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Draft report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Syrian Arab Republic

* The annex to the present report is circulated as received

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Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its twenty-sixth session from 31st October to 11 November 2016. The review of Syrian Arab Republic was held at the 2nd meeting on 31 October 2016. The delegation of Syrian Arab Republic was headed by Mr. Hussam Edin AALA, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations Office at Geneva. At its 10th meeting held on 4 November 2016, the Working Group adopted the report on Syrian Arab Republic.
2. On 12 January 2016, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Syrian Arab Republic: Bangladesh, Botswana, and Paraguay.
3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Syrian Arab Republic:
 - (a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/26/SYR/1);
 - (b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/26/SYR/2);
 - (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/26/SYR/3).
4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Czechia, Germany, Mexico, Slovenia, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America was transmitted to Syrian Arab Republic through the troika. These questions are available on the extranet of the UPR.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The Syrian Arab Republic delegation reviewed developments since its first report, including implementation of accepted recommendations, and described challenges stemming from terrorist armed groups actions supported and financed from abroad and by the economic unilateral measures. The Syrian State was obliged to preserve security and the lives of its citizens by combating the crimes and massacres perpetrated by the terrorist groups and foreign terrorists, who entered Syrian territory from neighbouring countries to fight alongside terrorist organizations.
6. The Israeli occupation of the Syrian Golan since 5 June 1967 constituted the main impediment to the exercise by Syrian citizens of the occupied Golan of their economic, social, cultural, political and civil rights, owing to the oppression and arbitrary detention practiced by the Israeli occupation forces, and the discriminatory policies that deprived the rightful owners of Syrian land of their natural resources through the confiscation of their land and sources of livelihood for illegal settlement schemes in violation of international law, international humanitarian law and relevant Security Council resolutions, particularly resolution 497 (1981).

7. The national report described the normative and institutional framework for the promotion of human rights, highlighting the Constitution adopted in 2012 and the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights it enshrined. It described the impact of the crisis on human rights, and the exceptional circumstances in which the Government was seeking to comply with its obligations. The report reviewed the impact of terrorism on the right to life, security, dignity, health, education, employment, food and a decent standard of living. It described the systematic destruction of basic facilities and of public and private property by terrorists; their methods of manslaughter, enslavement, bondage and forced labour; violation of the freedom of religion and belief and the right to celebrate religious rights; forced marriage and child marriage; recruitment of children; systematic kidnapping; and collective punishment through deprivation of water and electricity. It also highlighted the impact of unilateral coercive measures on Syrian citizens' enjoyment of the right to housing, food, medicines, healthcare, education and transport, and on the right to development. It highlighted the scale of human losses inflicted by air raids conducted by the illegal alliance led by the United States under the pretext of combating terrorism.

8. The Delegation described the steps taken to implement a comprehensive national reform programme and the adoption of laws in support of democracy and human rights. The Constitution served as a guideline for the actions of the State and its institutions and as a source of legislation. It enshrined the basic principles of independence and sovereignty, the rule of the people based on elections, political pluralism, protection of national unity, cultural diversity, public freedoms, human rights, social justice, equality of opportunity, citizenship and the rule of law.

9. The Government had organized and engaged in several rounds of dialogue among Syrians. In parallel with its efforts to combat terrorism, the Government had opted for national reconciliation in order to halt the shedding of Syrian blood and to restore normal living conditions and public services to areas cleared of armed groups. Reconciliation process had produced successful results in a number of areas and amnesty decrees had been adopted. The most recent was Decree No. 15 issued by President Bashar al-Assad on 28 July 2016, which had been extended for three months on 27 October 2016.

10. As for the accepted recommendations calling for a peaceful settlement based on national dialogue, the Government adopted the approach of inter-Syrian dialogue, with a view to achieving a political settlement to the crisis that would enable Syrians to exercise their inalienable right to determine the future of their country without foreign interference. The Government continued to seriously advocate a comprehensive national dialogue involving all Syrians, as the only means, alongside combating terrorism, for ending the crisis.

11. As for the development of national legislation, a legal reform plan developed in 2012, provided for the review and enactment of several laws pertaining to women's and children's rights and civil and political rights. The Code of Civil Procedure had been amended, steps were being taken to amend the Criminal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure, and the draft law on child's rights is almost completed. Practical steps had been taken to implement the Act on Combating Trafficking in Persons and to criminalize the involvement of children in armed conflict.

12. With regard to cooperation with the HRC mechanisms, the Government had hosted the Special Rapporteurs on internally displaced persons, the right to health and the right to food. It was considering requests for visits from the Special Rapporteur on violence against women and the Working Group on mercenaries. It had invited the Special Rapporteur on unilateral coercive measures. It had twice received the SRSG for Children and Armed Conflict and the SRSG on Sexual Violence in Conflict. It was awaiting a visit from the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth.

13. International Commission of Inquiry had adopted, since its establishment, a selective and politicized approach. Micromanagement of the Commission's work by States involved in the war against Syria, by means of politicized resolutions circulated in the Council before each report, had converted the Commission and its reports into an utterly biased platform against the Syrian Government.

14. The Government had submitted periodic reports and follow-up reports to the CRC and the CEDAW. The submission of a second national report to the UPR Working Group reaffirmed its commitment to a constructive interactive dialogue, in addition to its voluntary commitments to promote the universality of human rights.

15. The Government is about to establish a national human rights institution that complied with the Paris Principles.

16. As for the recommendations concerning the strengthening of national mechanisms to investigate human rights violations, the criminal courts tried all cases of violence and enforced disappearance and prosecuted the perpetrators pursuant to the relevant Syrian legislation. As for the right to freedom and amendment of the regulations governing detention, article 17 of the Code of Criminal Procedure concerning the period for which suspects could be detained in the case of offences against State security and public safety had been amended. A Joint Military Investigation Committee was created to investigate complaints against army and police officers. The Committee had investigated complaints and disciplinary penalties had been imposed while those found guilty were referred to relevant courts. A total of 282 complaints had been dealt with by the Committee prior to the preparation of the report. The definition of the crime of torture in the new draft Criminal Code was in line with the CAT. As for the protection of persons from enforced disappearance, Act No. 20 of 2013 criminalized all forms of kidnapping and prescribed severe penalties for the perpetrators.

17. As for humanitarian access, Syria cooperated with United Nations and other international organizations under successive response plans based on the guiding principles laid down in UNGA resolution 46/182, primarily respect for the sovereignty of States and their territorial integrity and national unity, and compliance with the principles of neutrality, humanitarianism and impartiality. The Government's approach was based on the principle that meeting the humanitarian needs of its people constituted a permanent and fundamental obligation.

18. As for the measures taken by the Government to facilitate access for humanitarian organizations, the steps required to obtain consent from the authorities' for humanitarian assistance and relief convoys had been reviewed and reduced from eight to just two measures.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

19. During the interactive dialogue, 71 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

20. The Islamic Republic of Iran indicated that the country was facing a terrorist insurrection, which gravely affected human rights. It shared concerns about difficulties ensuring rights of children in the occupied Syrian Golan.

