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**Interactive Dialogue with
the Commission of Inquiry on Syria
18 September 2017**

Intervention by H.E. Mr. Peter Matt
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Principality of Liechtenstein

Mr. President,

Liechtenstein reiterates its strong support of the mandate of the Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic and we are very pleased about the continued dialogue with the Commissioners.

In its most recent report, the Commission outlined very clearly the ongoing and growing disrespect for international humanitarian law by various parties to the conflict: from illegal sieges, to the deliberate targeting of civilians, more chemical weapon attacks and air strikes directed against civilian objects. The Commission has therefore made it clear, yet again, how important the inclusion of justice and accountability is in any political process. While impunity continues to be rampant, there are also positive developments. First, we salute those States who have undertaken criminal proceedings in their national courts on the basis of

universal jurisdiction. At the international level, the most significant development was the creation of the IIIM, whose mandate is complementary to the work of the Commission. We call on all States and civil society actors to cooperate proactively with the IIIM and with the Commission, in particular by sharing information and evidence in their possession and by securing the sustainable funding of the IIIM. National prosecutions will continue to be of the essence. But in the continued absence of a credible judiciary in Syria itself, we must ultimately empower an international tribunal with the task of prosecutions. We reiterate our call on the Security Council to refer the situation in Syria to the ICC.

We are grateful for the close coordination with the Commission in our effort to create the IIIM and also since then. We would be interested to hear about the coordination and exchange of information of the Commission with the IIIM.

I thank you!