



General Assembly

Distr.: General
19 September 2012
English
Original: Arabic

Human Rights Council

Twenty-first session

Agenda item 4

Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

Note verbale dated 14 September 2012 from the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

The Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

With reference to our previous notes concerning the current situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, and in the context of the transparent and honest approach adopted by the Syrian Arab Republic in presenting the facts about what is happening in Syria, you will find below an outline of the cost of the initial damage caused to private property in Syria as a result of the crimes of armed terrorist groups, as at 15 June 2012.

Peaceful citizens in the Syrian Arab Republic have been attacked by armed terrorist groups. The attacks by these groups have included wrecking cars and homes or commandeering them for use in their criminal activities. A table is annexed hereto showing the losses and damages incurred to citizens and to their private property, including vehicles, houses and real estate, which, as at 15 June 2012, amounted to over 6.9 billion Syrian pounds, excluding losses in the Homs, Raqqah and Tartus governorates, for which full information is not yet available.

It should be said that the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic called on citizens to provide substantiating evidence of their losses in order to receive compensation. The compensation paid out to citizens for damage sustained to their property exceeded 1.2 billion Syrian pounds, as at 15 June 2012. The Government is pursuing its efforts in this sphere to compensate citizens. It is also providing shelter and humanitarian assistance for persons displaced from their homes by armed terrorist groups until such time as these groups are purged from residential areas and the infrastructure destroyed by them is rebuilt in preparation for the return of citizens to their homes and the start of repair and renovation work.

The Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic requests that the present note be disseminated and circulated in the official languages of the United Nations as a document of the twenty-first session of the Human Rights Council, and that a copy be transmitted to the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic and to the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing.

The Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic avails itself of this opportunity to express to OHCHR the assurances of its highest consideration.
