

## **Remarks to Press in Damascus by Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Hervé Ladsous**

Damascus, 24 July 2012

Good afternoon everyone,

At this stage, I will make a very short statement.

This trip, which is my second trip to Syria, is intended in the framework of the resolution the security council adopted last week, Resolution 2059, which renewed the mandate of UNSMIS for a final period of 30 days unless there are significant developments regarding the level of violence and the use of heavy weapons. So we have to assess the situation with the whole team here and this is also an opportunity to introduce the new leadership of the United Nations Supervision Mission to Syria, Lieutenant General Gaye, who is arriving tonight and will take over to replace General Robert Mood. So, we are going to have a number of meetings in the next three days or so. I will be glad, maybe, at the end of the process to share a few thoughts and ideas with you but at the stage I will limit myself to this.

Thank you very much.