National Dialogue Survey (Endline)

Executive Summary

1.1 Sample Characteristics

- The interviews were conducted over the period February 26 and March 11, 2014.
- 50% of the interviews were conducted in Al-Hodeidah province, 20% in Sana’a province, 16% in Lahj province and 14% in Aden province.
- The response rate for this survey was 90% based on the standards of the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR) and the margin of error was ±4.3.

1.2 General Questions

- 41% of respondents in the target provinces stated that Yemen’s future will be better, while 38% noted Yemen’s future will be worse and 17% stated that things will not change.
- One third of respondents (30%) believe that the most pressing problem facing Yemen is the economic condition, while 22% believe that the most pressing problem is violence and deteriorating security, followed by unemployment at 20%, followed by political insecurity at 13% and terrorism at 5%. Others mentioned things like sectarian tension, secession, deterioration of public services, etc.
- Half of respondents are completely or somewhat satisfied with the living conditions of their families and 45% mentioned they are completely or somewhat dissatisfied with the living conditions of their families.
- One third of respondents (33%), mostly women, believe their current living conditions is better than it was last year, while 44% said it is worse.
- As to their future prospects, 54% of respondents are optimistic about the future and they believe it will be better, while 17% expected the living conditions of their families to be worse and 25% answered “I do not know”.

Having a source of income or job would make the life of 44% of respondents and their families better, followed by low prices at 20% and prevalence of security at 16%, political stability at 8%, access to public services at 5%.

1.3 Sources of Information

- TV is generally the main source for information and news for 60% of respondents, followed by friends and relatives at 16%, radio at 13%, dignitaries at 4% and mosque at 2%.
- Likewise, TV was the main source of news and information on the national dialogue at 46%, followed by friends and relatives at 14%, radio at 10% and newspaper at 7%, dignitaries at 4% and websites and social networks at 2% and 1% respectively.
- The top sources through which the activities of the national dialogue were followed are Yemen TV channel and Al-Saeeda, Sana’a radio, Al-Thawara newspaper and Sahafah.net (News crawler).

1.4 National Dialogue

- 10% of respondents always followed the activities of the national dialogue, and 50% sometimes, while 40%, mostly women, did not follow.
- The duration of the national dialogue was sufficient for 29% of respondents, long or very long for 33%, while 37% answered “I do not know”.
- Almost half of respondents were very interested in the national dialogue, while 36% were not interested; 15% were neither interested nor disinterested.
- The reasons by those who said they are interested ranged between “solving Yemen’s problems” at 57%, improving the economic situation at 16%, stopping war, reconciliation between Yemenis and doing away with the political impasse at 5% for each option.
- Similarly, the reasons for lack of interest ranged between busyness and lack of interest at 49%, not reflecting the problems and aspirations of respondents at
9% and lack of interest in the members of the National Dialogue Conference at 5%.

- About half of respondents (46%) have little knowledge about the outputs of the national dialogue, 10% have medium knowledge. Only 4% said they have full knowledge about the outputs of the national dialogue, while 40% of respondents, mostly women, said they know nothing about the outputs.

- The outputs of the national dialogue are fully applicable according to 18%, while 22% think most of the outputs are applicable, and some outputs are applicable to 30%. 10% believe they are inapplicable and 20% know nothing. The reasons for the inapplicability of the national dialogue conference are outputs are unrealistic and the society is highly divided.

- 63% of those who followed the national dialogue are completely or somewhat satisfied with the outputs of the national dialogue, while 20% are completely or somewhat dissatisfied with the outputs of the national dialogue and 17% opted for neutral.

- The majority of those who are satisfied about the outputs of the national dialogue belong to Sana’a and Al-Hodeidah provinces, while the majority of the dissatisfied belong to Aden and Lahj provinces.

- 60% of those who followed the national dialogue, most specifically in Aden and Al-Hodeidah, are completely or somewhat satisfied with the outputs of the national dialogue concerning state building and converting the country into a federal state, while 19% are completely or somewhat dissatisfied.

- About one third of respondents (32%) who followed the national dialogue, mostly in Al-Hodeidah and Sana’a, are completely satisfied with the outputs of the national dialogue as to the Southern Issue, and one fourth (25%) are somewhat satisfied and one third 33% are dissatisfied.

- 55% of respondents who followed the national dialogue are completely or somewhat satisfied with the outputs of the national dialogue concerning Sa’ada Issue, while 14% are completely or somewhat dissatisfied.
- Likewise, 60% are completely or somewhat satisfied with the outputs of the national dialogue concerning the army and security, while 14% are completely or somewhat dissatisfied. 27% opted for neutral.

