

PERMANENT MISSION OF INDIA TO THE UN, GENEVA

HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL
23RD SESSION (27 MAY – 14 JUNE 2013)

RESOLUTION ON SITUATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN SYRIA
(13 June, 2013)

Statement by India

Mr. President,

India strongly condemns all violence in Syria, as well as all violations of human rights, irrespective of who their perpetrators are. Only a fortnight ago, the Council had an urgent debate on Syria. We do not see any merit in having two resolutions on one issue during the course of a single session. The Council needs to reflect seriously on the efficacy of adopting such one-sided resolutions, which by their very nature make no meaningful impact in addressing the human rights situation on the ground.

2. This resolution unduly focuses on accountability rather than the immediate need for cessation of all forms of violence. We think that following the settlement of the conflict, Syrians themselves should establish accountability for crimes committed in Syria. The Council must also not confuse its primary mandate of human rights with humanitarian issues. These are separate issues which are best handled by their respective mandated bodies.

3. We believe that the Syrian crisis can only be resolved through a Syrian-led political process that respects Syria's independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty which involves all sections of Syrian society and meets their legitimate aspirations. 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.

I thank you.
