

**Permanent Mission of India**

**Geneva**

**21<sup>st</sup> session of the Human Rights Council**

**Statement made by India on the Resolution on Human Rights  
Situation in Syria Arab Republic**

Madam President,

India is deeply concerned about human rights violations in Syria. We condemn all human rights violations, irrespective of who their perpetrators are. We regret the loss of lives. We have consistently supported all efforts to resolve the Syrian crisis through an inclusive Syrian-led political process. We also believe that the leadership of Syria is for Syrians to decide through a democratic process. The task of the international community, anchored in the United Nations, is to assist the Syrian parties in this process with full respect for Syria's sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity.

2. To this end, we had given our unqualified support for the missions of the Joint Special Envoys Mr. Kofi Annan and Mr. Lakhdar Brahimi. Under the prevailing circumstances in Syria, there is an urgent need for the international community to close its ranks and send a united message to the Syrian parties urging them to recommit themselves to resolve the Syrian crisis that can meet the legitimate aspirations of all Syrian citizens. We appeal to all sides to abjure violence so that the crisis is resolved without any further bloodshed.

President,

3. The Human Rights Council should always act with complete impartiality in order to maintain its credibility and retain the trust and

confidence of all. The Council must always maintain the highest standards of objectivity and impartiality in its pronouncements and resolutions. While we strive to enhance the effectiveness of the Council in protecting human rights, we should also be perceived as being even-handed. We should be guided by prudence.

President,

4. India's approach in the Human Rights Council has been guided by the firm belief that promotion and protection of human rights can be best pursued through dialogue and cooperation. The Council should seek to gain the confidence of all parties in Syria through a balanced and impartial resolution that can help start a meaningful political process in Syria. This is what the people of Syria and the international community expect of this Council.

Thank you, Madam President.