21. Iraq welcomed the efforts made to respect international human rights treaties given the crisis which has prevailed since 2011, and the attacks perpetrated by terrorist groups.

22. Ireland condemned atrocities committed by the Syrian Arab Republic and its allies, including the deliberate targeting of civilians, suppression of protests, forced displacement and mass detention without trial.

23. Syrian Arab Republic raised a point of order, it pointed out that speakers were required, pursuant to resolution 5/1 of the Human Rights Council, to use diplomatic language when addressing the Universal Periodic Review Working Group.
24. The President of the Human Rights Council encouraged all speakers to use standard United Nations terminology in the interactive dialogue.
25. Israel stated that the national report presented an imaginary picture. It was appalled by the atrocities perpetrated in the country, including the use of gas and barrel bombs against its own people.
26. Italy deplored the gross violations of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic and considered the government as the primary responsible. It was extremely concerned about violations perpetrated in Aleppo.
27. Japan condemned the use of siege and starvation as a mean of warfare and the extreme limitation imposed on access to daily necessities as well as repeated attacks on medical facilities.
28. Lao People's Democratic Republic noted that despite the conditions the country was experiencing, the government had demonstrated efforts to strengthen human rights, particularly to empower women.
29. Latvia recalled its concerns regarding the human rights situation in the Syrian Arab Republic as it expressed on previous occasions, particularly in the Human Rights Council (HRC).
30. Luxembourg expressed concern regarding the security and humanitarian situation in the country. It deplored that many of the recommendations accepted during the first cycle had not been implemented.
31. The Maldives condemned the human rights violations committed in the Syrian Arab Republic and urged all parties to the conflict to end violence in favour of a political solution.
32. Mexico expressed concern with the worsening of the human rights situation in the country. It encouraged the Syrian Arab Republic to improve its cooperation with the international human rights system.
33. Montenegro asked what progress had been made to ensure the protection of children from recruitment as child-soldiers. It encouraged the government to enhance cooperation with treaty bodies and special procedures.
34. Namibia was concerned over the conflict in the country, which impacts the region and the world. The loss of lives and financial implications of the conflict are horrendous and should be stopped.
35. The Netherlands stated that after millennia this Syrian government had succeeded in just a few years in destroying the entire meaning of Syrian civilization.
36. New Zealand remained concerned at the grave and deteriorating human rights situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, which both helped cause the current conflict and was exacerbated by it.
37. The delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic rejected to be offered lessons in human rights by Israel, given its long record in violating all human rights as documented in many United Nations reports. The Israeli Occupation was exploiting the current situation in the region to consolidate its occupation of the Golan, in flagrant violation of relevant Security Council resolutions particularly 497 and by supporting AlNusra Front terrorists along the disengagement zone.

38. The Syrian Armed Forces complied fully with obligation to protect civilians from the atrocities committed by armed terrorist groups. The situation in Aleppo afforded conclusive evidence of these heinous crimes, including the indiscriminate shelling of residential neighborhoods, markets, schools and hospitals in western parts of the city by terrorist groups holding some parts of the city and using civilians there as human shields.

39. Concerning humanitarian assistance to the so called besieged areas, the sieges were not imposed by the Government but by the armed terrorist groups. The Government is cooperating with the United Nations in the delivery of assistance to all areas. According to the available data, monthly relief had been provided under the response programmes, in cooperation with humanitarian agencies, to about 4.5 million beneficiaries in all parts of the country without exception. Since the beginning of 2016, the Government had facilitated the implementation of additional monthly response plans aimed at providing assistance to unstable areas, in cooperation with UN humanitarian agencies and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). According to the latest High Relief Committee data, humanitarian and health-care assistance had been provided to 1,553,402 beneficiaries in 79 districts during the period from January to August 2016.

40. As for Aleppo, the Government had complied with her obligations under the agreement between the United States and the Russian Federation on a cessation of hostilities, while the groups supported by the United States had continued to attack army positions and residential areas. Six safe passages had been created for humanitarian relief and two passages for evacuation of militant. However, the armed groups had targeted the passages and threatened those attempting to flee.

41. As for comments concerning the recruitment of child soldiers, the State had ratified the OP-CRC-AC. Act No. 11 of 2013 had amended the Criminal Code to criminalize the recruitment of children. A national committee was established to document violation to child's rights, to combat child recruitment by armed groups, and to treat those children as victims.

42. The Government was prepared to cooperate with Council mechanisms that secured a consensus and not with those conducive to polarization. The results of the votes in the HRC on resolutions pertaining to the COI's work demonstrated the scale of the discord concerning its mandate.

43. Responding to Luxembourg the delegation stressed that the so called barrel bombs do not exist in the Syrian army records and the army uses conventional weapons targeting only terrorists who threaten civilians.

44. With regard to chemical weapons, the Government invited the United Nations to conduct an inquiry into the first incident that had occurred in Aleppo in 2013 and the same governments raising concerns now delayed the process at that time. Syria is party to the Chemical Weapons Convention and is committed to fulfilled its obligations, and have provided OPCW with information on the storage and use of such weapons by terrorist groups in several parts of the country. The Government condemns the use of chemical weapons by terrorists on the Syrian territories.

45. The delegation reassured Slovenia and Namibia that the Government is considering all aspects of cases of discrimination against women and is determined to address them in the next stages.

46. Nicaragua reiterated its solidarity with the people and the government of the Syrian Arab Republic, as they have faced for several years an internal conflict exacerbated by external aggression.

47. Nigeria noted that despite the challenges the country is facing, caused by both internal and external factors, the government had reaffirmed its determination to observe the Charter and international law.
48. France stated that the bombing of civilians, the targeting of humanitarian actors and hospitals, and the use of famine as a weapon carried out by Syria and its allies could constitute war crimes.
49. Pakistan encouraged the Syrian Arab Republic to continue implementing UPR recommendations. It remained concerned by violence and human rights abuses committed by all parties to the conflict.
50. Portugal was concerned about the Syrian Arab Republic's human rights and international humanitarian law violations, the verified cases of recruitment and use of children in hostilities and of child abduction.
51. The Republic of Korea regretted the disgraceful human rights violations of the Syrian Government, and the killing, arbitrary detention, torture, summary execution of, and sexual violence against, the Syrian population.
52. The Russian Federation said that Syria had been tackling humanitarian problems and providing services. It must also meet its obligations under international humanitarian law and human rights law.
53. Rwanda reminded the Syrian Government of its responsibility to protect its population, and condemned the widespread and systematic violations of international human rights and humanitarian law.
54. Sierra Leone encouraged more efforts to stop trafficking and end sexual violence and slavery. All parties must cease airstrikes to enable humanitarian assistance to reach those in need. It emphasized that international humanitarian norms must be respected.
55. Singapore was concerned over the humanitarian crisis, urging the government to do its utmost to alleviate the impact of the conflict and uphold the human rights of Syrians, particularly women, children and the elderly.
56. Slovenia was gravely concerned at the continuing reports of human rights violations against the most vulnerable groups and at the cycle of violence and loss of human life in Syria.
57. Spain welcomed the delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic and appreciated its involvement in the UPR.
58. Sudan considered that the coercive unilateral measures exacerbated the bad situation and impeded the enjoyment of fundamental rights. It urged all parties to end violence, encouraging peaceful solution to the humanitarian crisis.
59. Sweden noted that the humanitarian situation in Syria continues to deteriorate in besieged areas and humanitarian deliveries continue to be severely hampered by a number of factors.
60. Norway was concerned about reports of systematic violations of international humanitarian and human rights law by the authorities. It noted reports that the government carried out attacks and bombardments against civilians.
61. Thailand remained concerned about the deteriorating situation and violations of human rights due to the intensification of attacks, particularly against civilians and medical facilities. Thailand called upon all parties to exert all efforts to end destruction and violence, and to reach peace.

