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Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton following the EU-LAS-UN-OIC meeting on Syria

Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the Commission, made today the following statement:

Today I met the Secretary Generals of the League of Arab States, United Nations and the Organisation of the Islamic Conference to discuss the situation in Syria. The group acts in support of the League of Arab States' initiatives with regard to the Syrian crisis.

It was agreed to remain in close contact with the aim of providing a forum for coordinating their action on Syria among the four participants. This will add to other international efforts in the search of peaceful settlement to the Syrian crisis and an immediate end to violence, such as the friends of Syrian People conference taking place in Tunis on 24 February.

During today's meeting we discussed urgent proposals to stop the violence, alleviate the suffering of the Syrian population, particularly through humanitarian assistance, and seek a peaceful outcome to the current crisis. In view of the urgency, the group committed to re-convene very shortly.

P R E S S

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