

Universal Periodic Review 18 – Yemen

Intervention by the Kingdom of the Netherlands

Mr. President,

The Netherlands would like to thank Yemen for the presentation of its national report.

We welcome the Cabinet Decision endorsing the accession of Yemen to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

The Netherlands commends Yemen for the successful conclusion of its National Dialogue Conference. This conference, which included women and youth, has issued several recommendations that are relevant to our discussion today, including on the position of women and on transitional justice.

We welcome the personal commitment of the Yemeni Minister of Human Rights with regard to the establishment of a human rights framework in Yemen and her active stance against child marriage.

The Kingdom of the Netherlands recommends Yemen:

1. to implement the recommendation of its National Dialogue Conference to set the minimum marriage age at eighteen years in line with its obligation under the Convention on the Rights of the Child to take measures with a view to abolish practices prejudicial to the health of children.
2. to install a proper reconciliation and transitional justice framework in conformity with international standards and good practice and in line with the recommendations of the National Dialogue Conference and the report of the UN High Commissioner on Human Rights, including effective legislation on transitional justice and the appointment of members in the independent commission to investigate allegations of human rights violations committed by Government security forces during the events of 2011.

I thank you, Mr. President.