62. The delegation deplored French allegations of war crimes, and called on them to convey their recommendations to their own authorities, especially since French warplanes, acting as part of the illegal American led alliance, had killed 120 civilians in Syria in May 2016.
63. Despite exceptional circumstances and challenges Syria is facing, the State had fully implemented the majority of recommendations accepted in the first cycle.
64. The Government is preparing a national strategy for women and a program to respond to GBV. Access to education had been secured to 4 million children this year.
65. The State accepted Security Council resolutions mentioned by Sweden, but underlined as well the importance of relevant Council resolutions concerning terrorism (2170, 2178 and 2253).
66. The Delegation said secret detention centers do not exist in Syria, rejecting allegations of torture and arbitrary detention by certain delegations. The Government cooperated voluntarily with ICRC allowing them to visit prisons
67. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia condemned the use by the Syrian authorities of barrel bombs, cluster ammunitions, and weapons causing immense atrocities among civilian population, and urges lifting the blockade to the besieged areas most affected by the conflict.
68. Turkey categorically rejected baseless allegations made in Syria UPR national report and noted that the suffering of Syrian people had reached level beyond imagination. The Syrian authorities had to be held accountable for its crimes against humanity.
69. Ukraine stated that the Government did not take appropriate measures to protect human rights and ensure their application in practice, and urged Syrian authorities and all parties to the conflict to allow immediate and sustained humanitarian access throughout Syria.
70. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland condemned the constant and appalling abuse of human rights in Syria, killing of civilians and arbitrary arrests involving hundreds of thousands. It noted that Syria was rightly subject to the Human Rights Council's most stringent mechanisms.
71. United States of America stated that since the 2011 uprising, the government continued to engage in flagrant violations, atrocities and abuses, documented by the UN Commission of Inquiry. It reiterated its call for an immediate end to all violations and abuses, and for the accountability of perpetrators.
72. Uruguay thanked Syria for the presentation of the national report and regretted the situation of extreme violence across the country, with serious effects on the civilian population.
73. Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) noted that the Syrian Government has reiterated its commitment to human rights through its participation in the UPR. Venezuela repeated its support to Syria for keeping national unity and the fight against terrorism.
74. Algeria noted the difficult situation of the country which is engaged in a five-year war against terrorism. Algeria also made reference to the Government's efforts to decrease the impact of the crisis on civilians.
75. Angola congratulated the Government for the continued cooperation with the human rights mechanisms but noted with concern the deterioration of the humanitarian situation. Angola urged all parties to the conflict to exhaust all diplomatic options to put an end to hostilities.

76. Argentina noted with regret that hospitals, medical units and staff, humanitarian convoys, international bodies as well as schools had been targeted by military action against existing international norms.
77. Australia condemned violations, abuse of human rights and international humanitarian law committed in Syria and stated that not only the Government failed in protecting the human rights of its people, but itself committed some of the conflict's worst atrocities.
78. Austria indicated that the violations of international humanitarian law and the accountability of the Syrian Government for the horrors suffered by the Syrian people all along the conflict had been dealt with by the HRC in regular and special sessions.
79. Belarus was concerned with the unilateral coercive measures and considered that the restoration of peace was the paramount condition to ensure the respect for human rights and was particularly concerned about the violation of the right to life.
80. Belgium deplored the systematic and widespread gross violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, in particular enforced disappearances, arbitrary arrest and the impact of the conflict on children.
81. Botswana took note of the efforts made by Syria to address human rights issues despite a long political crisis. Botswana believed that only a stop to hostilities could bring the country towards peace and stability.
82. Brazil acknowledged the Syrian Government's efforts to protect religious minorities in an increasingly deteriorating scenario.
83. Burundi welcomed the engagement of the Syrian Government for the improvement of the human rights situation despite the difficult situation prevailing in the country due to terrorism. Burundi appreciated the Government efforts to re-establish peace and security throughout the country.
84. Canada considered that the Syrian government and its backers' indiscriminate attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructures, including deliberate targeting of medical facilities and personnel, amounted to gross violations of international humanitarian and human rights law.
85. Chile was concerned at the lack of substantial progress towards peace in Syria, condemned all violations of international human rights and humanitarian law by all parties to the conflict and expressed solidarity to all victims.
86. China stated that Syria's sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity must be fully respected and that the international community should seek an acceptable solution to the conflict to all within a Syrian led process.
87. Costa Rica condemned the violent repression of civilian protests and the widespread violations of human rights and International Humanitarian Law committed by all parties.
88. Croatia called on all sides to allow humanitarian aid to reach Aleppo. It especially encouraged Syria to fully cooperate with the international community in this regard.
89. Cuba reiterated its trust that the Syrian people will be able to solve their differences by themselves and called for an end of foreign interference in domestic affairs.
90. Czechia appreciated Syria's response to some of its advanced questions and expressed grave concern about the suffering of civilians.
91. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea commended Syria's efforts to protect human rights while combating terrorism and wished it success in its struggle to defend its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

