



YEMEN

All Party Parliamentary Group
House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

Chair: Rt Hon Keith Vaz MP
Secretary: Alison Thewliss MP
Vice Chair: Tim Loughton MP
Vice Chair: Lord Kilclooney
Treasurer: Gill Furniss MP

@APPGforYemen

A Joint Initiative with
**Yemen Safe
Passage Group**

and



Rt. Hon. Dr. Andrew Murrison MP
Minister of State for the Middle East and North Africa
Foreign & Commonwealth Office
King Charles Street
London, SW1A 2AH

Dear Minister,

As you have acknowledged, the humanitarian situation in Yemen is a catastrophe, with more than 100 children dying of starvation every day. According to the United Nations by the end of the year the war will have claimed over 230,000 lives, most of them from starvation or disease.

The relative calm in Hodeidah brought about by the slow implementation of the Stockholm agreement and the presence of UN monitors and UNVIM, gives the Security Council an opportunity to consider potential further steps to help end this war which is costing so many lives and livelihoods while adding to the tension in the Gulf.

We believe it is increasingly in the interests of the Coalition to end this war which has been so costly, so damaging to reputations and has failed to contain engagement from Iran. We therefore urge the Government to capitalise on the UK's position as 'penholder' at the UN Security Council to urgently begin informal consultations with other Security Council members and parties to the conflict on a new resolution on Yemen that moves beyond UNSCR 2216.

This Resolution is now badly out of date. It clearly fails to recognise the situation on the ground and has become an impediment to the serious peace talks among Yemenis themselves to which we all aspire. HMG is well-placed to bring the relevant parties together to formulate such a successor resolution that acknowledges the pluralistic nature of post-conflict Yemen. The prospect of such a resolution passing the Security Council will greatly facilitate the work of the Special Envoy in his efforts towards securing a negotiated nationwide ceasefire.

We urge HMG to extend the steps already taken by the Foreign Secretary in opening direct UK channels of communication with all parties to the conflict.

We urge HMG to use its much-claimed leverage over allies in the region, to persuade Saudi Arabia to pay attention to the recent clear messages being sent from US Congress, the German Government, and the UK Court of Appeal decision on arms, and work to ensure a nationwide ceasefire and the early resumption of direct talks. The Houthi leadership must be urged to cease its cross-border attacks into Saudi Arabia and develop credible long-term assurances for Saudi border security. Then the possibility of direct talks can be addressed.

Alison Thewliss MP
Secretary, APPG for Yemen

James Firebrace
Coordinator, Yemen Safe
Passage Group

Paul Tippell
UNA Yemen Campaign
Coordinator

Alison Thewliss MP, Secretary, APPG for Yemen
Tim Loughton MP, Vice Chair APPG for Yemen
James Firebrace, Coordinator, Yemen Safe Passage Group (YSPG)
Sir Henry Bellingham MP
Crispin Blunt MP
Pauline Latham, OBE MP
Jeremy Lefroy MP
Rt Hon Andrew Mitchell MP
Paul Scully MP
Jim Shannon MP
Stephen Twigg MP, Chair, International Development Select Committee
David Warburton MP
Sammy Wilson MP
The Rt Rev. the Lord Bishop of Leeds
The Rt Rev. the Lord Bishop of St Albans
Frances Guy, YSPG, Former UK Ambassador to Yemen
John Deverell CBE, YSPG, Former Defence Attaché Yemen and Saudi Arabia, Director of Defence
Diplomacy at MoD
Capt Philip Holihead, YSPG, Former Defence Attaché Yemen, Former Head of Western Indian
Ocean Counter-Piracy UN IMO
Viv Williams, Trustee UNA-UK, Chair Southern Counties Region United Nations Association
Fred Carver, Head of Policy, UNA-UK
Ben Donaldson, Head of Campaigns, UNA-UK
Dorothea Vincent, Chair, United Nations Association, Scotland
Dr Gari Donn, Executive Director, UN Scotland
Catherine Pluygers, Chair, London and South East Region United Nations Association
Neville Grant, Hon Secretary, London and South East Region United Nations Association
Ravi Kumar, Chair, Central Region, United Nations Association