# 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.