

DELEGATION: YEMEN

COMMITTEE: UNITED NATIONS ON DRUGS AND CRIME

ISSUE: **THE QUESTION OF GUN CONTROL**

Yemen has been devastated by a conflict that escalated in early 2015, when the Houthis seized control of much of the west of the country and forced the President to flee abroad. The data speak for themselves: at least 66 hundreds civilians have been killed and 10 thousands injured in the fighting.

Where a past history or suspected likelihood of family violence exists, the law in Yemen does not stipulate that a gun licence should be denied or revoked. As a matter of fact, the Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development, a diplomatic initiative aimed at addressing the interrelations between armed violence and development, was not signed by Yemen.

The regulation of guns in Yemen is categorised as permissive: private possession of fully automatic weapons, semi-automatic assault weapons and handguns such as pistols and revolvers is permitted under licence. Gun owners must re-apply and re-qualify for their firearm licence every three years, authorities maintain a record of individual civilians licensed to acquire, possess, sell or transfer a firearm or ammunition.

At any rate, Yemen is aware of the danger of carrying a firearm in plain view in a public place. Indeed private guns are prohibited in secret balloting, referendums, demonstrations, parades, official celebrations, sports and youth festivals and within official department.

Furthermore, Yemen strongly condemns illegal possession of firearms and is open to establish friendly relationships with the countries that care for this topic. Yemen is also willing to reach an agreement to guarantee the population's safety and welfare.

**DELEGATION:** *Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK)*

*United Nations Environment Assembly of the UNEP (ENV)*

**ISSUE:** *The question of light pollution and its effects on human kind*

During the last years people have become more aware of different types of pollution. However, light pollution is not given the needed attention, mostly because not many are aware of its effects. The presence of artificial light in nocturnal environments represents a major threat to the ecosystem, since it alters the natural rhythm of light and dark and thus, the biological clock of many species, causing animals to change their feeding and reproductive behaviours. Moreover, it also negatively effects plants as well as our health.

International action has been taken in response to this issue: numerous associations have initiated projects to raise awareness of its impact. In addition, many conferences have been held to discuss about the issue. Norms limiting the amount and intensity of allowed lighting have been set, yet they are frequently exceeded.

Although this kind of pollution is one of the main environmental issues in many countries worldwide, it does not directly regard us. Because of power shortages we have decided to save as much energy as possible starting from nocturnal illumination. For this reason, we are proud to affirm that our light pollution percentage is extremely low.

Despite light pollution currently not being a problem to us, we realize the seriousness of such issue and do not exclude the possibility of having to deal with it in the future. If so, we would be extremely cautious in our approach towards the spread of artificial light and therefore we intend to observe other countries and learn from their shortcomings in relation to the issue.

In any case, we invite countries suffering from light pollution to follow DPRK's example and consider limiting artificial lighting as much as possible. We are willing to share our point of view and suggest ways to implement it in other countries.

**DELEGATION:** Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK)

## **WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO)**

**QUESTION OF:** Access to healthcare in prisons

Nowadays, the question of human rights and healthcare services for inmates has become more and more important: the major leading countries, with the support of the most active and well-known world health organizations, have made strong efforts to improve health conditions in prisons.

Considering that living conditions in the Asian Continent are poorer and more critical than in the western part of the world, most Asian Countries, including North Korea, have always willingly accepted the valuable external help. We are constantly cooperating with organizations like UNICEF or WHO to improve health services in our country. In fact, we really want to enhance the living conditions of our inhabitants, both free citizens and detained ones.

North Korea is aware that vaccination is a basic human necessity: therefore, we have immediately accepted the precious aid provided by UNICEF, which supplies all the necessary vaccinations for our inhabitants, like vaccine anti yellow fever, anti hepatitis, anti encephalitis and anti measles.

Furthermore, North Korea retains that the main priority is to defeat tuberculosis and hepatitis b. Therefore, we have developed a specific health program for each disease, and we want to apply it to prisons, too. In fact, our National Health Service provides the fundamental medicines and health support to help ill citizens. We have also established a monthly Immunization Day, which educates our inhabitants to participate at public health activities.

Moreover, we are cooperating with the World Health Organization, promptly accepting and supporting their long-term technical assistance program to improve the general health conditions in our country, including prisons. North Korea has been supported by several ONGs from South Korea and the USA.

In conclusion, North Korea is making every effort to provide the best health conditions for all its citizens. Consequently, it is our deepest interest to maintain good relations with World Organizations and other States, and receive outside aids in the same way we have been doing up to now.

## **POLICY STATEMENT**

DELEGATION: YEMEN

FORUM: The World Health Organization (WHO)

QUESTION OF: The question of access to healthcare in prison

To describe the situation around the world we can say that more than 10 million people are incarcerated worldwide, and this number has increased by about a million in the past decade. Mental disorders and infectious diseases are more common in prisoners than in the general population. In many countries there are high rates of suicide within prison and increased mortality from all causes on release.

In our country there is a great need of healthcare, both for citizens and for prisoners, especially now that a civil war is in progress. The humanitarian situation deteriorates further each year as the civil war continues and intensifies. High standards of physical and mental health are a fundamental human right, which we cannot guarantee at the moment. We are also aware that prisoners suffer too many health problems as their health needs are neglected.

Yemeni health units provide the most basic curative and preventive care within an area of 3,000 to 5,000 people, which, although improving, does not cover more than 30% of the rural population and not more than 45% of the total population.

The main reform on this topic, the HSR strategy of 1998, focused on a decentralized health system, essential drug list policy, coordination between public and private sectors and more innovation. The reform was supposed to be carried out in two distinctive phases: the former to clarify the intervention strategies, the latter to implement the new ideas.

In order to improve the health conditions and bring more respect to the human rights we need the help of the other countries present at this conference because our resources are not sufficient. We would not be able to make a substantial improvement because we cannot increase the expenditure on health of the country's GDP which is of only 5.6%

**DELEGATION: Côte d'Ivoire**

**COMMITTEE: UNODC (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime)**

**QUESTION OF: Accessing Controlled Substances for Medical Purposes**

Côte d'Ivoire is against the use of drugs. We strongly believe that these substances can damage a person's life and everyone around him. It is scientifically proven that drugs, besides causing issues to the person himself, can be problematic also for the people around the individual since they can lead to violent bouts. To reduce the possibility of drug assumption our laws on this topic are very strict, leading to many years in prison in case of use, possession or traffick of drugs.

The topic of accessing controlled substances for medical purposes is widely discussed nowadays. It is known that some substances are able to diagnose, cure, treat, or prevent diseases. Drug therapy is an important part of the medical field and it relies on the science of pharmacology, for continual advancement, and on pharmacy for appropriate management.

Despite the awareness of these benefits Côte d'Ivoire is against the use of controlled substances for medical purposes. We strongly believe that there are other ways to cure illnesses which are as efficient as drugs and less risky since people could develop an addiction.

Due to the particular situation developed in the past years in Côte d'Ivoire, the government is not able to invest money on the researches, which are expensive and complex, that are required in order to increase the medicines that the population can use to cure diseases.

In conclusion, Côte d'Ivoire, despite being aware of the benefits of drugs in the medical field, is against their use for the reasons explained before and the lack of money is an obstacle for possible researches.