

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 66/176 of 19 December 2011 and 66/253 of 16 February 2012, as well as Human Rights Council resolutions S-16/1 of 29 April 2011,<sup>1</sup> S-17/1 of 23 August 2011, S-18/1 of 2 December 2011, S-19/1 of 1 March 2012, S-19/22 of 23 March 2012, S-19/1 of 1 June 2012 and S-20/22 of 6 July 2012. and *recalling also* its resolutions 42/37 of 30 November 1987, 43/74 of 7 December 1988, and 66/35 of 2 December 2011,

*Recalling also* Security Council resolutions 2042 (2012) and 2043 (2012) of 14 and 21 April 2012,

*Expressing grave concern* at the escalation of violence in the Syrian Arab Republic, in particular the continued widespread and systematic gross violations of human rights and continued use of heavy weapons by the Syrian authorities against the Syrian population, and further *expressing concern* at the threat to regional stability and international peace and security it creates,

*Expressing* its profound regret at the death of many thousands of people in Syria and *extending* condolences to their families,

*Reaffirming* its support to the Joint Special Envoy for the United Nations and the League of Arab States, and his work, following General Assembly resolution 66/253 of 16 February 2012 and relevant resolutions of the League of Arab States, aimed at promoting a peaceful solution to the Syrian crisis, including through securing full implementation of the Six-point plan in its entirety,

*Expressing its deep concern* at the lack of progress towards implementation of the Six-point plan as annexed to Security Council 2042 (2012) and *deploring* the Security Council failure to ensure Syria's compliance with its decisions,

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

*Recalling* that all Members of the United Nations shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the Purposes of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming further* the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and relevant international human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and recalling Syria's obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms,

*Stressing* that rapid progress on a political transition represents the best opportunity to resolve the situation in Syria peacefully, *welcoming* in this regard the Final Communiqué of the 30

June Action Group meeting, and *noting* that progress towards an atmosphere free from violence, fear and intimidation is key to enabling a credible transition,

*Reaffirming its support for the* engagement of the Secretary-General and all diplomatic efforts aimed at reaching a political solution to the crisis, *reaffirming also* the role of regional and subregional organizations in the maintenance of international peace and security as set out in Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations, and *noting* the relevant League of Arab States' decisions, including its 22 July 2012 resolution,

1. *Condemns* the Syrian authorities' increasing use of heavy weapons, including indiscriminate shelling from tanks and helicopters, in population centres and failure to withdraw its troops and heavy weapons to their barracks contrary to paragraph 2 of resolution 2043 (2012);

2. *Strongly condemns* the continued widespread and systematic gross violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms by the Syrian authorities and pro-government militias, such as the use of force against civilians, massacres, arbitrary executions, the killing and persecution of protestors, human rights defenders and journalists, arbitrary detention, enforced disappearances, interference with access to medical treatment, torture, sexual violence, and ill-treatment, including against children, as well as any human rights abuses by armed opposition groups;

3. *Condemns* all violence, irrespective of where it comes from, including the series of bombings which are indicative of the presence of well-organised terrorist groups;

4. *Demands* that all parties immediately and visibly implement the Six-point plan in its entirety in order to achieve a cessation of armed violence in all its forms by all parties, thereby creating an atmosphere conducive to a sustained cessation of violence and a Syrian-led political transition;

5. *Fully supports* the Envoy's demand that the first step in the cessation of violence has to be made by the Syrian authorities, and therefore *calls upon* the Syrian authorities to fulfil immediately their commitment to cease the use of heavy weapons and complete the withdrawal of their troops and heavy weapons to their barracks;

6. *Calls upon* the Syrian authorities to immediately put an end to all human rights violations and attacks against civilians, protect its population, fully comply with its obligations under applicable international law and fully implement all relevant Human Rights Council resolutions as well as General Assembly resolutions 66/176 and 66/253;

