

22 May 2019

To the International Community and Yemeni Stakeholders,

On 9-11 April, a group of 29 Yemeni women representing the country's geographic and political diversity, as well as leading women's networks and organisations, gathered in Cairo, Egypt. The group developed concrete and actionable recommendations for Yemeni and international stakeholders on women's inclusion in the peace process and beyond.

The workshop was organized by Crisis Management Initiative (CMI) and DeepRoot Consulting, and is part of the EU-funded project "Supporting Inclusive Peacemaking Efforts and Political Transition in Yemen".

The workshop concluded with a number of key recommendations, as well as some suggested language related to the transitional period for an eventual peace agreement. The recommendations are presented in the attached document, and the complete workshop report will be available by the end of May. The delegates also prioritized six recommendations deemed as having the highest importance and what should be addressed in the immediate term, as highlighted below:

- 1) **Women's participation and inclusion in the peace process should be strengthened** at all tracks, I-III, to ensure a more sustainable resolution to the conflict. This can be advanced by e.g. implementation of a quota system; training program to increase women's capacities; and compiling a database of women's expertise and of women's peacebuilding organizations.
- 2) **Coordination and collaboration between women's networks and the OSESGY should be further enhanced** to enable a larger constituency informing the peace process both in terms of women's needs and views, but also more broadly as a resource for substantive inputs and possible solutions to the peace and transitional process.
- 3) **Strategies and mechanisms for women to foster political partnerships with key influential decision-makers should be developed.**
- 4) **The mandate and role of the Technical Advisory Group should be further clarified** to Yemeni stakeholders to widen support to the mechanism. The rotational system should be strengthened to ensure further inclusivity, and the creation of sub-committees to support the TAG in technical issues in the negotiations should be considered.
- 5) **Support and train women to act as intermediaries and mediators between the conflict parties;** both at the national level and in local communities where they can play a key role in local ceasefire mediation, de-escalation of violence and opening of roads for humanitarian access.
- 6) **Yemeni women should come together to strengthen their voices to find durable solutions for the peace agreement,** the transitional period and the post-conflict phase; and to put pressure on the conflict parties to end the war.

Yours sincerely,

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