

UN SECURITY COUNCIL HIGH LEVEL OPEN DEBATE

**“LEADERSHIP FOR PEACE: UNITED IN RESPECT OF THE UN CHARTER, IN SEARCH OF A
SECURE FUTURE”**

25 September 2024

Remarks

H.E. Vice President of Yemen, Aidarous Qassem Abdulaziz Zubaidi

Your Excellencies:

Leadership for peace starts from this Chamber. It is the responsibility and the mandate of the Security Council. Yet too often, the Council lacks the political will to uphold its responsibility. And so conflicts fester and spread. This is what is happening in Yemen.

Mr. President,

Ten years have passed since the start of the conflict in our country, during which, hundreds of thousands of innocent lives have been lost and millions have been pushed to the brink of starvation due to the actions of the Houthis, with women and children at the forefront of this suffering. In addition, humanitarian and UN workers have been subject to arbitrary detention and forced disappearance, and the activities of terrorist groups such as AQAP have increased due to the lack of international political will to end the conflict.

The spillover of these consequences is what we are witnessing in the Red Sea due to the attacks of the Houthis against maritime security and international commerce. This is the result of the failure to end the conflict, and the failure to seriously tackle such actions.

The status quo in our country is no longer tenable. It is in the interest of our people to end the conflict and find a lasting solution. This is a shared interest with our regional allies and the international community.

At the Summit of the Future, His Excellency, Secretary-General Guterres outlined the need for durable solutions to today’s global conflicts and challenges. His vision is one that we all have a duty to get behind, and from this platform, I stress our need for a new,

comprehensive approach to end the conflict in Yemen and to restore the peace that our people deserve.

First, we must **contain the threat that the Houthis pose** against global, regional and Yemen's security and send a message that violence and tyranny of the Houthis cannot continue with impunity.

Second, we need a **collective effort to empower the PLC** to put an end to the chaos and disorder practiced by the Houthis.

Third, we must all work to end human suffering and **address the worsening economic conditions** that our people are suffering from.

These steps enable a pathway towards a **comprehensive political process** that is Yemen-led and has regional and international support to ensure a sustainable political solution.

Your Excellencies,

For too long in Yemen's fraught history, issues and sides have been marginalised that should be the most critical in determining our own future. At the forefront of this is resolving the Southern people's issue, for which it was agreed to establish a special negotiating framework in the Gulf Cooperation Council consultations in 2022. It is also important to represent the voices of youth, women and minorities, as we can only achieve lasting peace through a comprehensive process that includes these issues and sides.

Finally, securing peace in our country requires strong and cooperative leadership across the **international, regional and local levels** to enable a comprehensive approach and create the necessary momentum to achieve peace. I am confident that we can work together from this Chamber to bring about the just future that my people deserve.