

Text of Arab League statement on Syria on 12 Nov

Text of report by Egyptian state-run pan-Arab Nile News TV

In its session on 12 November 2011, which resumes its extraordinary session, the Arab League Council on the ministerial level - after reviewing the Arab ministerial committee's estimation of the developments in Syria, listening to the secretary-general's report and the speech of the head of Syrian delegation and the deliberations of ministers and delegation heads, and due to the Syrian government's failure to completely and immediately implement the Arab League initiative, which the Council approved in its session held on the ministerial level on 2 November 2011 - has decided the following:

First: Suspending the participation of the Syrian government delegation in meetings of the Arab League and its affiliate bodies and organizations as of 16 November 2011 until it [Syrian government] meets its full commitments towards the Arab League initiative to resolve the Syrian crisis, which the Council endorsed on its session on 2 November 2011.

Second: Providing protection for Syrian civilians through immediate contact with concerned Arab organizations. In case violence and killing are not stopped, the secretary-general will contact concerned international human rights organizations, including the UN, in coordination with the Syrian opposition, to set a vision for the appropriate measures to stop that bloodshed and refer that vision to the Arab League ministerial meeting slated for 16 November to discuss it.

Third: Calling on the Arab Syrian army not to get involved in violence and killing against civilians.

Fourth: Imposing economic and political sanctions on the Syrian government.

Fifth: Calling on Arab countries to withdraw their ambassadors from Damascus, considering this is a sovereign decision for each country.

Sixth: Inviting all spectra of Syrian opposition for a meeting in the Arab League headquarters within three days to agree on a unified vision for the coming transitional period in Syria. The Arab League Council will study the outcome of that meeting and will take proper decisions regarding the recognition of Syrian opposition.

Seventh: Holding a meeting on the ministerial level with all parties of Syrian opposition after they reach agreement, as mentioned in the sixth item.

Eighth: Keeping the Council in an open session to follow up the situation.

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