I would be grateful if the text of the attached oral statement could be read and distributed prior to adoption of draft resolution A/HRC/49/L.30, entitled “Situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic”.

cc: Mr. Ramanathan
    Mr. Fofana
    Ms. Alirzaeva
    Ms. Veaudour
ORAL STATEMENT BY THE SECRETARIAT IN CONNECTION WITH DRAFT RESOLUTION A/HRC/49/L.30 ENTITLED “SITUATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC”.

1. This statement is made in accordance with rule 153 of the Rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

2. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 8, 21 and 22 of draft resolution A/HRC/49/L.30, the Human Rights Council would:

   a) Request the Office to continue to document and publish civilian deaths and produce a report for the fiftieth session of the Human Rights Council;

   b) Decide to extend the mandate of the Commission of Inquiry for a period of one year;

   c) Request the Commission of Inquiry to provide an oral update to the Human Rights Council during the interactive dialogue at its fiftieth session and to present an updated written report during an interactive dialogue at the fifty-first and fifty-second sessions of the Council.

Commission of Inquiry (COI)

3. In order to implement the mandate contained in paragraphs 21 and 22 of the draft resolution, the following activities and resources would be required in 2022 and 2023:

   (a) General temporary assistance for the secretariat, based in Geneva, to support the mandate of the independent experts/commissioners, consisting of:

   Continuation of existing positions (12 months: 1 April 2022 - 31 March 2023):
   - One P-5 Head of the Secretariat/Coordinator;
   - One P-4 Legal Advisor;
   - One P-4 Analyst;
   - One P-4 Chief of Investigations;
   - One P-4 Military Advisor;
   - One P-4 Investigator/Advisor on sexual violence;
   - Eleven P-3 Investigators;
   - One P-3 Political Advisor;
   - One P-3 Reporting Officer;
   - One P-3 Analyst;
   - One P-3 Interpreter;
   - One P-3 Legal Officer;
   - One P-3 Media Officer;
• One P-3 Information Evidence Officer,
• One P-2 Associate Analyst;
• Two General Service (Other level) Programme Assistants.

(b) Travel of Representatives (trips of the three Commissioners):

2022:
• Two trips of 5 working days to Geneva in the context of preparing for the Human Rights Council reports, for participating in the Human Rights Council Interactive Dialogues, for consultations with Member States;
• One trip of 5 working days to New York to brief the Security Council and General Assembly and to hold regular consultations with the Member States and UN agencies;
• Three trips of 5 working days to countries in the region hosting Syrian refugees;
• Two trips of 3 working days to other Member States for consultations and briefings on the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic.

2023:
• One trip of 5 working days to Geneva in the context of preparing for the Human Rights Council reports, for participating in the Human Rights Council Interactive Dialogues, for consultations with Member States;
• One trip of 5 working days each to countries in the region hosting Syrian refugees.

(c) Travel of staff:

2022:
• One trip of 5 working day to New York by 1 staff member to accompany the Commissioners to brief the Security Council and General Assembly and to hold regular consultations with the Member States and UN agencies;
• Four trips of 10 working days by 11 staff members to conduct investigations and accompany the commissioners in the region;
• Two trips of 5 working days by 11 staff members to refugee-hosting countries in Europe to undertake investigations, including through interviewing refugees, witnesses, human rights defenders and other information sources;
Two trips of 4 working days by 2 staff members to Member States in relation to requests for legal cooperation.

2023:
• One trip of 10 working days by 11 staff members to conduct investigations and accompany the commissioners in the region;
• One trip of 5 working days by 11 staff members to refugee-hosting countries in Europe to undertake investigations, including through interviewing refugees, witnesses, human rights defenders and other information sources;
• One trip of 4 working days by 2 staff members to Member States in relation to requests for legal cooperation.

(d) Consultants:
• International consultancies at the level equivalent to P-4 for a total of 12 months, to supplement staff expertise with specialized professional knowledge and advice, including forensic capacity in pathology, military ballistics, chemistry and chemical agents, rights dimensions of minority communities, and economic impact of the conflict, and visualization, translation and interpretation services (in particular in relation to less-commonly required languages), and information technology.

