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OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN

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General debate on the High Commissioner for Human Rights' oral update
25 June 2019

Intervention by Daniel Batliner, Second Secretary
Permanent Mission of the Principality of Liechtenstein

Mr. President,

We thank the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Ms Michelle Bachelet, for the report she presented to this council. The report highlights many issues that are of great concern for us.

Liechtenstein remains to be opposed to capital punishment in all circumstances and for all cases and we condemn the death penalty, which amounts to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment. We welcome a positive trend in which an increasing number of States abolishes capital punishment. However, we still share the High Commissioner's concerns and condemnation of recent mass executions.

Mr President,

We share the High Commissioner's extreme concern about the high number of civilian casualties and the destruction of civilian infrastructure, including hospitals and schools, mainly caused by air strikes by the Government of Syria. In this regard, we would like to reiterate

the essential role of accountability in ensuring a sustainable peace in a post-conflict Syria. The IIIM is a key actor to bring the perpetrators of the most serious crimes committed in the Syrian Arab Republic under international law ultimately to justice. This said, we reiterate our call on the Security Council to refer the situation in Syria to the International Criminal Court.

Mr President,

We are furthermore very concerned about all attempts to impede the work of special mandate holders. They fulfil duties of utmost importance and we urge all States to fully cooperate with special mandate holders, respect their independence and grant unhindered access.

In conclusion, I would like to assure the High Commissioner of Liechtenstein's continued support for her work.

I thank you.