92. Denmark strongly condemned the gross human rights violations committed by Syria and deplored the attacks on essential civilian infrastructure. It reminded Syria of its duty to implement Security Council resolutions 2139 and 2254.
93. Ecuador acknowledged Syria's efforts to follow up on the recommendations from the first UPR, especially in the midst of the escalating violence by terrorist and irregular armed groups supported by other states in violation of its sovereignty.
94. Egypt was concerned with the human rights developments resulting from the war. Calling on the Council to contribute within its mandate in solving the root causes including the support and the proliferation of terrorist groups. It supported the international efforts in achieving peace.
95. El Salvador expressed concern over the human rights situation of vulnerable groups suffering the consequences of the armed conflict. El Salvador called on all parties to search for lasting solutions.
96. Estonia noted that Syria failed to comply with its obligations under international law and that those responsible for war crimes and crimes against humanity must be held accountable. It called upon all parties to cease hostilities and urgently ensure access of humanitarian aid.
97. Finland regretted the significant deterioration of the human rights situation due to Syria's disregard for its international and domestic obligations. It stressed the importance of implementing an inclusive political transition process.
98. Switzerland was concerned at the extent of the humanitarian crisis in Syria, the systematic use of torture and the independence of the judiciary, and called the Government to take all available measures to protect civilians.
99. Georgia expressed its solidarity with the Syrian people and remained concerned at the extremely grave human rights and humanitarian situation.
100. Germany stated that it felt awkward to hold a 'standard UPR session' on Syria as the gravest human rights violations were at the same time going on in the country.
101. Ghana encouraged the government to continue the UN-backed dialogue towards resolving the conflict.
102. Guatemala called for immediate cessation of all violations of human rights and international humanitarian law and for an unfettered access of humanitarian aid.
103. The Holy See welcomed the delegation of Syria and the presentation of its second national UPR report.
104. Hungary was gravely concerned by the attacks on civilians carried out by all parties but mainly by Government forces. It emphasized the need for a negotiated political solution and a full cessation of hostilities.
105. Iceland called for an immediate end of indiscriminate aerial bombardments, use of heavy and chemical weapons and destruction of civilian infrastructure. It stressed that widespread impunity and rejection of cooperation with the OHCHR, in particular the Commission of Inquiry, was not acceptable.
106. Indonesia appreciated Syria's active participation in the UPR and hoped that it maintained its commitment to engage with other human rights mechanisms. It called on all parties to immediately end all human rights and humanitarian law violations.
107. The delegation stated that denial does not relieve Turkey from its responsibility of opening its borders to supporting terrorism in Syria and for exploiting and trading the humanitarian suffering of Syrians for political and financial benefits.

108. Commenting on the UK, the delegation stressed that legitimacy of Governments come from their People not from other Governments seeking to revive extinct colonial glories. He rejected Britain and the United States recommendations calling on those delegates to direct them to their own Governments which should refrain from supporting terrorism and attacking Syrian sovereignty and halt their mendacious campaigns.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations**

109. The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue/listed below will be examined by the Syrian Arab Republic which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the thirty-fourth session of the Human Rights Council in March 2017:

109.1. Consider the ratification of all core human rights conventions (Algeria);

109.2. Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aimed at the abolition of the death penalty (Montenegro) (Uruguay) (Rwanda);

109.3. Ratify the Optional Protocols to the ICCPR, CEDAW and CAT (Guatemala);

109.4. Become party to the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (El Salvador);

109.5. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (Uruguay);

109.6. Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Uruguay);

109.7. Ratify and accede to the ICPPED and withdraw its reservations to Articles 2 and 15 (4) of the CEDAW (Sierra Leone);

109.8. Ratify the Arms Trade Treaty (Uruguay);

109.9. Ratify the Convention on Cluster Munitions and the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (Holy See);

109.10. Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Uruguay) (Croatia); Accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Montenegro);

109.11. Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and accede to the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court (Sweden);

109.12. Accede to the Rome Statute and adapt national legislation including by incorporating provisions to rapidly and fully cooperate with the International Criminal Court (Guatemala);

109.13. Ratify and effectively implement the Rome Statute of the ICC, the ICPPED and the OP-CAT (Czechia);

** The conclusions and recommendations have not been edited

- 109.14. Amend the Penal Code and Criminal Code to eliminate mitigated sentences for rapists who marry their victims for so called “honour crimes” (Sierra Leone);
- 109.15. Adopt national legislation criminalising domestic violence (Sierra Leone);
- 109.16. Enact the Child Rights Bill (Maldives);
- 109.17. Strengthen its institutional framework to allow it to defend its sovereignty and protect the human rights of its people (Nicaragua);
- 109.18. Continue to promote dialogue with all States, on the basis of mutual respect, sovereign equality, self-determination and the right to choose their own political, economic and social system (Democratic People’s Republic of Korea);
- 109.19. Implement Security Council Resolutions in order to facilitate a (peaceful) political transition led by the Syrian people based on the Geneva communique (Guatemala);
- 109.20. Implement the cessation of hostilities agreement to achieve a full comprehensive ceasefire which will provide the grounds for improving human rights (Egypt);
- 109.21. Continue protecting its population from the effects of unilateral coercive measures imposed on the country, and consider establishing a national mechanism to monitor and assess the negative impact of such measures on the country (Nicaragua);
- 109.22. Continue taking measures to face the perverse effects of the illegal coercive unilateral measures imposed on the country by some powers (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));
- 109.23. Establish a national mechanism to monitor and assess the negative effects of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights of the Syrian people (Democratic People’s Republic of Korea);
- 109.24. Continue disclosing human rights violation by Israeli regime in the Occupied Syrian Golan and in other Arab territories (Iran (Islamic Republic of));
- 109.25. Continue its efforts for the full realization of the rights of Syrian children in the occupied Syrian Golan (Iran (Islamic Republic of));
- 109.26. Continue strengthening the State’s institutions for the protection of its people, giving special attention to the defence of human rights (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));
- 109.27. Consider the possibility of establishing a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Russian Federation);
- 109.28. Consider establishing an independent National Human Rights Institution in accordance with the Paris principles (Algeria);
- 109.29. Strengthen the works of all existing national human rights institutions in Syria (Indonesia);
- 109.30. Adopt a national plan to promote and protect the rights of all women and girls, in particular those victims of the conflict, making sure that resources for its implementation are available (Chile);

- 109.31. **Cooperate with the UN Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria in order to immediately establish a negotiated and sustainable ceasefire in Aleppo (Italy);**
- 109.32. **Work jointly with the mechanisms of the United Nations system, in particular the Secretary General's Special Envoy (Argentina);**
- 109.33. **Continue cooperating with the international community to alleviate the effects of the crisis on Syrian citizens (Nicaragua);**
- 109.34. **Preserve its model of peaceful coexistence of different religious faiths and cultural identities, which was working so well in Syria until a few years ago; Continue raising awareness about the dangers of excluding ideologies (Nicaragua);**
- 109.35. **Continue the effort to restore security and stability as well as achieving a national comprehensive reconciliation (Nigeria);**
- 109.36. **Intensify its efforts to cooperate with the international community to alleviate the repercussions of the crisis on Syrian citizens (Nigeria);**
- 109.37. **Cooperate with the internal United Nations Board of Inquiry for its investigation of attacking the United Nations-Syrian Arab Red Crescent relief operation (Republic of Korea);**
- 109.38. **Bring in humanitarian assistance, including food and medical supplies, to all needy civilians without discrimination (Egypt);**
- 109.39. **Ensure full and unhindered humanitarian access in compliance with Security Council resolutions 2139, 2165, 2191, 2258 and 2268 (Sweden);**
- 109.40. **Continue to engage all international bodies which are involved in the implementation of humanitarian assistance such as ICRC, IOM and UNHCR (Indonesia);**
- 109.41. **Immediately open humanitarian access and to unconditionally permit the access of the United Nations Independent International Commission of Inquiry (Italy);**
- 109.42. **Issue a standing invitation to all thematic special procedures and cooperate fully with the UN human rights mechanisms including the Independent International Commission of Inquiry (Rwanda);**
- 109.43. **Cooperate fully with OHCHR, UN Human Rights Council and its mechanisms, in particular the United Nations Independent International Commission of Inquiry (Latvia);**
- 109.44. **Allow access to its territory to the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic and cooperate fully with the Commission (Luxembourg);**
- 109.45. **Allow the Independent International Commission of Inquiry access and to carry out its work freely (Mexico); Cooperate with the Independent International Commission of Inquiry and allow it to access to Syria (Sierra Leone);**
- 109.46. **Allow access to the country by the Independent International Commission of Inquiry (Portugal);**