(e) Contractual services:
• Satellite images/analysis and commissioning lump sum (UNITAR/UNOSAT)
• Software licenses for analytical products (Hala Systems, E-discovery, Janes Conflict Monitor (JTIC and military capabilities), and SecureWatch
• Sharepoint services

(f) General operating costs:
• ICTs costs including communication charges
• Periodic training of 11 staff members to adapt to the complex and changing scenarios
• Shipment costs for documentary evidence
• Rental of vehicles including drivers and petrol during field missions
• Rental of meeting rooms to meet witnesses and victims
• Miscellaneous services

(g) Supplies and Materials:
- Office expandable supplies
- Renewal of periodicals (including SITE intelligence and the Syria Report)

(h) Furniture and equipment:
- Acquisition of office automation equipment
- Acquisition of office equipment
- Miscellaneous for office equipment

(i) Grants and contributions:
- Travel of local witnesses

(j) Conference services for interpretation during field missions and the interactive dialogues, as well as sound technician and recording services, at the 51st session of the Human Rights Council and the translation of reports to be presented at the 51st and 52nd session of the Human Rights Council.

4. The activities referred to above relate to section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, section 24, Human rights, and section 29E, Administration, Geneva of the programme budget for the years 2022, and 2023.

5. The adoption of draft resolution A/HRC/49/L.30 paragraphs 21 and 22, related to the Commission of Inquiry, would give rise to total requirements of $6,922,100 as follows:

(United States dollars)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget section / Object of expenditure</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management</td>
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<tr>
<td>Simultaneous interpretation</td>
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<td>Documentation</td>
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<td>Subtotal, section 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Section 24, Human Rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Staff Costs (GTA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consultants/ Experts</td>
<td>93 100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel of Representatives</td>
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<td>Travel of staff</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contractual services</td>
<td>145 300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Budget section / Object of expenditure</td>
<td>Requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Operating Expenditures</td>
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<td>Supplies and Materials</td>
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<tr>
<td>Furniture and equipment</td>
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<td>Grants and Contributions</td>
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<td><strong>Subtotal, section 24</strong></td>
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<td>Section 29E, Administration, Geneva</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sound technician / recording services</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal, section 29E</strong></td>
<td><strong>1 400</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>5 219 500</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. As reflected in the table above, should the Council adopt draft resolution A/HRC/49/L.30, requirements would arise as follows:

a. Additional requirements of $5,219,500 for 2022, for which additional spending authority would be sought in accordance with established budgetary procedures.

b. Requirements of $1,702,600 for 2023, which would be included in the proposed programme budget for 2023 for consideration of the General Assembly at its 77th session.

**OHCHR: Work to establish the extent of civilian casualties in the Syrian Arab Republic**

7. In order to implement the mandate contained in paragraph 8 of the draft resolution, the following activities and resources would be required in 2022:

(a) General temporary assistance at P-3 level in Geneva for 6 months, to establish the extent of civilian casualties in the Syrian Arab Republic, in cooperation with civil society, in order to fully assess the number of people killed as a result of ten years of conflict, including development of methodology for assessing civilian casualties; identifying and validating possible data sources, establishing contacts and concluding agreements with sources, including civil society; ensuring secure and confidential data transfer from the data sources; managing and providing guidance to the consultant; developing visual materials for the purpose of presenting the data; supporting the drafting and preparation of materials for the oral update;
(b) Consultancy for 6 months at the level equivalent to P-4, to support the above through processing, integrating and de-duplicating records from various data sources, conducting statistical analysis and disaggregation, depending on data availability; producing an integrated dataset of all uniquely identifiable records, producing a report on the statistical data collection process, analysis and the technical details of the methodology used, the development of visual materials for the purpose of communicating and presenting the data.

(c) Conference services for the translation of the report to be presented at the 50th session of the Human Rights Council.

8. The activities referred to above relate to section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, and section 24, Human rights of the programme budget for 2022.

9. The adoption of the resolution A/HRC/49/L.30 paragraph 8, related to the establishment the extent of civilian casualties, would give rise to total requirements of $182,600 as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget section / Object of expenditure</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td></td>
<td>2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management</td>
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<tr>
<td>Documentation</td>
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<td><strong>Subtotal, section 2</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Section 24, Human Rights</td>
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<td>Consultants/ Experts</td>
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<td><strong>Subtotal, section 24</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>182 600</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. As reflected in the table above, additional requirements of $182,600 would arise for 2022, for which additional spending authority would be sought in accordance with established budgetary procedures.