

## Position paper of The League of Arab States to the 3<sup>rd</sup> draft

The League of Arab States commends great thanks to The Forum for the 21<sup>st</sup> century for inviting us on the international conference concerning the Syrian civil war and issues related. We are pleased that we can assist in the resolution of this delicate matter by expressing our statement on discussed topics.

### Positions of The Arab League maintained towards the points presented in 3<sup>rd</sup> draft

#### 1. The hostilities are required to stop

From the inception of the Syrian crisis, The League of Arab States has been calling for an end to violence and has promised to provide all forms of political and financial support. The League has already taken concrete steps towards a peaceful reconciliation. Therefore, we fully agree with the Forum's proposal of no military intervention in Syria of any actor. We also share beliefs that the presence of a peace-making mission is a favourable, whereas it is inevitable to bring Syria's warring sides to the negotiating table. We express our conviction that a unified diplomatic force is highly beneficial for positive negotiations and peace-making mission. We also welcome the willingness to mediate the problem with all sides opened to active cooperation.

#### 2. The end of hostilities is to be assured with a weapons embargo

The Arab League endorses UN Security Council Members to overcome their differing views and to adopt necessary resolutions against the perpetrators of the crime. We greatly appreciate the high-level diplomatic activity between Russia and United States regarding Syria, (especially their agreement on elimination of chemical arms stockpile, in September 2013). The Arab League approves the introduction of weapons embargo even it does not prevent the flow of weapons to the country. And therefore we invite to a diplomatic political settlement of the problem.

#### 3. Free and equal election shall decide the future of the country

The League has already taken concrete steps towards democracy in Syria by drafting a plan to pave the way for elections. Therefore we endorse exceedingly the arrangement of free and equal elections. The Arab League recommends the participation of international spotters who will look after a smooth and fair elections process. The Arab League calls for transitional governing body, with executive powers during transition period, composed by proportionally equal number of deputies of present Government, opposition and other groups, who will led the political transition according to a comprehensive agreement between all parties.

One of the League's ambitions is to stress the importance of women's voice, in democratic transition of the country, and recommends to ensure that theirs voice about the future will be heard during negotiations. The League fully supports an organized and controlled transition of Syria through elections to a free, modern, democratic, unified, pluralist state.

4. Armament-sector inspections must be allowed

League of Arab States approves that neutral UN units should control merely delicate sectors connected to armour-steel industry, during a transition period. We fully agree with the transition period determined and unilaterally agreed during multilateral negotiations. We appreciate the construction of the time-line, attached in annexe A, which lays out key steps for the beginning of a credible, workable, effective peace process for Syria.

5. Humanitarian aid must be given

The Arab League shares the deep concern at the dire humanitarian situation (many prisoners, devastating fighting, kidnapping) and the need urgently to improve humanitarian access. The most problematic is the universal access to humanitarian support. The aid meets a very restricted number about 10 Millions of people, instead of 23 Millions who are in need. Therefore the League of Arab States emphasises the fact of unavoidable improvements in access to humanitarian aid for all the people affected. The League reaffirms the idea of furnishing any form of aid to concerning region. Whereas to prevent inefficient allocation, abuses or corruption we recommend to develop coordinated working group that will assure a transparency among international donors. Concerning the resettlement of displaced people, we are highly opened to negotiation achieving a positive result. The League endorses any operations that will help to improve the lives of displaced people and will promote all aid designed to improve the living conditions in region.

6. A memorandum must be signed

The League of Arab States is constantly highly opened to signature of Convention that can contribute to a truce in Syria.

The League of Arab States repeats sincere thanks to the Forums' invitation and reaffirms the participation on the conference. The League would like to take this opportunity to express the hope that negotiations will result in a gradual restoration of truce in Syria. We look forward to further cooperation and belief that our discussions will reach an agreement confirmed by a signature of common memorandum. Should you require any supplementary information, please feel free to contact us by providing a written statement.

Deputy of The League of Arab States