

Statement by the Republic of Korea at Security Council Meeting on: The situation in the Middle East: Referral of the situation in Syria to the International Criminal Court

22 May 2014  
(Unofficial Transcript)

The Republic of Korea voted in favour of draft resolution S/2014/348. The situation in Syria requires resolute and swift action by the Security Council. Seeking accountability should be part of that action, because sustainable peace is not possible without justice. That is why we voted in favour of the draft resolution, which referred the crimes against humanity in Syria to the International Criminal Court.

It is extremely regrettable that the Council was not able to agree to take action due to the vetoes. We are letting down the aspirations of the international community and of the Syrian people. It is also disappointing to see the misplaced perception that efforts to deliver justice cannot be compatible with efforts to seek a political solution.

Having said that, I still believe that the Council cannot afford to take today's vote as a lasting setback in our efforts. The current situation on the ground is simply too serious and continues to call for effective action on the part of the Council. The Republic of Korea remains committed to working with other members to answer the call.

I now resume my functions as President of the Council.

The representative of France has asked for the floor to make a further statement.