

Oral Intervention – item public comments and statements - CESC Annual NGO Meeting - 23 February 2024

Thank you, Mr. President,

Libya Crimes Watch (LCW) would like to take this important opportunity to shed light on the reality experienced by workers in Libya, amidst the ongoing crisis and political division, which pose challenges to human rights and fundamental freedoms, including labor rights and women's rights.

Through our documented, we have found that unions and international organizations face difficulties in performing their tasks and providing necessary support to workers, due to restrictions and pressures imposed by authorities and armed groups. This clearly hinders the right to unionize and violates Articles 7 and 8 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Mr President

At the end of 2023, we documented the arrest of the head of the teaching staff union and four members of the teaching staff at Tripoli University by the Tripoli Internal Security Service ISS, due to their protest demanding improved salary conditions from the National Unity Government, Libya has not submitted its periodic reports to the committee since 2005, reflecting continued shortcomings in fulfilling its international obligations in the field of human rights and labor.

Therefore, we call the Committee on Economic and Social Rights to take immediate action to improve workers' conditions and ensure respect for women's rights in the workplace, and to enhance cooperation with civil society and international organizations.

Thank you