



CAIRO INSTITUTE
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS STUDIES
Institut du Caire pour les études des droits de l'homme
مركز القاهرة لدراسات حقوق الإنسان

United Nations Human Rights Council: Session 33
Oral Intervention: Item 10 Interactive Dialogue on Libya
Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies
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Thank you Mr. President,

The Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies welcomes the oral update by the Deputy High Commissioner and the SRSG on Libya.

It has been six months since Libya was discussed at this Council, and as the Deputy High Commissioner outlined “the situation has not improved.” Grave violations of international law continue to take place in the country in total impunity including indiscriminate attacks on civilians, extrajudicial killings, torture in detention facilities, attacks on civil society workers and journalists, and attacks on judges, courthouses, and lawyers.

Time and again, past and ongoing political deals that do not pay due regard to human rights guarantees and ensuring accountability for violations have failed. On Libya, the last several years have taught us a very clear lesson: Without addressing the prevailing impunity in the country, the cycle of violence will continue and no sustainable peaceful solution will be reached.

In March this year, the Council, in resolution 31/L20, urged the Libyan government “to investigate all violations and abuses of human rights, to hold those responsible to account, and to guarantee fair trials for the accused.” Six months later, as has been highlighted by the OHCHR and UNSMIL, the Libyan justice system “remains in a state of near-paralysis.”

The Human Rights Council and its member states have a duty to remain seized of the human rights situation in Libya. Looking forward, it is imperative that this Council’s action on Libya ensures that concrete steps are taken towards ensuring accountability and continued independent international investigations into all major IHL and IHRL violations. This Council has a duty to remind perpetrators of violations that consequences for their actions are a real possibility.

Thank you Mr. President.