- 109.47. **Implement all recommendations of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, while fully cooperating with the Commission and allowing it access into Syria (New Zealand);**
- 109.48. **Facilitate humanitarian access to civilians, lift the blockade on all besieged areas and grant full and unimpeded access to the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic (Slovenia);**
- 109.49. **End impunity through a thorough independent inquiry into all human rights violations allegations, as previously recommended, including by giving access to the independent International Commission of Inquiry on Syria (Spain);**
- 109.50. **Cooperate with the Human Rights Council and to allow full access to the Independent International Commission of Inquiry in its territory (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia);**
- 109.51. **Provide the Independent International Commission of Inquiry of Syria with full cooperation (Uruguay);**
- 109.52. **Allow full access to and cooperate fully with the UN Commission of Inquiry and civil society monitors (Australia);**
- 109.53. **Organize on-site visits of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic and establish a dialogue with the Commission (Brazil);**
- 109.54. **Adopt a policy of cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner and with the UN human rights mechanisms, including the Independent International Commission of Inquiry and allow these mechanisms to visit the country (Chile);**
- 109.55. **Provide and ensure unfettered access to the country for the International Independent Commission of Inquiry (Costa Rica);**
- 109.56. **Start full cooperation with the Commission of Inquiry including ensuring access to the country so that it may carry out its mandate (Croatia);**
- 109.57. **Ensure immediate and unhindered access of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry and special procedures of the Human Rights Council to the country and provide them with all necessary assistance (Czechia);**
- 109.58. **Cooperate fully with relevant United Nations authorities, in particular guaranteeing access to the Syrian territory for the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Syria. (Switzerland);**
- 109.59. **Provide without delay unhindered, safe and sustained access and full cooperation to independent human rights actors, including the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Syria and special procedures mandate holders (Georgia);**
- 109.60. **Grant full access to the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic to allow the Commission to undertake investigations inside the country and thus to enable it to fulfill its mandate to investigate all alleged violations of international human rights law since March 2011 in the Syrian Arab Republic (Germany);**

- 109.61. Allow complete and unfettered access to the Independent International Commission of Inquiry and implement all Human Rights Council resolutions on the human rights situation in Syria (Guatemala);
- 109.62. Fully cooperate with the Independent International Commission of Inquiry (Iceland);
- 109.63. Fully cooperate with the UN and the international community to resume the political process as soon as possible (Japan);
- 109.64. Continue supporting international efforts to find a peaceful solution to the crisis, through Syrian-Syrian dialogue, led by Syria in a spirit of peace and reconciliation, and without foreign interference, based on the principles of mutual respect, sovereign equality, self-determination and the right of peoples to choose their own political, economic and social systems (Nicaragua);
- 109.65. Redouble its efforts towards reaching a political settlement to the crises in Syria through comprehensive dialogue with all parties (Sudan);
- 109.66. Continue its efforts to strengthen national reconciliation and national dialogue (Sudan);
- 109.67. Continue international cooperation and support international efforts in reaching a peaceful and comprehensive settlement to the crises in Syria (Sudan);
- 109.68. Continue participating in opportunities for the search of an end to the crisis, and achieve peace and stability in the country, under the principles of respect of independency, international legality and sovereignty of Syria (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));
- 109.69. Continue supporting dialogue and international efforts to move towards a political solution, which is exclusive responsibility of the Syrian people in its own right to self-determination without any foreign interference (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));
- 109.70. Continue to seek a political solution to the crisis based on dialogue and conciliation between the Syrian parties without foreign intervention in the internal affairs of Syria (Algeria);
- 109.71. Resume efforts to find a negotiated political solution to bring an end to the Syrian people's tragedy (Argentina);
- 109.72. Continue endeavors to advance the process of political settlement of the Syrian issue (China);
- 109.73. Maintain the position that the solution to the crisis in the country is political, and should be based on a national dialogue under the aegis of the Syrian people and without preconditions (Cuba);
- 109.74. Work diligently to stop the war and end the conflict in Syria through bringing all efforts to achieve a political settlement by the Syrian themselves and have control over it in accordance with Geneva Communiqué (Egypt);
- 109.75. Renew all efforts to foster dialogue and to find a political solution to the ongoing conflict so as to bring stability to society through the protection of the human rights of all civilians (Holy See);
- 109.76. Respect and fully engage with international efforts towards a political settlement (Iceland);

- 109.77. Facilitate and enhance the dialogue process among all relevant stakeholders in Syria in order to find a lasting peaceful solution and to immediately end any form of violence and destruction of civil and public facilities (Indonesia);
- 109.78. Continue its efforts towards national reconciliation (Cuba);
- 109.79. Cooperate with the United Nations human rights mechanisms (Republic of Korea);
- 109.80. Extend a standing invitation to all special representatives of the United Nations (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia); Issue standing invitations to all special procedure mandate holders (Ghana);
- 109.81. Make efforts to improve cooperation with human rights mechanisms and special procedures by extending to them a standing invitation (El Salvador);
- 109.82. Cooperate with the Working Group on Enforced Disappearances (Belgium);
- 109.83. Allow independent access to UN entities, including to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, to all areas to enable them monitor the prevailing human rights situations (Ghana);
- 109.84. Strengthen the deployment of specific measures to foster the rights of vulnerable social groups, including among others children, adolescents, women, refugees and internally displaced people, as well as persons with disabilities among others (Ecuador);
- 109.85. Immediately implement Security Council Resolution 1325 and related resolutions on women, peace and security, including by taking special measures to protect women and girls from gender-based violence and to hold perpetrators of such acts accountable (Finland);
- 109.86. Continue and strengthen efforts in the fight for gender equality (Nicaragua);
- 109.87. Strengthen and expand the relevant legal provisions for the promotion of the rights of women, in particular strengthening their autonomy and advancing their participation in political, economic and social life (Nicaragua);
- 109.88. Take steps to incorporate provisions on gender equality and discrimination against women in the Constitution or national legislation (El Salvador);
- 109.89. Continue to enhance women's empowerment and greater represent women in all sectors (Lao People's Democratic Republic);
- 109.90. Amend the Citizenship Law of 1969, which prevents women from granting citizenship to their children, to ensure women's right to grant citizenship to their children (Namibia);
- 109.91. Conduct a review of the Personal Status Law and other relevant laws which will remove the provisions discriminatory towards women such as those not granting them guardianship of their children, disabling them from travelling with their children on their own or not allowing them transferring their citizenship to their children (Czechia);

