

**Forum for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**  
*Global Security Issues Section*  
*Syrian Crisis*

31/12/2013 BRATISLAVA

***Statement of the Federative Republic of Brazil***  
***on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Draft of the Forum for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century***

Brazil would like to thank the *Forum for 21<sup>st</sup> Century* for initiating the discussion and organizing the conference on the issue of the Syrian civil war. We recognize the seriousness of the Syrian crisis and would like to express our full support towards finding possible solutions to the alarming situation. Regarding the 3<sup>rd</sup> draft of the *Forum for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, we believe we would reach a common understanding between all parties present upholding values of peace, harmony and diplomacy and that the hostilities in Syria will stop.

With regard to the 3<sup>rd</sup> draft proposed by the *Forum for 21<sup>st</sup> century* let us annotate it and include our suggestions as well. We condemn all violence in Syria, which has cost thousands of lives. The Federative republic of Brazil takes note of events of Arab spring with regard of right of people for greater political participation, economic opportunities, freedom and dignity but unequivocally condemns the military interventions, tortures, executions and abuse of human rights on both sides of the conflict.

1. We strongly agree with the main goal of the Forum for the 21st century that the hostilities are required to stop. Brazil opposes any military action against Syria without UN mandate. Such intervention cannot solve the complicated issue in Syria. With regard to the proposal to send a peace-making mission to Syria to negotiate with all sides, Brazil supports this initiative and is willing to be a part of this mission, with clear goals and boundaries pre-agreed upon. Therefore Brazil recognizes the Syrian Government, the Syrian National Council and any other party in Syria willing to negotiate with the diplomatic corpus of the peace-making mission. Brazil also highly appreciates the reference being made to the need of reporting to a UN representative regarding the potential misuse of power to UN representative during the transition period and if agreed by new Syrian government even after transition period ends. Further we approve the time-line of events as

is stated in the ANNEX A of the 3<sup>rd</sup> draft of the Forum.

2. Pursuant to the Forum's requirement on enforcing the weapons embargo that should begin after the peace-making mission succeeds in establishing a negotiated truce and should be in force at least during the transition period, we strongly agree and we are willing to support the Forum in order to find a consensus on this issue among the participants of the conference. In our point of view we need to emphasize that also the acceptance of Syria must be achieved and legally confirmed. We are also comfortable with the suggestion that all the outstanding weapons contract which are valid shall have their validity postponed and shall be back in force after the transition period ends until parties to contract do not agree on substantial changes or amendments to settled contract. We consider as appropriate the proposal that if there will be any contract that will not be honoured because of any non-legal reasons, the injured party shall be compensated by the contracting party which did not fulfil its obligations as compatible with the international law.

3. To solve the crisis, we also need to take into consideration specific needs and cultural values of the country while Syria is composed of many different ethnic groups. Steps must also be taken to prevent radicals from dominating the government at the expense of human rights. The new government must be mutually and democratically agreed up by a majority of its citizens. The role of international community will be to create the sufficient conditions enabling the realization of free and equal elections, where every citizen can cast a vote to a new preferred authority. Any discrimination based on ethnic, religious, gender or any other ground must be prevented. The citizens of Syria should express their interest and any other parties have to respect the sovereignty of the country and interests of its citizens and not interfere with this process because the inadequate comprehension of country's realities and promotion of own interests would make the situation even harder and establishing of truce would be threatened. Therefore we agree that for the purpose of safeguarding these principles, a team of observers should observe the preparations and realization of elections in Syria, and after election the team should ensure that their conclusions will be publicly available. We consider the proposal that the elections shall not take place before the term in office of President Assad ends as a reasonable way to deal with respect to the sovereignty of the state.

4. The main purpose of international community now lays beside the finding of the way to definitively stop fighting in the country and to prevent rise of similar crisis in the future also in providing sufficient humanitarian aid to people affected by the conflict. To realize this goal Brazil is committed to efforts to secure the access of neutral UN units to any locality where violence may ensue in the transition period especially as proposed by the Forum to the buildings and places which

are connected to the sectors of the economy that are used for the production, import and storage of goods and machinery required for the conduct of a war and also to the places used by military and police personnel.

5. Attention must be given to the refugees. At least the adequate food, shelter and medicine must be provided through humanitarian agencies, and a gradual resettlement plan should be implemented when the fighting ends. If it will be needed third parties should provide assistance to the Syrian government in implementing the resettlement plan and also provide financial and other help when possible to rectify the damages caused by the conflict.

6. As we proclaimed our full support to the Forum's proposals to achieve truce in Syria, we affirm our commitment to sign and adopt a memorandum including all areas, where the agreement will be made among the participants of the conference. We are devoted to participate in the honest discussion with representatives of all parties present with regard to their undoubted sovereignty and sincerity.

Representative of the Federative Republic of  
Brazil

Section for the Global security issues of the  
Forum for the 21<sup>st</sup> century