
**UN Human Rights Council
46th Session, Item 4**

ID with COI on Syria

Thank you Madam President.

We take note of the report of the Commission of Inquiry on Syria, which sheds further light on the persistent human rights violations carried out by the Syrian government against its own people.

Madam President,

The COI report highlights a number of abhorrent human rights violations. Over the last 10 years, children have been robbed of their childhood, forced to participate in the brutal war and have been deliberately targeted by Syrian government forces with sniper fire, cluster munitions, thermobaric bombs and chemical weapons.

Madam President

The Syrian government have detained boys as young as 12 years old and subjected them to severe beatings, torture as well as subjected girls and boys, women and men to rape and sexual violence as a tool to punish and humiliate them. Moreover, government forces and associated militias, including terrorist organization Hezbollah, have perpetrated rapes and sexual abuse against women and girls during ground operations.

The COI reports that these acts amount to crimes against humanity and war crimes. The Syrian government must be held accountable by the international community.

I thank you.