- 109.92. **Repeal all discriminatory provisions in the Personal Status Code and ensure equality of rights between men and women (Ghana);**
- 109.93. **Protect the rights of children (Pakistan);**
- 109.94. **Continue to protect human rights and especially the rights of children (Angola);**
- 109.95. **Immediately comply with its obligations under international law and abolish the use of illegal weapons (Portugal);**
- 109.96. **Stop and investigate military operations targeting civilians and their facilities, especially in Aleppo (Republic of Korea);**
- 109.97. **Ensure that all violations of international humanitarian and human rights law cease immediately (Rwanda);**
- 109.98. **Cease all violations of international humanitarian and human rights law, including indiscriminate attacks on medical workers and facilities, schools, civilian infrastructure and the civilian population (Slovenia);**
- 109.99. **Protect civilians and civilian infrastructure, in accordance with international humanitarian law and customary international law, and stop its indiscriminate aerial bombardments, including the use of barrel bombs (Sweden);**
- 109.100. **Step up measures to bring an end to attacks against hospitals and their personnel, humanitarian and health units, and humanitarian convoys and bring perpetrators to justice (Argentina);**
- 109.101. **Take all measures to protect civilians especially women and children, and cease the use of explosive weapons in populated areas (Botswana);**
- 109.102. **Immediately cease all acts of violence and abuses committed against civilians, and allow for effective, timely and unfettered delivery of humanitarian assistance, particularly in hard-to-reach and besieged areas (Canada);**
- 109.103. **Protect the civilian population in the armed conflict with particular emphasis on the rights to life, food, education and health, including through protection of the medical impartiality, and ensure accountability for all cases of violations and abuses of international human rights law and international humanitarian law (Czechia);**
- 109.104. **Take immediate measures in order to comply with the obligations under international humanitarian law and international human rights law (Georgia);**
- 109.105. **Abide by the laws of war, especially by immediately ending all deliberate, indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks against civilians (Hungary);**
- 109.106. **Immediately end all human rights violations and repression against the civilian population (Iceland);**
- 109.107. **End the indiscriminate bombing of residential areas, and the targeting of civil facilities, including schools and hospitals (Italy);**
- 109.108. **Cease without any delay deliberate and indiscriminate attacks against civilians, as well as targeting hospitals and schools, including through the use of barrel bombs and chemical weapons (Luxembourg);**

- 109.109. Cease all bombings and ground attacks, including those conducted with the aid of its allies (Maldives);
- 109.110. Immediately cease all violations of international humanitarian law, including all targeted or indiscriminate attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructure and on medical facilities and personnel, and also immediately cease the use of indiscriminate weapons (New Zealand);
- 109.111. Put an end to indiscriminate attacks on civilians, ensure the protection of hospitals and medical staff and allow passage of humanitarian relief (Spain);
- 109.112. Immediately cease all aerial bombardments over Aleppo (Norway);
- 109.113. Cease immediately all bombing and indiscriminate attacks with any sort of ammunition, against civilians and civilian assets, such as hospitals and schools (Uruguay);
- 109.114. Comply with its binding legal obligation to protect citizens, desist from the use of illegal arms and adopt the necessary measures so that, in line with the report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry, the indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks on the civilian population cease immediately (Costa Rica);
- 109.115. Abide by international humanitarian law, including by refraining from all deliberate, indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks against civilian population and civilian infrastructure such as medical facilities (Finland);
- 109.116. End all indiscriminate bombings of residential areas, hospitals and all other civilian targets with immediate effect (Germany);
- 109.117. Take all necessary measures to avoid the bombing of medical units, respect the principle of medical neutrality and grant special protection to medical units as allowed by international law (Ghana);
- 109.118. Fulfil its obligations, including under the Chemical Weapons Convention and international humanitarian law, and cease all deliberate, indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks against civilians (Australia);
- 109.119. Authorize and facilitate medical evacuation of civilians (Brazil);
- 109.120. Undertake measures to ensure respect for the basic rights of the people, such as rights to food and safe drinking water, as well as welfare, such as health care, during the time of conflict (Thailand);
- 109.121. Strengthen the protection of hospitals and school's infrastructures in conflict zones (Angola);
- 109.122. Cease attacks and prevent further strikes on medical facilities (Australia);
- 109.123. Take measures to allow for immediate, safe and unimpeded access of humanitarian assistance to all persons in need, allow for the visit of humanitarian agents to all places of detention and protect humanitarian agents and medical personnel operating in areas under siege or hard-to-reach (Brazil);
- 109.124. Cooperate fully with the United Nations to ensure rapid, safe and unhindered humanitarian access to those in dire need (Botswana);
- 109.125. Facilitate unimpeded humanitarian access to civilians in all areas affected by the current civil war (Rwanda);

- 109.126. **Enable full and unimpeded humanitarian access to all besieged and hard to reach areas and that all parties to the conflict take constructive actions (Japan);**
- 109.127. **Allow access of humanitarian personnel to vulnerable populations in need of assistance and cooperate fully with the United Nations humanitarian organizations (Maldives);**
- 109.128. **Urgently provide essential and indispensable food and medical supplies to besieged areas and facilitate the arrival of unrestricted humanitarian aid and assistance, in particular to the areas most affected by the conflict (Namibia);**
- 109.129. **Immediately allow unrestricted humanitarian access to all areas, particularly those defined by the UN as besieged and hard to reach, on the basis of needs identified by the United Nations and its implementing partners (New Zealand);**
- 109.130. **Guarantee and widen humanitarian access (Republic of Korea);**
- 109.131. **Provide immediate, full, unhindered and sustained humanitarian access to the country (Norway);**
- 109.132. **Allow access without restrictions for UN humanitarian assistance and independent humanitarian organisations (Uruguay);**
- 109.133. **Take concrete measures to facilitate and ensure access to humanitarian assistance especially for affected civilians and vulnerable groups in conflict areas (Thailand);**
- 109.134. **Avoid besieging, and ensure for the population access to food, basic services and medical assistance (Uruguay);**
- 109.135. **Facilitate access for humanitarian aid and humanitarian personnel to the Syrian territory, especially in remote areas and areas most affected by the conflict (Chile);**
- 109.136. **Redouble efforts to establish safe and neutral corridors for humanitarian evacuation (Costa Rica);**
- 109.137. **Strengthen efforts focusing on facilitating and ensuring access of humanitarian aid, particularly to the areas of armed conflict, and on protecting the civilian infrastructure, including hospitals and schools, including by maintaining and strengthening cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross (Ecuador);**
- 109.138. **Facilitate rapid and unrestricted humanitarian access for UN humanitarian agencies in order to provide assistance to all civilians in need (Georgia);**
- 109.139. **Immediately grant full and unconditional humanitarian access for the United Nations to the entire country, especially to the territories under siege by Syrian government forces (Germany);**
- 109.140. **Grant unimpeded access by humanitarian personnel to populations in need of assistance (Ghana);**
- 109.141. **Ensure full and unhindered humanitarian access in the territories under the control to all people in need (Hungary);**

