

# UN Human Rights Council 42 – General Comment: The Human Rights Situation in Yemen

The UK supports this resolution, L.16, and the renewal of the mandate of the Group of Eminent Experts for a further year.

The most recent report produced by this group set out in stark terms the impact of the conflict on the lives of civilians, and the obligation on all parties to the conflict to adhere to their international legal obligations.

We believe the group has done this in a fair and balanced manner, though we would encourage them to also examine the conduct of those who back the protagonists. Iran's role in the violation of human rights in this conflict, through their support for the Houthi rebels, is something that should not be ignored.

It is regrettable that the work of this group is not universally supported, and that the experts have not had the necessary access to the conflict zone, or been able to visit many of the countries that are engaged in the conflict. We encourage engagement with the Group as a means of ensuring that their conclusions are as well informed as possible, and that they reflect the views of all.

It is also regrettable that there will again be two resolutions on Yemen. The impact of this Council is greater when it speaks with one voice on issues of such clear human rights concern. We commend the efforts made to explore possible common ground, and encourage them to continue to engage over the coming year.

In our view this resolution should be adopted by consensus. If a vote is called on it, the UK will vote in favour, and encourages others to also vote yes.