



Oral Revisions

Human Rights Council

Twentieth session

Agenda item 4

Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

United States of America: draft resolution

20/... Situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic

The Human Rights Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 66/176 of 19 December 2011 and 66/253 of 16 February 2012, Human Rights Council resolutions S-16/1 of 29 April 2011, S-17/1 of 22 August 2011, S-18/1 of 2 December 2011, 19/1 of 1 March 2012, 19/22 of 23 March 2012 and S-19/1 of 1 June 2012, and Security Council resolutions 2042 (2012) of 14 April 2012 and 2043 (2012) of 21 April 2012;

Calling for the urgent, comprehensive and immediate implementation of all elements of the six-point proposal of the Joint Special Envoy of the United Nations and the League of Arab States, Kofi Annan, as annexed to Security Council resolution 2042 (2012) without any preconditions, and *recalling* the 30 June 2012 Action Group Ministerial;

Reaffirming also its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic and to the principles of the UN Charter;

Recalling the statements made by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights before the Security Council that crimes against humanity are likely to have been committed in the Syrian Arab Republic, and *noting* her repeated encouragement to the Security Council to refer the situation to the International Criminal Court;

Noting the oral update provided by the Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic during the Interactive Dialogue on June 27, 2012, including on its special inquiry into the events in El-Houleh, and *expressing deep concern* about its report that the significant majority of victims were reported to be women and children who had been deliberately killed in their homes;

1. *Strongly condemns* the widespread, systematic and gross violations of human rights; acts of violence; on-going atrocities; and indiscriminate targeting of civilians by the Syrian authorities; *also condemns* the human rights violations and crimes that members of the government-controlled militia "Shabiha" continue to commit against the Syrian people;



2. *Strongly condemns* the continued extrajudicial killings; the killing and persecution of protestors, human rights defenders and journalists; arbitrary detention; enforced disappearances; interference with access to medical treatment; torture; and ill-treatment; and *condemns in particular* the targeted killing of children, and the fact that children have been subject to arbitrary arrest, detention, and torture and ill-treatment, including sexual violence;
3. *Demands* that the Syrian authorities release all persons arbitrarily detained, and immediately allow access of independent human rights monitors to all detention facilities, in particular those facilities where torture has been alleged to have occurred;
4. *Deplores* the alarming humanitarian and human rights consequences of the lack of implementation of the Joint Special Envoy of the United Nations and the League of Arab States six-point plan, and calls for the urgent, comprehensive and immediate implementation by all sides of all its elements without any preconditions and in the sequence prescribed by the plan;
5. *Reiterates* its urgent call upon the Syrian authorities to put an immediate end to all violence and all human rights violations, and to meet its responsibility to protect the Syrian population;
6. *Reiterates also* that all violence in all its forms by all parties must cease;
7. *Demands* an immediate end to all attacks against journalists and media outlets; *demands also* that independent and international media be able to operate in Syria without restrictions, harassment, intimidation or risk to life;
8. *Stresses* support for the aspirations of the people of Syria for a peaceful, democratic, pluralistic society, in which there is no room for sectarianism, or discrimination on ethnic, religious, linguistic or any other grounds, based on the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms;
9. *Urges* the Syrian authorities to immediately and fully implement the agreed humanitarian response plan, including by granting immediate, safe, unimpeded and full access of humanitarian organizations to all areas of the Syrian Arab Republic;
10. *Invites* all relevant United Nations agencies, in particular the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to continue to provide support to Syrian refugees and their host countries;
11. *Reiterates also* the importance of bringing to justice those responsible for the widespread and systematic use of violence against the Syrian people;
12. *Underscores* the importance of the recommendation of the Commission of Inquiry that the Syrian people, on the basis of broad, inclusive and credible consultations, should determine, within the framework provided by international law, the process and mechanisms to achieve reconciliation, truth and accountability for gross violations, as well as reparations and effective remedies for the victims;
13. *Emphasizes* the continued importance of the efforts of the Commission of Inquiry to conduct international, transparent, independent and unfettered investigations into alleged violations of international human rights law with a view to hold to account those responsible for such violations, including for those that may amount to crimes against humanity;

14. *Encourages* the international community to ensure that there is no impunity for such crimes, stressing that the Syrian authorities have failed to prosecute alleged perpetrators of such crimes;
15. *Looks forward* to the full report of the commission of inquiry, to be presented to Human Rights Council at its twentieth-first session in September 2012;
16. *Recognizes* that the commission will need additional resources in order to completely fulfill its mandate;
17. *Calls upon* the Syrian authorities to cooperate fully with the commission of inquiry, including by granting it immediate, full and unfettered access throughout the Syrian Arab Republic, *noting* the unofficial visit of Commissioner Paulo Pinheiro;
18. *Decides* to transmit all reports and oral updates by the commission of inquiry to all relevant bodies of the United Nations and the Secretary-General for appropriate action;
19. *Recalls* the standards for Council membership as set forth in paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 60/251; and
20. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

