

18



Permanent Mission
of the Federal Republic of Germany
to the Office of the United Nations and
to the other International Organizations
Geneva

**United Nations Human Rights Council
18th Session of the UPR Working Group**

Geneva, 29 January 2014

**German questions and recommendations to
Yemen**

**Statement
by
Germany**

Mister President,

Germany welcomes the delegation of Yemen and acknowledges the effort Yemen has made to improve the human rights situation during the political transition as well as the recent successful conclusion of the National Dialogue.

Germany wishes to make recommendations in four areas:

1 – Germany recommends that Yemen establishes an independent National Human Rights Institution in line with the Paris Principles and by strengthening results-based human rights monitoring throughout the country.

2 – Germany recommends that Yemen take effective action to end gender-based discrimination, to ensure full protection of women's rights, including by ending harmful practices such as female genital mutilation (FGM), and to criminalize domestic violence, including sexual abuse and marital rape.

3 – Germany recommends taking effective measures to end the practice of early, forced and child marriage, including by setting a minimum marriage age of 18 years for both genders.

4 - Germany recommends announcing a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to its eventual abolition. Pending this, Germany recommends taking appropriate steps to reduce its application, to respect international minimum standards and, in particular, to ensure that the death penalty is not imposed on persons under the age of 18 at the time of infringing penal law. Due process of law should be guaranteed in all judicial proceedings.

Thank you, Mister President.

Questions submitted in advance:

1. In 2011, the Human Rights Committee recommended that Yemen take measures to preserve the achievements women had recently made in terms of public participation in peaceful demonstrations. What policies and measures is the state taking in order to ensure full protection from gender-based discrimination and ensure gender equality before the law and in the public sphere? Is Yemen planning specific measures to promote women's representation in political bodies and decision-making positions? How does Yemen intend to increase the rate of women in the judicial sector and police so as to foster increased awareness of women's issues in those areas?
2. Regarding the rights of the child, how does the state ensure effective birth registration of all children and universal and equal access to primary schooling and all levels of education for boys and girls?
3. Could Yemen provide an update on the effects of measures it has taken to end the use and recruitment of children in the Yemeni Armed Forces and to demobilize those who have already been recruited? What are future challenges in this regard and how does Yemen plan to meet these? Concerning the recruitment and abuse of children by non-state armed actors, could Yemen provide an update on decisions and concrete actions taken to effectively prohibit and prevent the involvement of children in armed conflict and to demobilize those already recruited?