

Check against Delivery

Human Rights Council 24<sup>th</sup> Session

Item 2: Update by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

9 September 2013

Thank you, Mr President.

Thank you, Madam High Commissioner, for your report and statement to the Council. We commend you for your leadership shown in the area of global promotion of human rights.

We share your strong concern on Syria, where serious armed violence continues, resulting in deteriorating humanitarian situation, spreading to region as a whole. We are deeply concerned by the reports that chemical weapons were used in the outskirts of the Syrian capital city of Damascus on August 21, and that large numbers of citizens were killed, including women and

children. The use of chemical weapons is not permissible under any circumstances. We will continue its diplomatic efforts toward the immediate cessation of all violence in coordination with the international community.

On North Korea, we commend the support of your Office for the work of the Commission of Inquiry on the Human Rights in North Korea. We look forward to the oral update from the Commission and following intensive discussion.

We also welcome your recent visit to Sri Lanka and looks forward to the forthcoming follow-up of the visit.

We also commend the work of your Office as well as the Special Rapporteur on the valuable role on the human rights in Cambodia. We look forward to the support of the Council members and observers to the resolution we will table to this session of the Council.

We are committed to continue working closely with you and our Office to build further on the progress made on the promotion and protection of human rights across the globe.

Thank you.

