

### 1. Arrest and Assault on Activist Ahd

### Saleh Ali Al-Khuraysan, Al-Hawtah District, Lahj Governorate, on 8/8/2022:

The incident, as detailed in the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR) case file and supported by attached documents and statements from the victim's family and witnesses (Y.M.A. and A.T.M.) interviewed by the Commission, occurred at approximately 12:00 PM on 8/8/2022. Activist Ahd Saleh Ali Al-Khuraysan, along with a colleague, was driving on the main street in Al-Fayyoosh area of Lahj Governorate after his release from a previous detention on 6/8/2022. He was suddenly pursued by a security force in a blue FJ vehicle belonging to Al-Hawtah Security Department, with the Director of Al-Hawtah Security Department and several officers inside. They stopped and arrested him, taking him to Al-Hawtah Security Department, where he was subjected to assault and beatings. This arrest was in response to a post he had written criticizing the district commissioner, Sami Al-Jabali. He was only released after signing an undertaking not to write any posts about the district commissioner, Sami Al-Jabali.

### Findings:

Through its investigations, including statements from the information source and witnesses, and the documents and photos in the case file, the NCIAVHR found that Al-Hawtah Security Department in Lahj Governorate, led by Awad Al-Shilin, was responsible for this violation.



## Section Three: Violations Against Women

### Introduction:

Women in Yemen have been disproportionately affected by the consequences of the armed conflict, with a notable increase in violations against them recently. These violations stem primarily from entrenched discrimination against women perpetuated by some parties, societal stereotypes regarding their “appropriate” role, and restrictions limiting their access to justice. Consequently, the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR) pays special attention to these violations, dedicating specific sections in its reports to incidents affecting women, in addition to recognizing them as victims in other reported violations.

The Commission frames its legal investigations into violations against women within the scope of national legislation and international treaties, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), ratified by Yemen in 1984, and United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 and its subsequent resolutions on the protection of women’s rights during armed conflict, particularly against gender-based violence.

During the reporting period, women across Yemen have faced various forms of violations by some conflict parties. Below is a specific example:

#### 1. **Arbitrary Detention and Assault on Peaceful Gatherings of Women – Al-Zira’ah District, the Capital of Sana’a, Sana’a, 06/10/2021**

On Wednesday, 6 October 2021, Najat Qaed Jarallah Qaed, aged 45, residing in the public street of Al-Zira’ah District, was arbitrarily detained during a peaceful protest with a group of women demanding their salaries. She and

her fellow protesters were detained for a full year, only being released upon the payment of an amount of money.

According to the case file with the Commission, statements from informants, and testimonies of eyewitnesses (including N.Q.J.Q, M.A.M.A, and N.S.M.A), on 6 October 2021, the Houthi group violently dispersed a peaceful protest by women in Al-Zira’ah District, who were demanding that their salaries be paid that had been unjustly withheld by the Houthis. These women were protesting due to their dire need and the lack of basic necessities under the current conditions in Sana’a and other areas controlled by the Houthi group. The peaceful demands were met with violence, resulting in the arbitrary detention of Najat Qaed Jarallah Qaed and her companions for a year. Their release was secured only after they were coerced into paying a ransom.

### Findings:

Investigations by the Commission, corroborated by witness statements and case file documentation, unequivocally confirm that the Houthi group in Sana’a is responsible for this violation.

#### 2. **Arbitrary Detention of Fatimah Saleh Mohammed Al-Arwaly – Al-Ta’iziyah District, Taiz Governorate, 13/08/2022**

According to the investigation file with the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), a group affiliated with the Security and Intelligence Agency detained Fatimah Saleh Mohammed Al-Arwaly at the checkpoint in Al-Manshour area, Taiz Governorate, and imprisoned her without any legal justification.

Based on the statements from the vic-

tim's family and the testimonies of witnesses (M.A.H.A and M.M.T.A), at 6:00 AM on Saturday, 13 August 2022, while passing through the Al-Manshour checkpoint in Al-Howban area, Al-Ta'iziyah District, travelling from the Capital of Sana'a to Aden, Fatimah was detained along with her companions, Saleh Nasser Mulsleh Al-Aulaqi and Mus'ad Abdullah Nasser Al-Aulaqi, by the security forces at Al-Suban. Subsequently, she was forcibly disappeared, with her family unable to contact her. When her family became desperate to locate her, her brother travelled to Al-Howban to trace her whereabouts but to no avail. After four days of search, her brother was contacted by Saleh Al-Gunaid, the Houthi-appointed Governor of Abyan, who informed him that Fatimah and her companions had been arrested by the Security and Intelligence Agency in Taiz and transferred to the Security and Intelligence Agency in Sana'a, with promises of their imminent release.

