

Amb. Sagadi

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Statement by the Islamic Republic of Iran

12th UPR Working Group  
Review of Syria  
7 October, 2011

Madam President,

We would like to welcome the Syrian delegation and thank them for their informative statement, as well as the comprehensive national report.

We also appreciate the efforts and commitments of the Government to promote and protect human rights, in conformity with the UN Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the international treaties to which the Syrian Arab Republic is a party.

We note with interest the establishment of several Human Rights mechanisms in the Country as well as significant recent achievements in different areas of economic, social and cultural rights, which again contribute to the promotion and protection of human rights at the national level.

We also welcome the Government's announcement of a series of reforms intended to bring comprehensive change and a better future for the Syrian people. Some commitments have already been fulfilled. These include the lifting of the state of emergency, the elimination of the Supreme State Security Court, new laws for the establishment of political parties, and parliamentary and local government elections.

Madam President

We have one question and 3 recommendations:

As has been stated by the report, the occupation of Syrian Golan is a major obstacle to the enjoyment, by Syrian citizens, of their economic, political and social rights. Please tell us what legal and practical measures have been taken by the Government to end the ongoing human rights violations being committed in the occupied territory and to prosecute the perpetrators.

Recommendations. Syria should:

Take more tangible steps to promote and protect the human rights of its citizens, by continuing to engage all relevant parties, in an open and meaningful dialogue.

Submit overdue periodic reports, as required by treaties and conventions to which Syria is party to.

Intensify youth programs and create more employment opportunities for young people.

Thank You Mr. President