- 109.142. **Allow for free and unimpeded access of human rights observers, humanitarian organizations, medical teams and ambulances to affected areas (Iceland);**
- 109.143. **Allow the UN humanitarian agencies full and unconditional country-wide humanitarian access (Latvia);**
- 109.144. **Ensure the safe passage without risk of attacks of humanitarian convoys, allowing for safe, unhindered and sustained humanitarian access, and the evacuation of civilians in need of medical assistance (Luxembourg);**
- 109.145. **Guarantee unrestricted and unconditional access for medical personnel and vehicles and humanitarian assistance, particularly in the city of Aleppo, which has been severely affected in recent weeks (Mexico);**
- 109.146. **Ensure accountability for the systematic and widespread violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law that are being committed on a large scale throughout the Syrian Arab Republic by all parties, some of which may amount to crimes against humanity (Portugal);**
- 109.147. **Hold all those responsible for violations and abuses of international law, including human rights law and international humanitarian law, accountable in accordance with international standards (Sweden);**
- 109.148. **Allow for thorough, transparent and independent investigations into all reports of alleged human rights violations and abuses, as well as violations of international humanitarian and human rights law since March 2011, and bring the perpetrators to justice (Canada);**
- 109.149. **Combat impunity by ensuring that all persons guilty of what could constitute war crimes or crimes against humanity are brought to justice (Luxembourg);**
- 109.150. **Lift immediately sieges and allow full, sustained and unimpeded humanitarian access to civilians in need (Australia);**
- 109.151. **Establish a moratorium on the death penalty as an interim measure before its abolition and the implementation by the Syrian Arab Republic of its human rights obligations, including the core international human rights treaties (Portugal);**
- 109.152. **Put an end to enforced disappearances and torture in all places of deprivation of liberty, as well as extrajudicial executions (Luxembourg);**
- 109.153. **Offer redress for the many enforced disappearances and summary executions (Spain);**
- 109.154. **Investigate and hold to account persons involved in cases of enforced disappearances, arbitrary detention and acts of corruption or extortion associated therewith, and communicate the findings of such investigations to the victims' families (Brazil);**
- 109.155. **Immediately halt the practice of enforced disappearance, arbitrary arrest and detention, and the systemic use of torture, and meet its obligations as a state party to the Convention against Torture (Canada);**
- 109.156. **Put an end at the practice of torture, inhumane and degrading treatment in detention facilities and sexual violence, especially against women and children (Spain);**

- 109.157. **Immediately end all acts of torture and stop the arrests of human rights defenders, journalists and political dissidents (Norway);**
- 109.158. **Prohibit and punish all acts of torture perpetrated by security services, governmental armed forces or affiliated militias (Chile);**
- 109.159. **Stop the widespread use of torture, enforced disappearances and arbitrary detention (Uruguay);**
- 109.160. **Prohibit the use of torture, respect the principle of medical neutrality and the special protections granted to medical units by International Humanitarian Law, and protect and support humanitarian workers in their work (Costa Rica);**
- 109.161. **Cease the unacceptable practices of unlawful detention and torture, allow in independent observers and immediately release all prisoners of conscience (Australia);**
- 109.162. **Take legislative and concrete measures to prevent the use of torture as well as bring to justice those responsible for such violations. (Switzerland);**
- 109.163. **Take all steps necessary to stop immediately the practice of torturing detainees in formal and informal detention facilities run by the government and militias affiliated with it (Austria);**
- 109.164. **End all practices of arbitrary abduction, torture and murder in detention facilities. All persons unjustifiably detained must be released immediately; all others must be treated according to international standards. Full international monitoring must be permitted (Germany);**
- 109.165. **Prohibit and prevent torture in all its forms, particularly of children, and end alleged human rights violations committed by security forces and armed groups (Ghana);**
- 109.166. **Make every effort to impede the use of torture, to assure humane conditions for prisoners in conformity with international standards and to abide by international humanitarian law (Holy See);**
- 109.167. **Immediately release human rights defenders and other prisoners of conscience, particularly those detained and imprisoned for participating in peaceful demonstrations since March 2011 (Canada);**
- 109.168. **Stop arbitrary detention and release all those unfairly and indiscriminately arrested as previously recommended (Spain);**
- 109.169. **Respect international obligations and release all political detainees and immediately stop the use of all kinds of inhumane or degrading treatment, including torture, as well as to grant relevant international organizations, such as the ICRC, access to all detention facilities and to inform families of detained or deceased persons of their whereabouts and mental and physical state (Sweden);**
- 109.170. **Grant full access to enable international monitoring of detention facilities under the control of the government and its supporters (Austria);**
- 109.171. **Ensure that adequate medical care is available to all persons in detention facilities maintained by the government and militias affiliated with it (Austria);**
- 109.172. **Allow independent international monitoring bodies unconditional access to detention facilities in order to perform their functions (Belgium);**

- 109.173. **Release all those found to be unduly or arbitrarily detained (Brazil);**
- 109.174. **Inform families about the whereabouts of persons in detention facilities and regularly publish lists of detainees who have died in detention facilities operated by the government and militias affiliated with it (Austria);**
- 109.175. **Publish a list of all detainees in places under its control, together with information on the grounds for their detention (Brazil);**
- 109.176. **Draft and adopt legislation to end violence and discrimination against women (Maldives);**
- 109.177. **Protect women from sexual violence and abuse (Pakistan);**
- 109.178. **Take concrete steps to stop sexual violence against women and girls and ensure that victims are given protection and assistance with their recovery (Singapore);**
- 109.179. **Include the women's rights perspective in the peace negotiations and specifically to ensure that sexual violence concerns are raised consistently in the peace process and reflected in any peace agreement (Slovenia);**
- 109.180. **Protect women and girls from child, early and forced marriage (Sierra Leone);**
- 109.181. **Prohibit early and forced marriages (Ghana);**
- 109.182. **Guarantee effective protection of child rights, including access to education and protection from child labor (Belgium);**
- 109.183. **Adopt urgently measures to protect all children from the impact of the conflict, prohibit the recruitment, kidnapping, abuse and sexual violence of children by the parties to the conflict, and punish perpetrators of these violations (Chile);**
- 109.184. **Adopt the measures necessary to protect and demobilize minors forcibly recruited as combatants, so that those responsible for such acts are brought to justice (Mexico);**
- 109.185. **Protect children by ensuring the full and immediate demobilization of all children; the prohibition of forced recruitment of children into armed forces and the prosecution and punishment of those responsible for forcibly recruiting children (Portugal);**
- 109.186. **Implement and strengthen measures to protect the rights of the child, including preventing and combating the recruitment of child soldiers and trafficking in children (Singapore);**
- 109.187. **Put an end to the recruitment and use of children by all parties to the conflict in Syria. Children should be treated primarily as victims and those in detention should be freed and put in the care of those responsible for child protection (Luxembourg);**
- 109.188. **Continue its efforts in combatting trafficking in human beings and providing psychological, social and legal assistance to victims (Russian Federation);**
- 109.189. **Ensure the prompt, impartial and effective investigation into and put a stop to arbitrary detentions, harassment and persecution against human rights defenders (Slovenia);**