7. *Demands* that the Syrian authorities strictly observe their obligations under international law with respect to chemical and biological weapons, including the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925 and *further demands* that the Syrian authorities refrain from using, transferring, producing, developing or otherwise acquiring any chemical or biological weapons or any related material, and that the Syrian authorities meet their obligation to account for and secure all chemical and biological weapons and any related material;

8. *Requests* that the Secretary General take all appropriate steps to prepare to carry out, or to have carried out, prompt investigations in response to reports that may be brought to his attention, pursuant to resolution 43/74A concerning the possible use in Syria of chemical and biological weapons that may constitute a violation of the Geneva Protocol or other rules of customary international law in order to ascertain the facts of the matter, including, inter alia, by making appropriate arrangements with the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons;

#### **ACCOUNTABILITY**

9. *Stresses again* the importance of ensuring accountability and the need to end impunity and hold to account those responsible for human rights violations, including those violations that may amount to crimes against humanity;

10. *Encourages* the Security Council to consider appropriate measures in this regard;

11. *Demands* that the Syrian authorities provide the UN Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic and individuals working on its behalf immediate entry and access to all areas of Syria, and *demands* also that all parties cooperate fully with the Commission of Inquiry in the performance of its mandate;

#### **HUMANITARIAN SITUATION**

12. *Deplores* the deteriorating humanitarian situation and the failure to ensure safe and timely provision of humanitarian assistance to all areas affected by the fighting, in violation of point 3 of the Six-point plan;

13. *Calls upon* the Syrian authorities to immediately and fully implement the agreed humanitarian response plan, including by granting immediate, safe, full and unimpeded access of humanitarian personnel to all populations in need of assistance, in particular to civilian populations in need of evacuation, as well as safe, full and unimpeded access for affected civilians to humanitarian assistance and services, and also *calls upon* all parties in Syria, in particular the Syrian authorities, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and relevant humanitarian organizations to facilitate the provision of humanitarian assistance;

14. *Calls upon* all parties in Syria, in particular the Syrian authorities, to ensure the safety and security of personnel, installations, material, units and vehicles involved in humanitarian assistance in accordance with applicable international law;

15. *Expresses* also grave concern at the increasing numbers of refugees and internally displaced persons as a result of the ongoing violence, and reiterates its appreciation of the significant efforts that have been made by the States bordering Syria to assist those who have fled across Syria's borders as a consequence of the violence, and *requests* UNHCR to provide assistance as requested by member states receiving these displaced persons;

16. *Encourages* Member States to contribute to the United Nations humanitarian response efforts;

## POLITICAL TRANSITION

17. *Reiterates its call for* an inclusive Syrian-led political transition to a democratic, pluralistic political system, in which citizens are equal regardless of their affiliations or ethnicities or beliefs, including through the commencement of a serious political dialogue between the Syrian authorities and the whole spectrum of the Syrian opposition;

18. *Demands* in this regard that all Syrian parties work with the Office of the Joint Special Envoy to implement rapidly the transition plan set forth in the Final Communiqué of the 30 June Action Group meeting, in a way that assures the safety of all in an atmosphere of stability and calm, notably through the establishment of a consensus transitional governing body, the review of the Constitution on the basis of an inclusive National dialogue, and free fair and multi-party elections held in the framework of this new constitutional order;

19. *Welcomes* in this regard the Syrian Opposition Conference held under the auspices of the League of Arab States in Cairo on July 3, 2012, as part of the efforts of the League of Arab States to engage the whole spectrum of the Syrian opposition, and *encourages* greater cohesion among the opposition;

20. *Encourages* Member States to provide active support to ensure implementation of the transition plan set forth in the Final Communiqué of the 30 June Action Group meeting, and *requests* the Secretary-General to provide support and assistance to Syria at the appropriate time as it transitions;

## FOLLOW-UP

21. *Encourages* the Member States, who have not done so, to adopt similar sanctions as adopted by the League of Arab States on 27 November 2011;

22. *Requests*, in this context, the Secretary-General and all relevant United Nations bodies to provide support to the Envoy's efforts to reach a political solution to the Syrian crisis;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution, within 30 days.