

Yemen

Flash Update 1 | 29 January 2018

Situation Overview

Heavy clashes erupted in Aden on 28 January between forces loyal to the Southern Transitional Council (STC) and the internationally recognized Government of Yemen (GoY). Small and heavy gunfire was heard in the morning near the enclave in Khor Maksar district, where UN offices are located.

In the afternoon, the fighting drifted away from Khor Maksar towards Crater district, near the area where the Presidential Palace is located. As clashes continued, President Hadi and Prime Minister Ahmed bin Dagher called on their forces to cease fire and return to their barracks. Despite these calls, tension and sporadic fighting continued. Heavy gun fire continues in the area around Crater as of this morning.

Tension remains high in Aden where the STC reportedly took control of some official facilities including the transport military base in Khor Maksar. In Alrood square, pro-STC demonstrators have gathered, in response to a call last week by the STC for their supporters to gather to demand a cabinet reshuffle, including the removal of the Prime Minister. Aden airport and sea port are closed until further notice.



Implications on the humanitarian situation

- As of 29 January, one hospital has confirmed receiving four dead and 50 wounded as result of the violence. However, unconfirmed reports indicate that up to fifteen people may have been killed while some 185 have been wounded.
- The security situation has restricted staff movements in and outside Aden. Humanitarian flights into Aden are on hold due to the closure of Aden's airport and WFP's vessel remains in international waters off Aden due to the closure of the seaport.
- Planned missions and assessments from Aden Hub have been put on hold until the security situation improves.
- The closure of the airport has temporarily halted the movement of people who need to travel outside the country for humanitarian reasons such as medical treatment.

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