109.190. Increase access to electricity, basic sanitation, and running water (Maldives);

109.191. Continue efforts to provide full access to basic medical services and education and to protect children from the worst forms of child labour (Holy See);

109.192. Ensure equal access to education for all vulnerable people, including women, children and persons with disabilities (Lao People's Democratic Republic);

109.193. Provide access to education to children (Pakistan);

109.194. Take effective steps to address the educational needs of all children even in these difficult conditions (Singapore);

109.195. Step up efforts for the protection of schools with a view to ensure that education may continue (Argentina);

109.196. Strengthen its cooperation with national and international non-governmental organizations in providing assistance to internally displaced persons (Russian Federation);

109.197. Reinforce policies to address the needs of migrants and refugees by providing for the safe and voluntary return of refugees and internally displaced persons to their homes and ensuring the rehabilitation of affected areas in accordance with international law (Holy See);

109.198. Strengthen its efforts to increase shelter options for internally displaced persons (Iran (Islamic Republic of));

109.199. Continue its combat against terrorism to restore security and stability in Syria and pave the way for return of displaced persons to their homes (Iran (Islamic Republic of));

109.200. Develop programmes of compensation and reintegration for the victims of terrorism (Russian Federation);

109.201. Join hands with international community to prevent and fight terrorism (China);

109.202. Provide appropriate assistance and rehabilitation to the victims of terrorism according to relevant national laws and within the available resources (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);

109.203. Put in place such guarantees, in particular public hearings and the right to appeal, including in the framework of the fight against terrorism, in order to ensure fair trial. (Switzerland).

110. The recommendations listed below did not enjoy the support of the Syrian Arab Republic and would thus be noted:

110.1. Accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, so that the atrocities committed in Syria could be subject of a rigorous and impartial exam by an independent court (France);

110.2. Implement fully the Geneva Communiqué 2012 and Security Council resolution 2254 (Ukraine);

110.3. Allow the Independent International Commission of Inquiry of the United Nations to go to Syria in order to pursue its work and investigations in

conformity with the mandate assigned to it by the Human Rights Council and to fully cooperate with this Commission (France);

110.4. **An end to attacks on civilians, and granting of unfettered access to humanitarian organisations, and independent international human rights monitors, particularly the UN Commission of Inquiry (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

110.5. **Cease violence against civilians immediately and enter into good faith negotiations on a political solution to the conflict (United States of America);**

110.6. **Stop violating international human rights and humanitarian law (Turkey);**

110.7. **Comply with international human rights law and international humanitarian law in immediately ceasing its excessive, indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks on civilians (Ireland);**

110.8. **Stop bombing its own civilian population, including with the use of barrel bombs, chemical weapons and incendiary bombs contrary to International Humanitarian Law (Netherlands);**

110.9. **Cease bombardments, the use of chemical weapons, attacks against civilians and immediately lift all sieges (France);**

110.10. **Stop the aerial bombardments and the indiscriminate attacks against civilians (Ukraine);**

110.11. **Stop using chemical weapons as documented by the relevant UN organs (Turkey);**

110.12. **Allow immediate, complete, continued, and unimpeded humanitarian access to all populations in need on the whole territory, in particular in besieged and hard to reach areas (France);**

110.13. **Grant unfettered access to humanitarian assistance, including besieged and hard-to-reach areas (United States of America);**

110.14. **Allow the UN and other international organizations to access those in need, particularly in all besieged and hard-to-reach areas (Ukraine);**

110.15. **Live up to all its obligations under international humanitarian law and international human rights law and provides immediate, full and unhindered humanitarian access to all populations in need throughout Syria (Denmark);**

110.16. **Lift all restrictions on humanitarian access to populations in need of assistance in particular to besieged and hard-to-reach areas and ensure the safe evacuation of those civilians who wish to leave, particularly those in Aleppo and 15 other territories that the UN has classified as besieged by Syria (Ireland);¹**

¹ The recommendation as read during the interactive dialogue: “Lift all restrictions on humanitarian access to populations in need of assistance in particular to besieged and hard-to-reach areas and calls for the safe evacuation of those civilians who wish to leave, particularly those in Aleppo and 15 other territories that the UN has classified as besieged by the regime;” A point of order was raised by the Syrian Arab Republic on the need for UN standard terminology to be used when addressing the Universal Periodic Review Working Group.

110.17. **Stop the Sieges of Syrian cities and towns, including East-Aleppo, in breach of international humanitarian law. Humanitarian access must be immediately ensured to all the Syrian people in need (Netherlands);**

110.18. **Respect the right to life and stop killing your own people (Turkey);**

110.19. **Stop the widespread practice of enforced disappearances, arbitrary detention and the use of sexual violence, torture and ill-treatment in its detention centres. This includes granting international monitoring bodies immediate access without undue restriction to all detainees and to publish a list of all detention facilities (Denmark);**

110.20. **Stop the systemic ill-treatment and torture (Turkey);**

110.21. **Release all those who are arbitrarily detained and put an end to torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of detainees, including those belonging to the moderate opposition that started the non-violent protest against the government (Netherlands);**

110.22. **Immediately free unconditionally all persons arbitrarily detained by the Syrian authorities, as a priority women, children and older persons (France);**

110.23. **The release of the thousands of Syrians unlawfully detained, especially women and children (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

110.24. **Cease egregious abuses against prisoners; allow for immediate, unfettered access to and medical services for all detainees; and release Syrians who have been arbitrarily imprisoned and held without trial (United States of America);**

110.25. **Stop collaborating with Daesh, Al-Nusrah Front and other terrorist organisations (Turkey);**

110.26. **Investigate the torture and death of 18,000 detainees in its prisons since March 2011, and publish a clear report on the subject (Israel);**

110.27. **Investigate the numerous cases of aerial bombardments (Israel);**

110.28. **Adopt measures against those responsible for the use of chemical weapons and hold them accountable (Israel).**

111. Those recommendations listed in paragraphs 110.1-110.25 did not enjoy the support the Syrian Arab Republic as it considers that they were presented by governments of member states who are parties in the war against the Syrian Arab Republic or adopt extreme hostile positions against Syria.

112. The Syrian Arab Republic considered that the recommendations in paragraphs 110.26-110.28 could not be accepted, because the Syrian Arab Republic does not recognize Israel, and considers that they are submitted by an occupying power to part of the Syrian territory.

113. All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Syrian Arab Republic was headed by Mr. Hussam Edin Aala, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations Office at Geneva and composed of the following members:

- Mr. Abdulmaola Al Nuqari, Minister Counselor to the Syrian Mission;
 - Ms. Rania Al Haj Ali, Counselor to the Syrian Mission;
 - Dr. Yaser Kilzy, Consultant in the Ministry of Interior;
 - Mr. Ali Daghman, First Secretary to the Syrian Mission.
-