

## **Resolution on Syria – draft 17 August**

### **TITLE**

Grave human rights violations in the Syrian Arab Republic

### **PP1**

*Guided by the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006,*

### **PP2**

*Recalling its resolution S-16/1 of 29 April 2011, which requested the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to urgently dispatch a mission to the Syrian Arab Republic to investigate all alleged violations of international human rights law.*

### **PP3**

*Recalling further the statement by the President of the UN Security Council of 3 August 2011, in which the Security Council expressed its grave concern at the deteriorating situation in Syria, condemned the widespread violations of human rights and the use of force against civilians by the Syrian authorities and called on the Syrian authorities to alleviate the humanitarian situation in crisis areas by ceasing the use of force against affected towns, to allow expeditious and unhindered access for international humanitarian agencies and workers, and cooperate fully with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights,*

### **PP4**

*Welcoming the recent briefing of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights to the UN Security Council on the human rights situation in Syrian Arab Republic,*

### **PP5**

*Welcoming also recent statements of the UN Secretary-General calling upon the Syrian authorities to immediately cease all violence against their people and to fully respect human rights,*

### **PP6**

*Supporting the recent statements of the UN High Commissioner and the statement of the Human Rights Council Special Procedures on the human rights violations in the Syrian Arab Republic,*

### **PP7**

*Expressing deep concern following the statement issued by the special advisors of the UN Secretariat General on the prevention of genocide and the responsibility to protect who considered that the scale and gravity of the violations indicate a serious possibility that crimes against humanity may have been committed and continue to be committed in Syria,*

**PP8**

*Bearing in mind the recent statements of the SG of the OIC, the Arab League, the Gulf Cooperation Council, the European Union and other regional organizations expressing their concerns over the human rights situation in the Syrian Arab Republic,*

**PP9**

*Also bearing in mind diplomatic demarches of several countries, including neighbouring countries,*

**OP1**

*Welcomes* the report of the High Commissioner on the human rights situation in Syria, expresses profound concern about its findings and decides to transmit the final report of the Office of the High Commissioner's fact finding mission, mandated by the Council at its 16<sup>th</sup> Special Session to the United Nations Security Council ;

**OP2**

*Strongly condemns* the continued grave human rights violations by the Syrian authorities, including arbitrary executions; excessive use of force and lethal violence, against peaceful protesters, enforced and involuntary disappearances; arbitrary detention; torture and systematic persecution and intimidation of peaceful protesters, human rights defenders and journalists;

**OP3**

*Deplores* the continued indiscriminate attacks on its population and calls upon the Syrian authorities to cease immediately all acts of violence against its population;

**OP4**

*Reiterates its call* upon the Syrian authorities to immediately put an end to all human rights violations and acts of violence, to protect their population and to fully comply with their obligations under international law;

**OP5**

*Reiterates its call* upon the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to release immediately all prisoners of conscience and arbitrarily detained persons, as well as to cease immediately any intimidation, persecution and arbitrary arrests of individuals, including lawyers, human rights defenders and journalists;

**OP6**

*Urges* the Syrian authorities to ensure timely, safe and unhindered access by/for all humanitarian actors and to ensure the safe passage of humanitarian and medical supplies into the country;

**OP7**

*Urges* further the Syrian authorities to allow independent and international media to operate in Syria without undue restrictions; to allow access to the Internet and telecommunications networks and to lift censorship on reporting;

**OP8**

*Urges* the Syrian authorities to allow for an inclusive, credible and genuine national dialogue conducted in a environment without fear and intimidation aimed at effectively addressing the legitimate aspirations and concerns of the Syrian population aimed at the promotion and protection of their human rights;

**OP9**

*Stresses* the need for an international, transparent, independent and prompt investigation into alleged violations of international law, including actions which may constitute crimes against humanity and to hold those responsible to account;

**OP10**

*Reinforces* the call upon the Syrian authorities to fully cooperate with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and with Human Rights Council mechanisms and expresses its deep regret over the lack of such a cooperation by the Syrian authorities;

**OP11**

*Encourages* relevant thematic special procedures mandate holders, within their respective mandates, to continue to pay particular attention to the human rights situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, and urges the Syrian authorities to cooperate with these thematic mandate holders, including by allowing country visits;

**OP12**

*Decides* to urgently dispatch an independent international commission of inquiry, to be appointed by the President of the Council, to investigate violations of international human rights law in Syria since July 2011, to establish the facts and circumstances which may amount to such violations and, where possible, to identify those responsible, with a view of ensuring that perpetrators of violations are held accountable.

**OP13**

Requests the Commission of Inquiry to report as soon as possible to the Council and in any case before end November 2011; and recommends that the findings of the Commission of Inquiry be transmitted to the UN Secretary General and relevant bodies;

Calls upon the Syrian authorities and other relevant states to fully cooperate with the Commission of Inquiry;

**OP14**

*Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide the full administrative, technical and logistical support needed to enable the commission of inquiry to carry out its mandate;

**OP15**

*Reiterates* its request to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights to present, in an interactive dialogue at the 18<sup>th</sup> session, an oral update on her recent findings regarding the human rights situation in Syria;

**OP16**

*Requests* the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and the President of the Human Rights Council to report on the implementation of this resolution to the Council at its 19<sup>th</sup> session.

**OP17**

*Decides* to remain seized of the matter.