Her brother returned to Sana'a, but 25 days after the arrest, the family was shocked to find that the companions had been released while Fatimah remained imprisoned, with their money confiscated. On 10 September 2022, Fatimah's brother was summoned by the Security and Intelligence Agency in Shu'oob, where he was interrogated, and his phone was confiscated for a month without being allowed to see his sister. He was summoned again on 13, 19, 24, and 30 September 2022, and during each interrogation, he was questioned about Fatimah's Facebook posts and her travel to the UAE, despite his explanation that their family had been residing there for many years.

Fatimah's family spent over six months searching for her and petitioning the security forces for permission to visit or ascertain her whereabouts, all in vain. She was eventually referred to the Specialized Criminal Prosecution

on 14/03/2023 and then to trial on 31/07/2023, charged with aiding the aggression and providing coordinates for military sites belonging to the Houthi group. On 18/12/2023, a request was submitted to the relevant prosecution to allow the victim's family to visit her, but this request was denied.

### Findings:

Investigations by the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights, along with statements from the victim's family, witness testimonies, and the documents included in the file, confirm that the Houthi-led Security and Intelligence Agency, under the leadership of Abdul Hakeem Al-Khaywani, is responsible for this violation.

### 3. Injury of a Woman by a Landmine Explosion in the Village of Al-Qaflah Shakhab - Qa'atabah District, Al-Dhale'e Governorate on 4/11/2019

According to the case file documented by the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), at 9:00 AM on Monday, 4 November 2019, the victim, Jannah Qasim Abdullah Al-Hadhrami, aged 35, sustained severe injuries to her face, abdomen, and legs due to a landmine explosion in the village of Al-Qaflah Shakhab, Qa'atabah District, Al-Dhale'e Governorate.

Based on the case file held by the Commission, along with statements from the victim's relatives and eyewitnesses interviewed by the Commission, including (A, M, Q, H) and (H, M, S M) and (R, M, N, M, J), it was established that at 9:00 AM on Monday, 4 November 2019, while the victim, Jannah Qasim Abdullah Al-Hadhrami, was walking along one of the village paths, she unknowingly stepped on a landmine planted by the Houthi group during their invasion of the village in 2015. The explosion caused severe and widespread injuries to her

face, abdomen, and legs, resulting in torn muscles and tissues. She was subsequently taken to Al-Nasr General Hospital in Al-Dhale'e Governorate for treatment.

### Findings:

Through the investigations conducted by the Commission, the case file of this violation submitted by the field team in Al-Dhale'e Governorate, statements from the residents of Al-Qaflah Shakhab, represented by the violation informant, and the testimonies of eyewitnesses interviewed by the Commission, as well as the medical reports attached to the case file, the Commission confirms that the responsible party for this incident is the Houthi group in Qa'atabah District, Al-Dhale'e Governorate, led by the militia commander in the region, Salah Ahmed Hussein.

#### 4. Killing of the Victim R'anah Suleiman Awad Hussein Zuhair in Al-Aksh Area, Hays District, Hodeidah Governorate on 31/12/2018

According to the case file documented by the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), at approximately 11:00 PM on Monday, 31 December 2018, the victim, R'anah Suleiman Awad Hussein Zuhair, was shot by a sniper as she left her home. The bullet penetrated her left side, leading to her immediate death.

Based on the testimonies of the victim's relatives and witnesses interviewed by the Commission, including (M.T.Y) and (A.M.S.M), it was established that the victim, R'anah Suleiman Awad Hussein Zuhair, aged 57, originally from the village of Al-Hameeniah and was internally displaced to Al-Aksh village after the Houthi group took control of her village, was struck by a bullet that pierced her left side while she was outside her home. The shot was fired from the northern part of the village, where Houthi

forces are stationed. When she fell to the ground, her husband immediately took her to the hospital, but she had already succumbed to her injuries. It is noteworthy that there are no military targets in the village.

### Findings:

Through the investigations conducted by the Commission and the witness testimonies, it has been confirmed that the responsible party for this violation is the Houthi group, led by their appointed commander of the Fifth Military Region, Yousef Al-Madani.

#### 5. Travel Ban from Sana'a Airport on Victims Afaf Ali Hassan Alban and Amal Ahmed Al-Yemani - Al-Hasabah District - Capital of Sana'a on 25/01/2024

##### Summary of the Incident:

According to the investigation file documented by the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR), on 25 January 2024, the authorities at Sana'a International Airport detained and prevented the victims, Afaf Ali Hassan Alban and Amal Ahmed Al-Yamani, from travelling to attend a training course affiliated with the European Union programme without any legal justification.

