

**RELEASE IN
FULL**

From: Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>
Sent: Saturday, April 16, 2011 3:35 PM
To: H
Subject: Fw: Thousands denounce Yemen leader's remarks on women (AP)

From: OpsNewsTicker@state.gov [mailto:OpsNewsTicker@state.gov]
Sent: Saturday, April 16, 2011 09:33 AM
To: NEWS-Mahogany
Cc: SES-O_OS; SES-O_SWO
Subject: Thousands denounce Yemen leader's remarks on women (AP)

SANAA (AP) - Thousands of Yemenis have demonstrated against the president after he criticized the participation of women in anti-government protests.

On Friday, President Ali Abdullah Saleh said in a speech that the mingling of men and women at "Change Square," where daily anti-government protests take place in the capital, was against Islamic law.

On Saturday, demonstrators countered that his comments were an insult to women and the people of Yemen as a whole.

Thousands of women marched in Sanaa and several other cities to denounce the comments.

The revolutionary youth who have been behind the two months of anti-government protests in this impoverished country, urged the people to come out to the streets in millions on Sunday for a day of "honor and dignity."

NewsTickers alert senior Department officials to breaking news. This item appears as it did in its original publication and does not contain analysis or commentary by Department sources.