



**Defence for Children International**  
**XIII<sup>th</sup> International General Assembly**  
**10 and 11 November 2022**  
**Nouakchott, Mauritania**

**ADOPTED RESOLUTION No. 4**  
**“Yemen: don’t look away!”**

While the XIII<sup>th</sup> International General Assembly of Defence for Children International (DCI), is meeting in Nouakchott, Mauritania, on 10 and 11 November 2022, Yemen remains the world's largest state of emergency. The overall situation in Yemen is **catastrophic** due to the widening conflict between parties in northern and southern Yemen, which has directly led to an increase in the number of children whose rights have been violated.

More than **10,200** children have been killed or maimed since the beginning of the conflict in 2015, and thousands more have been recruited into the fighting. To date, an estimated **two million children** are internally displaced. The destruction and closure of schools and hospitals have also severely disrupted access to education and health services. **More than two million children are out of school**, according to UNICEF, leaving them even more vulnerable.<sup>1</sup>

Meanwhile, Yemen’s already dire hunger crisis is teetering on the edge of outright catastrophe. By March 2022, around **17.4 million people were in need of food assistance**, with a growing portion of the population having to cope with emergency levels of hunger.

The war, which has been going on for more than **seven years**, ravages Yemen, both its people and its land. While DCI-Yemen considers that the infrastructure reconstruction might be relatively easy if funds and technical capabilities were available, rebuilding and rehabilitating people’s physical and mental health is extremely difficult, and will require enormous political will and resources over an extended timeframe. Today’s generation of children has been deprived of education and opportunities to live in a safe and stable environment and their rights to protection and development are severely violated. Children have been exposed to weapons of war and severe psychological harm and trauma. **The situation is so dire that an unknown number of children have been killed and wounded in the battlefield.**

**Therefore, the XIII<sup>th</sup> International General Assembly of Defence for Children International (DCI), meeting in Nouakchott, Mauritania, on 10 and 11 November 2022**

- **CALLS** for the immediate end to the war, and an immediate cessation of fighting, so Yemeni children and their families can be allowed to live in peace.
- **CALLS** on parties to the conflict to immediately stop all the attacks on civilian infrastructures such as schools and hospitals: it is essential for Yemeni children to go back to school. The absolute necessity of respecting children’s right to education has been recognised for all children worldwide, for example during the covid-19 pandemic.
- **CALLS** on all parties to ensure compliance with international human rights and international humanitarian law to which Yemen is party.
- **ENCOURAGES** all parties to the conflict to pursue the cease-fire and to start discussing an agreement for sustainable peace.

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<sup>1</sup> UNICEF’s 2022 humanitarian appeal for Yemen <https://www.unicef.org/emergencies/yemen-crisis#:~:text=How%20is%20the%20crisis%20affecting,million%20children%20are%20internally%20displaced.>

Adopted Resolution on Yemen

- **URGES** the Yemeni authorities, in cooperation with international agencies, to ensure and maintain access to humanitarian assistance, with a specific focus on children - including internally displaced and refugee children.
- **URGES** the United Nations Human Rights Council and the Member States to renew the international, independent criminal accountability mechanism for Yemen to ensure that all the crimes are addressed by the international justice system, and to provide effective redress to victims.
- **URGES** Member States to unequivocally cease all arms sales and supply to the parties to the conflict.
- **URGES** Member States to take account of the huge reconstruction (in all senses of the word) effort needed.
- **CALLS** on the general public to inform themselves on the reality for Yemeni children and to activate their compassion for the situation of the Yemeni people – don't look away.
- **REQUESTS** Yemeni international airports to remain open for health and emergency support for all Yemenis.
- **REQUESTS** to speed up the supply of petroleum products, especially to the health sector, to ensure that the provision of health services be guaranteed in all Yemeni provinces.
- **REITERATES** its support for the Socio-Legal Defence Center (SLDC Model) in Yemen co-funded by the Canton of Geneva which is committed to work on providing a safe and child-friendly environment, to offer social, legal, and psychological support for children and their families, as well as to enhance capacity-building of institutions dealing with children.
- **REAFFIRMS** DCI's support for and commitment to efforts by the international community and the UN to secure peace in Yemen.