



RESPONSE TO PETITION

Prepare in English and French marking 'Original Text' or 'Translation'

PETITION No.: **421-03735**

BY: **MR. JULIAN (NEW WESTMINSTER-BURNABY)**

DATE: **MAY 13, 2019**

PRINT NAME OF SIGNATORY: **SIGNED BY THE HONOURABLE CHRYSIA FREELAND**

Response by the Minister of Foreign Affairs

SIGNATURE

Minister or Parliamentary Secretary

SUBJECT

Republic of Yemen

ORIGINAL TEXT

REPLY

Canada strongly supports efforts to achieve a cessation of hostilities and a comprehensive political transition in Yemen based on the principles of inclusivity and respect for human rights, in order to bring lasting peace for the Yemeni people. The Minister of Foreign Affairs has had discussions directly with the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen, Martin Griffiths and Canada supports the UN-led peace process. Canada was encouraged by the consultations held in December 2018 under the leadership of Special Envoy Griffiths. Canada urges all parties to continue working together on the implementation of the Stockholm Agreement, including the de-escalation measures in both Taiz and Hodeidah, and the implementation of the exchange of prisoners' agreement, as well as measures to stabilize the economy. Canada looks forward to the next rounds of peace talks.

Canada's support in Yemen is driven by the desire to end a terrible situation that has caused the suffering of so many people—especially women and children who bear the brunt of the crisis. The human cost of the ongoing conflict in Yemen is dire. This is why on February 26, 2019, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of International Development, announced an allocation of \$46.7 million to support the humanitarian response in Yemen, building on the \$130 million that Canada has provided since 2015. This funding is supporting the work of UN agencies, the Red Cross

Movement, and NGOs in delivering urgent assistance, such as food, clean water, shelter, protection and health care, for the most vulnerable communities in Yemen.

Canada is currently increasing its support to peace and stabilization initiatives in Yemen and continues to explore a range of options to support the peace process. In addition, Canada supports women's active and meaningful participation in peace processes, which results in more sustainable peace agreements.

The Government of Canada continues to call on all parties to the conflict in Yemen to abide by their obligations under international humanitarian law and protect civilians, humanitarian and medical personnel, and to allow and facilitate the delivery of life-saving assistance to civilians in need.