Mr. Secretary General, Mr. Under Secretary-General, Ministers, Excellencies,

I would like first of all to thank Sweden, Switzerland and the United Nations for organizing this conference. I am speaking on behalf of my Minister, who could unfortunately not join us today.

Thanks to you, this event allows the international community to remain mobilized for a country in distress, Yemen.

The immensity of humanitarian needs is known to all. The particularly alarming degradation of food insecurity and the outbreak of a famine putting at risk millions of lives is intolerable, as well as the continuation of attacks against populations and civil infrastructures.

We call on all parties to ensure a safe and unhindered humanitarian access to populations in need throughout the territory of Yemen, in particular in the areas controlled by the Houthis. For millions of Yemeni people, it is vital that humanitarian aid reaches them effectively and expeditiously.

Furthermore, we call for a cessation of hostilities, in particular of the offensive led by the Houthis in Marib, where about one million displaced people are located. We call for an immediate ceasefire. The time of war has to come to an end: it has lasted
for too long. We call for the resumption of negotiations. In this regard, France continues its constant commitment, in close coordination with the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen, towards a global and inclusive political solution.

In 2021, France will contribute to the humanitarian response in Yemen up to at least [to be confirmed tomorrow]. We have also substantially increased our unearmarked contributions to the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs as well as to the World Food Program.

Finally, I would like to commend the continued efforts of the United Nations and underline our willingness to work with David Gressly, the new United Nations Humanitarian Coordinator for Yemen.

Our unity is more necessary than ever to put an end to the plight endured by the Yemeni people.

I thank you./.