

Forum for the 21st century

Global security issues section

Syrian civil war

Statement of People's Republic of China on the 1st draft

The People's Republic of China would like to express its thanks to Forum for the 21st century for initiating the discussion on Syrian civil war. We highly appreciate the opportunity to participate on the conference on Syrian civil war and are willing to cooperate with other participating countries with the objective of finding a mutually agreeable solution to help cease the conflict. We would like to emphasize the necessity of doing so in the shortest possible time as the number of victims is growing.

Notes:

- The conflict between Syrian army and civil military groups continues third year and is drawing international attention steadily. Due to political, economic and social decline of the country caused by civil war, international community is willing to solve the situation in Syria. The People's Republic of China condemns eventual military intervention and emphasizes the threat of economic problems that could be provoked by this kind of intervention.
- Since the establishment of diplomatic relations on August 1, 1956, the People's Republic of China and the Syrian Arab Republic have been cooperating in many areas, especially economic, political, trade and cultural. Due to these friendly relations, we desire to terminate the ongoing civil war and contribute to restore the country in order to continue and develop the previous cooperation.
- The People's Republic of China notes that rebel groups are so divided that they can not overthrow Syrian government. It is possible that gain of power by rebel groups would cause problems in Chinese province of Xinjiang, a Muslim autonomy where nearly twenty million people live.

Position of the People's Republic of China on the proposals of the first draft regarding the Syrian civil war:

- As mentioned above, the People's Republic of China opposes the use of force in international relations. Disarmament of the Syrian government and all other military groups would violate the sovereignty of the country and therefore should not be supported. We express our desire to solve the crises by decreasing the violence and supporting peacekeeping actions. We further propose to reformulate the first point of the draft, in order to be able to reach an agreement on the most important objective of the conference.
- The People's Republic of China considers free and equal elections as one of the possible ways out of stagnating situation. Syria itself will not be able to organize democratic elections. Participating countries should engage themselves in helping the country to organize elections.
- The question of the humanitarian aid is fully supported. We realize the necessity of helping the civilists and we are willing to elaborate a plan for humanitarian aid for Syria. We also propose to discuss long term strategy of humanitarian, medical and financial aid after the conflict would be finished. Further, humanitarian inspections should be assured by the participating countries.

The People's Republic of China hopes to find appreciation and support of participating countries on its position in all points with an emphasis placed on not interfering to state sovereignty of Syria. We are open to any suggestions or recommendations in order to reach the objectives of the Forum and thereby help to cease the Syrian crisis.