- 54% are completely or somewhat satisfied with the outputs of the national dialogue relating to the sustainable development, while 13% are completely or somewhat dissatisfied with the outputs; 33% opted for neutral.

- Similarly, 57% are completely or somewhat satisfied with the outputs of the national dialogue relating to rights and freedoms, while 13% were dissatisfied. 31% opted for neutral.

- Southern issue was the issue to which more attention was given according to 39%, followed by Sa’ada issue (18%), building the army and security (14%) and state building 9%.

- The outputs of the national dialogue concerning state building are very clear or somewhat clear for 60% of respondents and unclear for 36%.

- The outputs of the national dialogue concerning transitional justice are very or somewhat clear for 52% of respondents and unclear for 33%.

- The outputs of the national dialogue concerning Southern Issue are very or somewhat clear for 65% of respondents and unclear for 27%.

- The outputs of the national dialogue concerning Sa’ada issue are very or somewhat clear for 58% of respondents and unclear for 26%.

- The outputs of the national dialogue relating to good governance are very or somewhat clear for 49% of respondents and unclear for 28%.

- The outputs of the national dialogue relating to army and security are very or somewhat clear for 57% of respondents and unclear for 30%.

- The outputs of the national dialogue relating to sustainable development are very or somewhat clear for 50% of respondents and unclear for 33%.

- The outputs of the national dialogue relating to good governance are very or somewhat clear for 53% of respondents and unclear for 29%.

- According to respondents, expatriates, marginalized groups, scholars, independents and youth are among the groups that were not represented in
the national dialogue. Political parties (67%) and President’s list (15%) were the most represented groups in the conference.

- 57% of respondents who followed the national dialogue are fully or somewhat confident that the outputs of the national dialogue will lead to solving Yemen’s persisting problems, while 22% do not. 21% opted for neutral.

- Likewise, 54% of respondents are fully or somewhat confident that the outputs of the national dialogue will lead to solving the persisting problems of respondents’ provinces, while 26% do not; 21% opted for neutral.

- 44% of respondents are fully or somewhat confident that the outputs of the national dialogue will lead to solving the personal problems of respondents and their families, while 34% do not. 21% opted for neutral.

- 44% of respondents, mostly in Aden, completely or somewhat support having Yemen turned into a federal state, while 50% completely or somewhat oppose. The reasons provided by those who oppose include the fears that this will lead to secession or because they prefer the current system.

- 28% support presidential system, 23% support parliamentary system, 15% favor the existing system and 35% answered with “I do not know”.

- As to the electoral system, 21% favor the proportional list system, 9% are for single-member plurality system, 4% support mixed systems, 16% favor the existing system and half of respondents (50%) do not know.

- As to the distribution of wealth once Yemen is turned into a federal state, 30% favor having the wealth exploited by the federal government who later distribute it equally among all regions, 17% favor having the regions manage their wealth under direct supervision of the federal government, while 15% believe it is the responsibility of the federal government, yet with having the producing region as the most favored; 39%, mostly women, do not know.

- 25% believe that the share of the producing region should be more than 60%, 37% stated it should be 50% and 40% according to 16% and 9% believe it should be 60%, while 7% know nothing.
• 37% of respondents, mostly in Aden and Lahj, favor representing the south Yemen at 50% in state institutions following the first electoral round and approving the constitution, while 43% oppose. The reasons for opposition include lack of equality with other regions, firming secessionism or negative discrimination.

• 65% support establishing a national authority for transitional justice while 35% opted for neutral.

• 37% completely or somewhat support abolishing the Ministry of Information and establishing a supreme independent authority to supervise the media, while 13% opposed and 11% opted for neutral; 42% know nothing.

• 66% completely or somewhat support not having civilians stand trial before military courts, while 6% support trying civilians before military courts. 20% do not know and 7% opted for neutral.

• 52% completely or somewhat support banning military and security personnel from participating in elections and referendums, while 17% oppose and 23% do not know.

• 63% completely or somewhat support banning military and security people from practicing political work while serving in the military or security, 10% oppose and 21% do not know.

• 41% completely or somewhat support merging political and national security apparatuses in one institution, while 7% oppose, 43% do not know and 9% opted for neutral.

• 54% completely or somewhat support forming a special commission of civilians to monitor and observe the adherence of intelligence apparatuses to the respect of human rights and freedoms, while 5% oppose and 63%, mostly women, know nothing.

