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Syrian Delegation

Introduction :

Syria is an arabic parliamentary republic that gained its independence in April 1946. However, Syria was in a state of nature where numerous military groups sought to usurp control of the country from 1949 to 1971. Moreover, The capital of Syria is Damascus and Syria's current president is Bashar al-Assad. Due to the al-Assad and the Ba'athist Party control for more than forty years in the nations, the citizens of Syria began to protest especially due Syria's State of Emergency Law which violated the human rights of the Syrian people. As a result, this led to a bloody civil war in the country where military officials massacred hundreds of children and oppositionists that stood against this injustice. Thus these casualties and uprising of 2011, constitutional amendments were made to ease the tensions in the country. Yet many believe this referendum was futile although the State of Emergency Law was eliminated and new parties as well as voting was implemented.

Key Issues :

- The Syrian Government Health Care Policies has collapsed; facing problems due to the lack of government involvement, the maintenance of information and inadequate funding.
- One of Syria's ongoing issue is the issue of the availability of healthcare and the safety of medical personnel.

- Since 1971, the Syrian citizens were forced into “emergency law” which limited their human rights and they are now rebelling against the government which thus lead to the referendum of their constitution.
- Syria is principally a destination country for women and children subjected to forced labor or sex trafficking.
- Diseases are spreading in Syria because of dirty water.
- Security implements cause hazards to the citizens.
- Water pollution and water shortage has become a major concern for the citizens of Syria.

Background :

Following World War I, France acquired a mandate over the northern portion of the former Ottoman Empire province of Syria. The French administered the area as Syria until granting it independence in 1946. The new country lacked political stability, however, and experienced a series of military coups during its first decades. Syria united with Egypt in February 1958 to form the United Arab Republic. In September 1961, the two entities separated, and the Syrian Arab Republic was reestablished. In November 1970, Hafiz al-ASAD, a member of the socialist Ba'th Party and the minority Alawi sect, seized power in a bloodless coup and brought political stability to the country. In the 1967 Arab-Israeli War, Syria lost the Golan Heights to Israel.

During the 1990s, Syria and Israel held occasional peace talks over its return. Following the death of President al-ASAD, his son, Bashar al-ASAD, was approved as president by popular referendum in July 2000. Syrian troops - stationed in Lebanon since 1976 in an ostensible peacekeeping role - were withdrawn in April 2005. During the July-August 2006 conflict between Israel and Hizballah, Syria placed its military forces on alert but did not intervene

directly on behalf of its ally Hizballah. In May 2007 Bashar al-ASAD's second term as president was approved by popular referendum. Influenced by major uprisings that began elsewhere in the region, antigovernment protests broke out in the southern province of Dar'a in March 2011 with protesters calling for the repeal of the restrictive Emergency Law allowing arrests without charge, the legalization of political parties, and the removal of corrupt local officials. Since then demonstrations and unrest have spread to nearly every city in Syria, but the size and intensity of protests have fluctuated over time.

The government responded to unrest with a mix of concessions - including the repeal of the Emergency Law and approving new laws permitting new political parties and liberalizing local and national elections - and force. However, the government's response has failed to meet opposition demands for ASAD to step down, and the government's ongoing security operations to quell unrest and widespread armed opposition activity have led to extended violent clashes between government forces and oppositionists. International pressure on the ASAD regime has intensified since late 2011 as the Arab League, EU, Turkey, and the United States have expanded economic sanctions against the regime. Lakhdar BRAHIMI, current Joint Special Representative of the United Nations and the League of Arab States on the Syrian crisis, in October 2012 began meeting with regional heads of state to assist in brokering a cease-fire. In December 2012, the National Coalition of Syrian Revolution and Opposition Forces was recognized by more than 130 countries as the sole legitimate representative of the Syrian people. Unrest persists in 2013, and the death toll among Syrian government forces, Opposition Forces, and civilians has topped 60,000.

Syria is officially recognized as the Syrian Arab Republic. It is in Western Asia, bordering Lebanon and the Mediterranean Sea to the West, Turkey to the north, Iraq to the east,

Jordan to the south and Israel to the southwest. Syria is a country of fertile plains, high mountains and deserts. Home to diverse ethnic and religious groups, including Kurds, Armenians, Assyrians, Christians, Druze, Alawite Shias and Arab Sunnis. The latter make up the majority of the Muslim population. Syria was under Emergency Law from 1963 to 2011, effectively suspending most constitutional protections for citizens, and its system of government is considered to be non-democratic. Bashar al-Assad has been president since 2000 and was preceded by his father Hafez al-Assad who was in office from 1971.

Syria is a member of one International organization other than the United Nations. Since March 2011, Syria has been embroiled in civil war in the wake of uprisings against Assad and the government. The opposition Syrian National Coalition has yet to form a rival government, although it has been invited to do so by several foreign governments as well as by the Arab League. Syria is formally a unitary republic. The constitution adopted in 2012 effectively transformed Syria into a semi-presidential republic due to the constitutional right for individuals to be elected which do not form part of the National Progressive Front

The President is the head of State and the Prime Minister is the Head of Government. The Peoples Council is the Syria's legislature responsible for passing laws, approving government appropriation and debating policy. In the event of a vote of no confidence by a simple majority, the Prime Minister is required to tender the resignation of their government to the President. The executive branch consists of the president, two vice presidents, the prime minister, and the Council of Ministers. The constitution requires the president to be a Muslim but does not make Islam the state religion.

