40th session of the UPR Working Group

Review of the Syrian Arab Republic

Recommendations by Sweden

Delivered by: H.E. Ms Anna Jardfelt, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Sweden to the UN in Geneva

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[Mr] President,

Sweden remains deeply dismayed by the lack of meaningful action by Syria to address the continued serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law. Systematic and widespread violations and the constraining legal and regulatory environment severely impact the willingness and ability of millions of displaced persons to return to their homes, contribute to a lack of accountability, and have a devastating impact on persons in vulnerable situations. The human rights violations are a fundamental obstacle to peace and stability and Sweden would like to make the following recommendations:

1. Publish official lists of all individuals who are currently held in Syrian detention centres and of those who have died in detention facilities and prisons.

1. Introduce streamlined and simplified identity determination and civil documentation procedures, to address the challenges faced by displaced Syrians in accessing civil documentation and by Syrians that have attained alternative civil documentation during the conflict.
2. Amend the provisions in the Personal Status Law and Citizenship Law that discriminate against women, specifically in the areas of marriage, divorce, inheritance, marital property, and the granting of citizenship to children.

I thank you.