Based on the victim's statement and the testimonies of witnesses (A, A, A) and (K, S, H, A), it was established that on 25 January 2024, the Houthi-controlled authorities at Sana'a International Airport obstructed and prevented the victims, Afaf Ali Hassan Alban and Amal Ahmed Al-Yamani, along with their male guardians, from travelling to attend a training course scheduled to take place in Cairo, Egypt. This course was organized by Peace Intermediaries under the European Union programme. Despite the fact that both victims were accompanied by their brothers as escorts and had travelled from Al-Jawf Governorate for the

purpose of attending the training, they were detained at the airport for several hours. They were interrogated until the flight departed, resulting in their inability to travel and participate in the course. Subsequently, they were sent back to Al-Jawf Governorate.

### Findings:

Through the investigations conducted by the National Commission, the statements of

the victims, the witness testimonies, and the documents attached to the file, it has been confirmed that the responsible party for this violation is the Houthi group, led by Faisal bin Haydar, the Director of Sana'a International Airport, and the airport investigation officials.

## Section Four: Incidents of US Drone Strikes

During the period covered by this report, the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR) completed the monitoring and investigation of four alleged violations involving American drone strikes targeting civilians. These incidents were documented, information was gathered, and investigations were conducted by the commission. Statistics indicate that seven victims, all of whom were civilians, were identified.

Below is an example of one of the incidents investigated by the commission:

### 1. Targeting Civilians in the Area of Ghol Al-Kalb - Sarrar, Walad Rabi' District - Al Bayda Governorate, on 9 November 2017:

The incident, as documented in the case file held by the commission, occurred at 2:30 PM on 9 November 2017, when an American drone launched a missile at the area of Ghol Al-Kalb - Sarrar, Walad Rabi' District - Al Bayda Governorate. This drone strike left two children, Askar Muftah Obad Ahmed Al-Khubzi, aged 15, and Saleh Mohammed bin Mohammed Al-Khubzi, aged 16, while they were herding sheep in the area, dead.

### Names of the Victims:

No.	Name	Age	Status
1	Askar Muftah Obad Ahmed Al-Khubzi	15	Killed
2	Saleh Mohammed bin Mohammed Al-Khubzi	16	Killed

The commission's team assigned to monitor the incident visited the site and listened to the testimonies of several relatives of the victims and witnesses, including (H. M. A. A.) and (D. M. S. A.). They testified that on 9 November 2017, they heard the sound of a drone flying over the area in the afternoon, followed by a loud explosion. The residents rushed to the site of the missile strike and found the bodies of the two children, Askar Muftah Obad Ahmed Al-Khubzi and Saleh Mohammed bin Mohammed Al-Khubzi, who were herding sheep as a source of livelihood for their families. The children's bodies were burnt, and they died instantly.

### Findings:

Based on the investigations conducted by the NCIAVHR into these alleged incidents, as well as other cases involving American drone strikes on civilians, the commission concluded that the American forces, in partnership with the Yemeni government, are responsible for this violation.

## Challenges and Difficulties:

The period covered by this report was marked by numerous field obstacles and harassments faced by both international and local institutions working in development and human rights. These difficulties also affected the field staff, and there were restrictive practices on civil space, including the closure of many offices of UN agencies and civil society organizations, particularly in areas controlled by the Houthi group. This had a significant impact on all efforts to promote and protect human rights, reach victims, and work in affected areas. However, the considerable trust the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR) has earned over more than eight years of work with victims, along with positive relationships with influencers in remote areas, mitigated the effects of these challenges.

The key challenges encountered in documenting and investigating human rights violations and reaching victims include the following:

1. Continuous breaches and violations of the unofficial truce between the warring parties in Yemen, ongoing violence, targeting of civilians, landmine planting, and obstruction of humanitarian aid and relief efforts.
2. The persistent inactivity and dysfunction of the Yemeni Parliament, resulting in Yemen's failure to ratify several international human rights instruments and pass modern legislation to reduce violations.
3. Delays in responses from certain parties to the commission's memoranda and inquiries regarding allegations of violations attributed to their affiliates.
4. Fear among some victim groups and their reluctance to report due to campaigns of arrests and restrictions on freedoms.
5. The sensitive nature of some violations and the difficulty in providing conclusive legal evidence, particularly concerning gender-based violence, including sexual violence against women and children.

## Recommendations:

Despite the recommendations provided by the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights (NCIAVHR) in its previous reports and its special report on prisons and detention centers in Yemen, several recommendations have not been implemented by the concerned parties. This has contributed to the persistence of numerous violations that the commission has investigated, some of which are detailed in this report and previous reports, delineating the responsibilities of each party for various types of human rights and international humanitarian law violations.

The commission presents the following recommendations to all parties involved in the conflict, as well as specific recommendations to individual parties:

### A. A. Recommendations to All Parties:

2. Implementing all recommendations provided by the NCIAVHR in its previous reports.
3. Renewing the humanitarian truce initiated in April 2022 and adhere to its terms regarding the cessation of warfare, violence, and military activities, lifting the siege on Taiz, and opening major roads between governorates to help reduce violations and uphold human rights.
4. Facilitating and expedite humanitarian relief efforts by international, regional,



and local organizations to ensure the delivery of aid to those in need across the entire Yemeni Republic.