• 85% completely or somewhat support banning military and security personnel from chewing Qat in camps and while in duty, and 6% oppose.

• 61% completely or somewhat support allowing the Central Organization for Control and Auditing (COCA) to exercise its administrative, financial and
legal audit of all military and security agencies, while 5% oppose and 29% know nothing.

- 70% completely or somewhat support not having any public official immune before financial control accountability, while 2% oppose and 23%, know nothing and 5% opted for the neutral.
- 62% completely or somewhat support lifting secrecy on financial disclosures, while 3% oppose and 30%, know nothing.
- 52% completely or somewhat support having the Supreme Commission for Elections and Referendum (SCER) supervise media outlets during elections and referendums, while 5% oppose and 36%, know nothing.
- 51% completely or somewhat support establishing an authority for parties and NGOs affairs, and 5% oppose and 37%, know nothing.
- 54% completely or somewhat support limiting terms of high ranking public officers to two terms, while 14% oppose and 24%, know nothing.

1.5 Constitution and Human Rights

- 97% of respondents consider having a legal text stipulating the respect and protection of human right to be very important.
- Similarly, 93% of respondents consider having a legal text dictating equal citizenship to be very important.
- 60% of respondents consider having a legal text dictating women’s empowerment to be very important, 22% consider it to be somewhat important and 9% consider it to be completely or somewhat unimportant.
- 91% of respondents believe that having a legal text dictating equal opportunity to be very important, 2% consider it to be unimportant and 7% know nothing.
- 89% of respondents consider having a legal text that bans discrimination to be very important, 3% consider it to be unimportant, while 7% said they know nothing.
• 64% of respondents consider having a legal text that guarantees the right to peaceful demonstration to be very important, 15% consider it to be unimportant, while 7% said they know nothing.
• 80% of respondents consider having a legal text that dictates the sovereignty of law to be very important, 5% consider it to be somewhat important, while 14% said they know nothing.
• 77% of respondents consider having a legal text that guarantees the right to access information to be very or somewhat important, 5% consider it to be unimportant, while 15% said they know nothing.
• 82% of respondents consider having a legal text that dictates social justice to be very or somewhat important, 2% consider it to be unimportant, while 15% said they know nothing.
• 89% of respondents consider having a legal text that regulates the relationship between the employee and the employer to be very or somewhat important, and 9% said they know nothing.
• The overwhelming majority of respondents (91%) consider having a legal text for the right to reparations and compensations to be very somewhat important, and 9% said they know nothing.
• Nearly all respondents (99%) consider having a legal text that dictates free education to be very important.
• 94% of respondents consider having a legal text that obligates education until completing secondary school to be very or somewhat important and 4% consider it to be unimportant.
• 83% of respondents considered having a legal text that dictates issuing a law to protect witnesses and whistleblowers to be very or somewhat important, and 16% stated they know nothing.
• 51% of respondents consider having a legal text that dictates establishing a supreme constitutional court to look into the unconstitutionality of laws to be very or somewhat important, while 7% consider it to be unimportant and 41%, mostly women, said they know nothing.
66% of respondents stated they will vote for the constitution if it dictates setting up a civil state, while 15% said they will not and 18% said they “do not know”.

40% of respondent said they will vote for the constitution if it dictates setting up a federal state, while 32% said they will not and 28% know nothing.

### 1.6 Women and Children

- 54% support equality of gender in terms of political participation while 40% oppose.
- 59% of respondents are for gender equality in terms of assuming public jobs, while 35% oppose and 6% know nothing.
- 28% of respondents support having 50% quota for women in public offices, while 25% believe they should get 30%, 18% believe it should be 20%, etc.
- 40% of respondents are a 50% women’s quota in elected bodies (parliament and local councils), while 14% believe it should be 20% and another 14% believe it should be 10% and 12% oppose women’s representation altogether.
- 52% of respondents believe that women’s representation in the national dialogue was sufficient, while 7% think it was insufficient and 41% know nothing.
- 44% of respondents believe that the best age for marriage is beyond 18 years, while 33% stated it should be 18 years, 8% said it should be 16 years, 5% said 17 years, and another 5% said it should be 15. 4% said it should be 14 years or less.
- One-fourth of respondents (25%) said a person is underage and is not legally accountable at 15 years, 18% said at 18 years, 16% said at less than 14 years and 14% said at 16 years, 11% said at 17 years, 8% said at 14 years and 7% said beyond 18 years.