Brazil and Switzerland: draft resolution

The Security Council,


Reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of Syria and to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Encouraging efforts to improve cross-line delivery of humanitarian assistance and calling on all relevant parties to further promote, consistent with United Nations assessments of need, unhindered delivery of humanitarian assistance to all parts of the country,

Determining that the devastating humanitarian situation in Syria continues to constitute a threat to peace and security in the region,

Recalling the need for all parties to respect the relevant provisions of international humanitarian law and the UN guiding principles of humanitarian emergency assistance,

Expressing grave concern at the long-term consequences of the devastating 6th February 2023 earthquakes that struck Türkiye and Syria; affirming solidarity with all the people affected by this natural disaster of major magnitude, and commending the wide-ranging local, regional and international response to the earthquakes and the indispensable and ongoing efforts of the United Nations, its specialized agencies, humanitarian as well as medical personnel to alleviate the impact of this disaster on the Syrian people,

Expressing in this regard grave concern at the compounded impacts of the earthquakes and ongoing consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic and recalling the need for full, safe and unhindered humanitarian access, without delay, for humanitarian as well as medical personnel, their equipment, transport and supplies in order to facilitate the provision of humanitarian assistance, including vaccinations, to all parts of Syria without discrimination,
Recognizing that humanitarian activities are broader than solely addressing the immediate needs of the affected population and should include support to essential services through water, sanitation, health, education, electricity where essential to restore access to basic services, humanitarian mine action and shelter early recovery projects, and calling for increased humanitarian funding,

Acknowledging the scale of the displacement crisis and underscoring the importance of building conditions for safe, voluntary, informed and dignified returns,

Underscoring that Member States are obligated under Article 25 of the Charter of the United Nations to accept and carry out the Council’s decisions,


2. Decides to extend the decisions in paragraphs 2 and 3 of Security Council resolution 2165 (2014), for a period of 9 months, that is until 10 April 2024, only for the border crossing at Bab al-Hawa, and requests the Secretary-General to provide a special report on the humanitarian needs in Syria no later than 10 March 2024;

3. Calls upon all Member States to respond with practical steps to address the urgent needs of the Syrian people in light of the long-term negative consequences of the recent earthquakes and the continued profound socio-economic and humanitarian impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Syria, as a country in situation of complex humanitarian emergency, including through broadening the humanitarian activities, and increased humanitarian funding;

4. Recognizes ongoing efforts and calls for the further expansion of humanitarian activities in Syria, including water, sanitation, health, education, electricity where essential to restore access to basic services, humanitarian mine action and shelter early recovery projects, undertaken by humanitarian organizations, and calls upon other international humanitarian agencies and relevant parties to enhance support for them;

5. Demands that all parties allow and facilitate rapid and unhindered passage of humanitarian relief for civilians in need;

6. Calls upon all relevant parties to enable cross-line deliveries of humanitarian assistance to all parts of the country, including by providing timely security guarantees to ensure the safe passage of cross-line convoys and humanitarian personnel;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to provide a report on a regular basis, at least every 60 days, on the implementation of resolutions 2139 (2014), 2165 (2014), 2191 (2014), 2258 (2015), 2332 (2016), 2393 (2017), 2401 (2018), 2449 (2018), 2504 (2020), 2533 (2020), 2585 (2021), 2642 (2022), 2672 (2023) and this resolution and on compliance by all relevant parties in Syria and further requests the Secretary-General to include in his reports overall trends in unhindered and safe United Nations cross-line operations, in particular on their progress to all parts of Syria, on early recovery projects, and detailed information on the humanitarian assistance delivered through United Nations humanitarian cross-border operations, including their transparency, the distribution mechanism, the number of beneficiaries, operating partners, locations of aid deliveries at district-level and the volume and nature of items delivered;

8. Encourages the convening of a Security Council Informal Interactive Dialogue every two months with participation of donors, interested regional parties and representatives of the international humanitarian agencies operating in Syria in
order to regularly review and follow-up on the implementation of this resolution, including progress in early-recovery projects and cross-line access;

9. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.