5. Enabling safe access for all citizens to resources in all areas.
6. Taking all reasonable measures to ensure respect for international humanitarian law and international human rights law by all parties to the conflict. Cease all extrajudicial killings, unlawful detention, enforced disappearances, and restrictions on freedoms. Promptly and unconditionally release all detainees and forcibly disappeared individuals without invoking exceptional circumstances as justification.
7. Protecting children and ensure they are not subjected to the six grave violations and preventing violence and discrimination against women and marginalized groups.
8. Ending repressive practices against activists, human rights defenders, and journalists, which infringe upon their rights and the community's right to information.
9. Cooperating with the National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations of Human Rights and its field staff across all governorates, facilitating all their activities, and providing all required information in accordance with the resolutions of the Human Rights Council issued since 2015, the latest being the resolution from October 2023.

#### B. Recommendations to the Legitimate Government:

1. Ceasing all unlawful detentions in areas under government control, and immediately releasing all detainees held without legal justification in all unauthorized de-

tention centers and prisons.

2. Enhancing the capacities of the justice and security sectors and urging the judiciary to fulfil its primary role in law enforcement and human rights protection, ensuring justice for victims and preventing impunity.
3. Providing protection and care services for children and women, particularly survivors of violence and those displaced from conflict zones.
4. Completing the unification of security and military forces under the legitimate government and continuing capacity-building activities within the security and military sectors to ensure these agencies effectively enforce the law and protect human rights.
5. Implementing a comprehensive economic policy aimed at putting an end to currency depreciation and alleviating citizens' suffering. Continuing to pay salaries to public employees across all governorates of the Republic.
6. Adopting institutional reform plans and activating all state service institutions, including health, electricity, water, and sanitation, ensuring citizens' access to their social rights as stipulated in national laws and international agreements ratified by Yemen.

#### D. Recommendations to the Houthi Group:

1. Ceasing acts of violence against civilians and their targeting, particularly sniper attacks and drone strikes, and adhering to the terms of the humanitarian truce.
2. Refraining from targeting civilian objects, economic and vital facilities, oil ports, and threatening ships.



3. Ending the recruitment of children with the aim of using them in warfare and taking measures to prevent their recruitment and ensuring its non- reoccurrence.
4. Ceasing sectarian changes to the curriculum and refraining from using schools and government facilities for cultural courses and sectarian summer camps.
5. Refraining from harassing and extorting traders and stopping levying illicit taxes and confiscating citizens' money and property.
6. Ending arbitrary detentions and enforced disappearances of citizens, ceasing harassment of international organizations and civil society organizations, releasing all detainees, and reducing measures that restrict freedom of opinion and expression, particularly against political opponents, activists, and civil society organizations.
7. Immediately ceasing all forms of gender-based violence, particularly against women, including violations in various detention facilities, and restrictions on women's freedom of movement and travel.
8. Refraining from planting landmines and providing detailed maps of areas where landmines have been planted.
9. Appointing a liaison officer to respond to the commission's inquiries and cooperating with the Commission to ensure it can fulfil its mandate to investigate all violations.

#### E. Recommendations to the Arab Coalition Supporting Legitimacy:

1. Contributing to establishing a comprehensive and just peace in Yemen, based on respect for human rights, accountability for perpetrators of violations, and redress for victims.

2. Supporting the Yemeni government in unifying security and military forces, to achieve security, stability, development, and well-being for all Yemenis.
3. Increasing cooperation with the commission and expediting responses to its inquiries regarding incidents attributed to airstrikes over the past years, which the commission continues to investigate.

#### F. Recommendations to the International Community:

1. Supporting effective and comprehensive peace-building operations in Yemen and the agreements sponsored by the United Nations. Engaging civil society, women, and victim associations in various processes, ensuring they follow a justice-based approach that guarantees accountability, prevents recurrence of violations, compensates victims, and reforms institutions and security.
2. Providing technical support to Yemeni state institutions, particularly the judiciary and law enforcement agencies, to enhance their capabilities.
3. Urging all parties to the conflict to cooperate with the NCIAVHR, facilitate its work, and increasing the support provided by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to ensure the commission meets its obligations to conduct professional and transparent investigations.







## **REPUBLIC OF YEMEN**

**The National Commission to Investigate  
Alleged Violations to Human Rights**

A national mechanism for monitoring and investigating allegations of human rights violations committed on the territory of the Republic of Yemen by all parties established by the Republican Resolution No. (140) for 2012 and its amendments, based on the texts of the Gulf Initiative and its executive mechanism, and Security Council Resolution No. 2051 of 2012 and Resolution No. "2140" for 2014 and other related Human Rights Council resolutions.