

South Yemen Update



Dream no small dreams for they do not have the power to move the hearts of men



Transitional justice for South Yemenis as a strategic objective

The Southern Issue continues to present a central challenge within the international human rights framework. Existing approaches to transitional justice have largely centered on violations committed after 2011, systematically neglecting the grave injustices suffered by Southerners following the 1994 war. These unaddressed grievances remain a core element of Southern marginalization and political exclusion. By positioning transitional justice as both a diplomatic tool and a human rights imperative, we aim to mobilize international attention and institutional response.



Strategic Objectives:

- Redefine Transitional Justice to Include Post-1994 Violations.
- Build Strategic Alliances with Key International and Regional Actors.
- Reinforce the Position of the STC in Peace Negotiations.
- Guarantee Women's Representation Throughout the Process.

Action Plan:

1. Engagement with the Permanent Mission of Yemen in Geneva

- Draft and propose a joint position paper expanding the definition of

transitional justice to include Southern grievances since 1994.

- Advocate for a framework where these grievances are viewed as a pillar of national reconciliation and peacebuilding.

2. Gulf Regional Support

- Schedule bilateral meetings with Gulf diplomatic missions to present the Southern Issue as a regional stability priority.
- Leverage STC's senior-level access to influence support, with a focus on Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates and their role in supporting us.

3. Human Rights Advocacy and Media Outreach

- Finalize and publish a comprehensive report documenting post-1994 violations against Southerners.
- Organize a high-visibility side event during the 59th Session of the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva, highlighting the Southern cause.



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4. Empowering the STC Negotiation Team

- Offer continuous diplomatic briefings and support to the negotiation delegation.
- Work to ensure that the Southern Issue is formally included in any

future UN-led peace tracks.

- Build on the growing recognition of the STC by international bodies and stakeholders.
- Influence the National Investigation Team to address Southern grievances in its official reporting to the UN.

5. Women's Participation and Gender-Inclusive Justice

- Promote the active participation of Southern women in all planning and advocacy processes.
- Collaborate with prominent women leaders from the South to ensure their voices are represented in the international dialogue.
- Advocate for a gender-sensitive model of transitional justice that reflects the realities of Southern women's experiences.

Conclusion

This strategic plan marks a pivotal step in repositioning the Southern Issue on the international stage through the lens of transitional justice. The success of this initiative will depend on unity of purpose, clarity of messaging, and consistent action across all levels of engagement.

Women's representation, far from being symbolic, is fundamental to achieving a justice framework that is inclusive, credible, and sustainable. By aligning diplomatic, legal, and civil society efforts, the STC can ensure that the Southern voice is heard—and acted upon—within the United Nations system.

The time for platitudes is over and action is required for southern voices to be heard at the center of the United Nations.

Terror Cells In South Yemen

After years of ignoring repeated calls by the Southern security forces to arrest former Commander of the Transport Brigade Amjad Khaled, the Yemeni government has finally acknowledged his involvement in leading a terrorist cell directly linked to the Houthis and extremist organizations. This is considered a crucial step in terms of security, although it has come late. This came during a meeting of the Supreme Security Committee on Saturday, June 28, headed by Rashad Al-Alimi, Chairman of the Presidential Leadership Council (PLC) and attended by Prime Minister Salem Bin Brik along with several senior security and military leaders.

Detailed intelligence reports were reviewed during the meeting regarding a cell led by Khaled involved in assassinations, bombings, and espionage for the Houthis, in addition to supplying coordinates and sensitive security information to target Southern and civilian leaders.

The cell was also involved in the bombing of the convoy of Aden Governor Ahmed Hamed Lamlas in October 2021. Furthermore, it has been behind the kidnappings and assassination attempts targeting security and religious leaders in Aden, Lahj, Taiz, and Al-Bayda. The statement also said the cell engaged in sharing intelligence information with the Houthis as part of a regionally supported plan backed by Iran. In a development that sparked widespread controversy, Amjad Khaled featured in a leaked video published in early June, in which he publicly threatened leaders of the Islamist Islah Party and vowed to release what he described as "recordings of agreements and pledges" between him and political and military leaders in the party. The video was considered evidence about the political protection Khaled enjoyed despite being sentenced to death in absentia by the Aden judiciary as well as his confirmed involvement in terrorist operations.



South Yemen: The SBF Arrest a Terrorist Cell, Including Saudis

This announcement comes nearly two weeks after a statement by the Security Committee in Taiz announced the capture of a terrorist cell linked to the killing of UN official Moayad Hamidi, along with the seizure of weapons, explosives, and car bombs.

Despite Khaled's public appearances in televised interviews on Al-Mahriah TV, which is affiliated with the Islah Party, the Yemeni government ignored repeated demands for his arrest and prosecution for years. The Security Committee meeting delivered direct instructions to contact friendly and allied countries and Interpol to pursue Khaled and others, with an emphasis on raising alert levels and security readiness.

This move marks the first official

The committee revealed that Khaled's cell established its main base in the Al-Shamaytayn district of Taiz governorate. It prepared car bombs and explosive devices inside residential homes, and used the tools of visual documentation of assassinations and killings to trigger the internal collapse of cities and governorates. The cell has received direct support from prominent Houthi leaders, notably Abdulqader Al-Shami and Mohammed Abdulkarim Al-Ghamari.

According to the Supreme Security Committee, Amjad Khaled's cell was behind the assassination of UN official Moayad Hamidi, Director of the World Food Programme, in the city of Al-Turba in July 2023, in an attempt to undermine international confidence in the government and obstruct the work of humanitarian organizations in the government-controlled areas.

acknowledgment by the PLC of the dangerous role played by Amjad Khaled, in a significant shift after years of negligence. The step also serves as a real test of the government's seriousness in holding those responsible for terrorism accountable, particularly acts that have targeted the Southern cities.



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