

## INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL SUPPORTING FAIR TRIAL & HUMAN RIGHTS Registration No. 2795/2012

**OFFICIAL LETTER HEAD OF THE ORGANIZATION** 

#### SAUDI-LED COALITION COMPROMISING PEACE EFFORTS IN YEMEN



Yemen parties shaking hand to ensure ceasefire in Hodeidah

Ahead of the agreed ceasefire in Hodeidah at end of peace talks in Sweden on December 13<sup>1</sup> that is expected to go into effect at midnight local time today, the Saudi-led coalition has opened an attack in Yemen's port city of Hodeidah trying to shatter any hopes of truce and reconciliation.

Residents reported the eruption of violence with gunfire and missiles in the city's southern neighbourhoods today. The coalition forces targeted the city's southern neighbourhoods, with four people, including a child, injured in the attack. Saudi-led coalition conducted 7

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> According to the UN parties will withdraw from the city within 21 days and international monitors will be deployed and a prisoner swap involving about 16,000 inmates is also expected to be completed before January 20



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airstrikes and shelled the province more than 50 times on Sunday. spokesman Yahya Saree said "the coalition conducted 12 airstrikes in Hodeidah on Saturday."

Following this the Office of the UN Special Envoy to Yemen, Martin Griffiths, tweeted that the Special Envoy "expects the parties to respect their obligations to the text and in the spirit of the Stockholm Agreement."

This comes shortly after Saudi Arabia has denounced a historic land mark resolution by the US Senate accusing the kingdom's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman of ordering the murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi and calling for an end to USA's military support for a Saudi-led war in Yemen. Ironically the kingdom that has declared war on another sovereign country and preceded to kill and starve millions of innocent civilians announced this resolution as a blatant interference.

The Saudi foreign ministry stated;

"The recent position of the United States Senate, which has been built on baseless allegations and accusations, includes blatant interference in its internal affairs and the role of the kingdom at the regional and international level,"

The resolution unanimously approved the resolution that condemns the senseless murder of Jamal Khashoggi and assigns full responsibility and blame on Prince Mohammed Bin Salman for the murder of the journalist.

the US has been helping the Saudi-UAE military alliance with weaponry and logistical support. It was also refuelling the alliance's fighter jets which were responsible for more than 18,000 raids carried out on the war-ravaged country, which, according to the United Nations, is the worst humanitarian crisis in the world.

Other western countries have also provided arms and intelligence to the Saudi-UAE military alliance, but have shown increasing reservations about the war since the murder of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi at Saudi's consulate in Istanbul last month.



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The recent truce agreement is on a shaky ground as of now as a result of the ongoing Saudiled coalition attack.

The Saudi-led war has resulted in the killing of more than 60,000 people and as many as 85,000 children may have starved to death. If the war continues, 14 million people would need of food aid in 2019, six million more than this year.

Aid workers say that ending the fighting around Hodeidah is crucial to efforts to ease the humanitarian situation in a country where more than two-thirds of the population depend on assistance.

ICSFT reiterates its call to end the Saudi-led war on Yemen, and urges the coalition to provide immediate and safe passage and unhindered humanitarian aid to the affected populations and lift the blockade for basic necessities such as fuel, food, and medicines, so they can finally enter the country. These are important steps that will secure an inclusive political solution and lasting peace in the country.