**Draft Statement by the Republic of Korea**

**The 40th Session of the UPR Working Group Review of Syria**

**(Monday, 24 January 2022)**

Thank you, Mr. President.

The Republic of Korea appreciates the Syrian Arab Republic’s engagement with this session of the UPR.

My delegation would like to note, however, that the gravity of the ongoing human rights and humanitarian crisis in Syria remains a concern. More than a decade into conflict as of today, there still are alarming reports of arbitrary detention and enforced disappearance, as well as civilian casualties caused by the continued conduct of hostilities and indiscriminate airstrikes.

Against this backdrop, my delegation would like to suggest the following recommendations:

1. Put an end to the practice of arbitrary arrests and detention, abduction, enforced disappearance, torture and ill-treatment;
2. Combat impunity and ensure accountability for serious human rights violations and crimes committed, including sexual and gender-based violence and harassment;
3. Fully cooperate with the UN human rights mechanisms, including the Independent International Commission of Inquiry, and with the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria.

I thank you.

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