

42

Jerry Bowski

Check against delivery

UPR of Yemen

Statement by the Republic of Poland

January 29th 2014

Thank you, Mr. President,

The delegation of Poland would like to thank the delegation of Yemen for its informative national report and constructive participation in the UPR process. We acknowledge with satisfaction the Yemeni engagement in cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, which led to the establishment of an OHCHR Country Office in Sanaa in 2013. We are looking forward to a fruitful cooperation between the Office on the ground and the Yemeni authorities.

Mr. President,

Poland closely follows developments in Yemen. We commend the progress accomplished by the National Dialogue Conference, in particular the signing of the landmark "Just Solution" agreement on political power-sharing between the country's Northern and Southern regions. The ongoing democratic process augurs well for nonviolent resolution of many challenges facing Yemen, including those related to the human rights.

Poland sincerely welcomes a stable progress made by Yemen in terms of universal primary education and gender parity as well as generous asylum policy towards refugees from the Horn of Africa. That takes place amid internal tensions and acute developmental problems of Yemen.

While admitting the above mentioned positive aspects in the field of human rights, we feel obliged to express deep concern with high number of executions (mostly by stoning) and extrajudicial killings. We remain also alarmed by documented reports revealing multiple cases of violence against vulnerable groups, *e.g.* women, children and marginalized communities. In this context, we recommend to the Yemeni authorities **to adhere to the global trend against the capital punishment by establishing, as a first step, a moratorium on its use.**

Finally, while taking note of the preparations undertaken by the Yemeni Ministry of Human Rights we would like to recommend **further efforts to establish a national human right institution** in full compliance with the Paris Principles in order to deepen the scope of the human rights protection in the Republic of Yemen.

I thank you.