EUROPEAN COMMISSION

MEMO

Brussels, 29 August 2012

Statement by Commissioner Kristalina Georgieva on tomorrow's UN Security Council debate on Syria

"I welcome the UN Security Council French Presidency's initiative to put the humanitarian situation in Syria high on the agenda of tomorrow's meeting.

This will be an opportunity to reiterate Europe's call to all parties to the conflict to fully respect international humanitarian principles and to again insist on access for both international and local humanitarian organisations in Syria.

The human consequences of this conflict are immense, both inside Syria and beyond its borders, as neighbouring countries are being overwhelmed by the huge influx of desperate people.

Europe has already provided over €146 million in humanitarian assistance. In its efforts to get more access to those in need, Europe stands ready to increase this amount to match the massive evolving needs with massive funding."