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Permanent Representation of Belgium

to the United Nations

and the international specialized institutions

in Geneva

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| **WG UPR 40 – Syrian Arab Republic**  ***Intervention of Belgium***  24 January 2022 |

Mr. President,

The human rights situation in Syria remains extremely dire. The protracted conflict has only exacerbated the challenges.

**R1:** Ensure that all children, independently of where they live, have equitable access to educational, medical and essential services

**R2:** Disclose the fates of detained, disappeared and missing individuals and investigate all deaths in custody, enforced disappearances and allegations of torture and hold perpetrators to account

**R3:** Allow access to all places of detention to independent monitors and humanitarian organizations, including the International Committee of the Red Cross

Lastly, as a strong proponent of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, Belgium recommends to:

**R4:** Cooperate in a constructive and transparent manner with all UN human rights mechanisms, particularly those who are instrumental to ensure accountability for gross human rights violations.

Thank you, Mr. President.