

**STATEMENT BY EMERGENCY RELIEF COORDINATOR VALERIE
AMOS ON THE SITUATION IN SYRIA**

(New York: 13 June 2011): I am deeply concerned about the violence over the past few months in Syria, which has reportedly killed 1,200 people and caused over 10,000 to flee the country. I call on the Government to respect and protect civilians, and to refrain from the use of force against peaceful demonstrators.

It is important that we find out exactly what is happening in Syria so that we can provide help if required. I hope that the Government of Syria will allow an independent assessment to be conducted.

I commend the neighbouring states for keeping their borders open and appreciate the assistance they have given. I underscore the readiness of the United Nations to help with this in any way necessary, particularly in light of the recent increase in the numbers of new arrivals.

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