

# Forum for 21<sup>st</sup> century

## on the Syrian Crisis

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### *Propositions to 3st Draft*

The People's Republic of China would like to thank the Forum for 21st Century for initiating the discussion and organizing the conference on the Syrian crisis. At the same time we express our full support towards resolving this crisis that has been an influential part of this region for too long. The PRC stresses that the situation in Syria has shifted into matter where the international community must take action to secure a future for this region. After an in-depth analysis of the draft proposed by the Forum for 21st Century let us annotate it and include our suggestions as well.

### **Notes:**

- The People's Republic of China and the Syrian Arab Republic established diplomatic relations on August 1, 1956. Over the past 50 years and more, China-Syria friendly relations witnessed steady development. The two sides maintained close exchanges at various levels and conducted friendly and mutually beneficial cooperation in political, economic, trade, cultural and other fields. China has an embassy in Damascus and Syria has an embassy in Beijing.
- The People's Republic of China is worried about the possibility that militant Islamists may gain control in Syria once the current regime is toppled. This fear is further aggravated by the rise of Islamists in countries like Libya and Egypt after the fall of Qaddafi and Mubarak respectively. Islamist groups have already pledged support to rebels in Syria. Some of these, such as Jabhat al-Nusra and the Islamic State in Iraq, have both been linked to al Qaeda and have voiced their keenness to see an Islamic state under Sharia law in Syria after al-Assad.
- China has stuck to its line of approving intervention only when vetted by the United Nations. Emphasizing the need for a political resolution, it even offered its own four-point proposal last November.

### **Position of the People's Republic of China for the purpose of the conference held by the Forum for 21st Century:**

- As the first point the People's Republic of China would like to thank the Forum for 21<sup>st</sup> for taking into account the proposal not to divide the inflicted area which may have had a negative impact in the effort to secure peace and stability in this region.
- Secondly, the People's Republic of China believes that the establishment of a round table behind which the delegates of the Syrian government and the representatives of the opposing side moderated by an independent committee could shorten the time of the conflict and set a ground to deliver the proposals agreed on the Forum. However, the PRC is not in the position to propose whichever opposing party should take it's part at peace negotiations because of its fragmentation and multiplicity. This decision might be integrated into the agenda of the following meeting of the Forum for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.
- Thirdly the PRC proposes swift action once an agreement has been made by the negotiating parties. All the rebel groups that will not be identified as the dialogue partners for the peace process shall be disarmed within two months. This act is supposed to be supervised by the troops particularly built by the Forum for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. These troops shall also monitor the cross-border movement of rebel groups.
- Furthermore, the People's Republic of China supports the idea of declaration of democratic and free early election within six months since completion of disarmament of the rebel groups.
- Last but not least, we support the engagement of an independent distribution channel of humanitarian aid that has previous expertise with such situations and can play a major role in the correct and effective humanitarian relief of the affected area.