

Statement attributable to the Head of the UN Supervision Mission in Syria ad interim, Lieutenant General Babacar Gaye on the situation in Aleppo

I am extremely concerned about the continued violence in Syria in particular the significant deterioration in Aleppo and its impact on the civilian population.

I urge the Parties to protect civilians and respect their obligations under international humanitarian law. Civilians must not be subjected to shelling and use of heavy weapons.

I call on all Parties to take all necessary steps to open a dialogue as the only way to alleviate the suffering of civilians and bring this conflict to an end.

Damascus, 6 August 2012