

الرقم : 482/أ/2  
التاريخ :  
الموافق : 14/10/2016



الجمهورية اليمنية  
وزارة الخارجية

Yemeni Republic

Number: A/Kh/482

Foreign Ministry

Date: 10/14/2016

## **The Foreign Ministry of the Yemeni Republic Extends its Best Regards to Human Rights Watch;**

In reference to the letter from Human Rights Watch dated 5 October 2016 titled, "Treatment in Detention," the Ministry would like to clarify the following:

### **1 – General Amnesty Decision**

As the decision was issued recently the authorities in the country are still in the process of forming the technical committee to prepare the mechanisms for practical execution [of the decision] in the various governorates. It must be said that this executive committee, under the leadership of the Interior Minister, was slated to announce the commencement of its operations on Sunday 9 October, 2016, but the day before, the Saudi-Emirati Aggression committed their criminal strike against the funeral hall in Sanaa, where the Interior Minister and several committee members were present. This hindered/delayed the initiation of the committee's activities. We would note that 200 detainees from this deluded group of so-called "the resistance" were previously released/granted amnesty.

### **2- Detention Facilities**

They are legal facilities that help preserve security and protect the citizens of the country, as in every nation. Yet unfortunately the forces of Aggression have deliberately and zealously destroyed a number of these facilities in a race to spread chaos, criminality and insecurity, and to empower terrorist elements, as follows:

- a) Airstrikes and a policy of deliberate destruction of state institutions, with the following having been targeted:
  - Central Prison in Al-Bayda Governorate
  - Central Prison in Saada Governorate
  - Central Prison in Al-Mahwit Governorate
  - Harad District Prison

- b) The forces of Aggression and their mercenaries breaking out / freeing criminals from their detainment

This happened in the central prisons of the governorates of Taez, Aden, Al-Dali', Lahaj, Shabwa, Abyan, and Al-Mukalla, where prisoners were freed, particularly those convicted of felonies and of committing acts of terrorism, and they were supported with money and weapons in order to create so-called "resistance groups", which then directly targeted civilian citizens inside their homes in a number of regions with acts including torture, murder, and forced disappearance, and even digging [dead bodies] out of graves. This is in addition to the fact that the [Saudi-Emirati] Aggression and its mercenaries let loose terrorist elements from the prisons, allowing them to spread their influence again in several southern governorates under the control of the so-called "Legitimacy" [pro-Hadi government in exile], including some of the most prominent leaders of Al-Qaeda including Khalid Batarfi, Abdullatif Al-Sayyid and Hashim al-Sayyid. [President] Hadi issued a ruling on 5 October 2016 assigning this man [Hashim al-Sayyid] to the leadership of several military operations.

We should also mention those acts that run contrary to the law and all the conventions of human rights that have occurred in the governorates under the control of the forces of Aggression. For example, the so-called security-belt in the governorates of Aden and Hadramawt, which are known for discrimination, torture and killing on the basis of ethnicity, regional or party background. These forces and their kind in the governorates and elsewhere have turned schools into detention centers and tortured civilians and prisoners.

### **3- Oversight and Protective Services**

There are judiciary monitoring services that oversee the Office of Executive Detention in all of the governorates. There is an Investigative Attorney General (Executive Order Services), whose headquarters is the Office of Criminal Investigations, where he oversees prisoners detained in police stations and offices on the governorate-level. His duty is to receive complaints from detainees and ascertain the legality of their detention, and to field any complaints related to their treatment in order to investigate them and inform the Public Prosecution to deal with them in accordance with the law.

**The Foreign Ministry of the Yemeni Republic would like to take this opportunity to express its sincerest appreciation and highest regard for Human Rights Watch.**

To/

Human Rights Watch

[seal: Yemeni Republic / Foreign Ministry]