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Urgent Motion from Yemeni Journalists Syndicate (YJS) on the forced disappearance of Yemeni Journalists held by the Houthi militia

The World Congress of the International Federation of Journalists meeting in Angers on 7th-10th June, 2016,

Noting the catastrophic safety and humanitarian situation facing journalists and their families in Yemen due to the ongoing war for the last two years. So far the conflict claimed the lives 17 journalists due to targeted attacks by armed groups and indiscriminate bombing of the Saudi led coalition. Hundreds were forced to flee the country due to attacks and threats, while the collapse of the Yemeni media sector has seen more than 90% of the media and journalists lose their jobs.

Condemning all attacks against journalists by militias and armed groups especially the incitement of violence from the Houthi leaders against journalists and the media which has resulted in an increase in attacks on journalists.

Expressing deep concerns for the lives of the 16 journalists who are held by the Houthi militia and where moved from Habra prison in Sana on 24 May to an unknown location three weeks after they went on a hunger strike, protesting the repeated torture and degrading treatment they have been subjected to while in detention.

The IFJ congress calls on the UN secretary general to urgently investigate these enforced disappearances as a breach of the UN SC Resolution 2222 on the safety and protection of journalists working in conflict zones and international humanitarian laws.

The congress instruct the IFJ Executive Committee to:

- To do whatever it takes to support the YJS to continue its vital role in its fight for the safety of journalists in the country.
- To support the YJS' efforts to resort to regional and international organizations and mechanism to put an end to the violate attacks, torture and abuse against journalists.
- To reject all attempts or settlements in Yemen which include granting impunity to all actors who were involved in the killing journalists of journalists.