Issues :

- Governance

Seemingly a republic, the Syrian government is a military dominated regime. Syrian's constitution of March 13, 1973 talks of a republican form of government, "A democratic, popular, socialist, and sovereign state." Their constitution states the obligation of the President to be Muslim. There are a few political parties such as the Arab Socialist Resurrection (Baath) Party, Arab Socialist Union Party, Arab Socialist Party, Communist Party Syria, Union Socialist Party and the Union Socialist Democratic Party. However Syria is essentially a one-party state, dominated by the Arab Socialist Resurrection (Baath) Party. They are dominated by the military that consumes a large share of economic resources. The Baath Party members obtain key positions, controlling and dominating all three branches of government. In the executive branch, the President is approved by unopposed popular referendum for a renewable seven-year term. He appoints Vice Presidents, Prime Minister, members of the Council of Minister and military officers. The President can dissolve the legislation, declare war, declare amnesty, issue laws and amend the constitution by decree. The President and his senior aides (military, security service) make most of the decisions in political and economic life of the country. The legislative Branch consist of 250-seat unicameral People's Council, elected by direct popular vote on the basis of single-member electoral districts for four-year terms. Half the seats are reserved for the Baath Party. The Judicial Branch has three levels, courts of first instances (peace/summary courts), courts of appeal and the court of cassation in Damascus (highest level). The supreme constitutional court adjustments electoral disputes and riles on the constitutionality of laws and decrees. In terms of National Security Syria's armed forces consist of an army,

navy, air force and air defense forces. Syria's primary military alliance was with the Soviet bloc and arms transfers, training and other military assistance from Russia and other former Soviet States.

Syria faces several problems revolving around their government, one issue being their health care policy system. The Syrian government health care policies have collapsed, facing problems due to the lack of government involvement, the maintenance of information and inadequate funding. There is a lack of insurance coverage to a tremendous financial burden on both population and the government. The critically needed health information system as detailed is still lacking a health information system and lack qualified professionals with administrative skills. There is an inadequate planning factor, and there is an absence of a scientific medical research. This all leads to difficulty in obtaining reliable information and trusting. Syria needs is to establish a health care system and deliver administrative health care that fulfills the World Health Organization (WHO) system criteria.

Syria knows that there are issues, but as of 2012 the Syrian government is trying to work with it. Reform and reconstruction must occur when it comes to the health care policies in Syria. One of the issues that the Syrian government needs to work on is the funding, to hinder all attempts to improve the health care system by controlling the escalating health care cost. Syria's government also needs to establish a health insurance system that will be private and governmental. When establishing a health insurance system, patients can seek care in private medical facilities, reducing the expensive demands on free government hospitals. A national insurance system can prevent deprivation of care because of a patient's inability to pay, avoid wasteful

spending and provide high expectations. Besides these systems, there should be a system of practice guidelines and recommendations when it comes to research and development. Creating medical research as well as development and innovational programs. Creating a reliable and national emergency response process as well as high standards for nursing education and training schools.

In Syria there is also a need for a health information system which can help take off the financial burden off the free services, where the government health facilities can contribute to control the rapidly increase the health care costs. When it comes to a reliable health information system, it will guarantee that information and data from all hospitals and medical facilities can be reliably reported, analyzed and provided to the policy makers. Another step towards the reformation of the health care policies is obtaining more highly trained and qualified health information managers and health care system administrators, where collected data can be skillfully and professionally analyzed in order to identify areas of weaknesses and strengths. This adds on to the idea of also establishing a health care policy department whom shall be run by these qualified individuals, where accountability shall be enforced in order to target healthcare fraud and abuse.

When it comes to all hospitals and medical facilities in the country there shall be mandatory standards, creating QA programs that must be set for both hospitals and physicians reporting requirement to government and private health insurance agencies. These programs will provide benefits to assure results for every patient, prevention of iatrogenic complications, provide expert attention to patients.

Enforcing QA programs can result in health care expenditure reduction, can be used

as a structure introduced to the market place, as a model of the country. Syria is working its way to trying to improve its health care policy system, which face many problems. Reaching to the government when it comes to their ideal systems, policies and funding is a major step to solving its health problems and concerns.

- Global Public Health

Syria's public health system is under significant strain and chaos. The budgeting is getting lower as the demand for health care is higher. The actual quality of Syria's healthcare is not the issue, with every doctor and nurse being qualified, however it is the ever growing budget deficit, and higher populating demographic and the radical influx of over 1.5 million Iraqis, all of which qualify for the free healthcare. This high demand for free healthcare also means the higher need for state hospitals and clinics. With the demand being higher it is questioning why the money to pay for these facilities is getting lower each year. The budget deficit of Syria has gone from detrimental to absolute chaos over recent years. In 2001 the deficit of 1.7 of gross domestic product has soared to 5 percent in 2005. The annual spending on healthcare is a mere 5 percent of GDP, a small increase of the 2.5 percent in 1999. We can recognize how small this percent is when we peer to the neighboring countries of Syria. According to the World Health Organization, Jordan spend the percent of 9.8 percent of its GDP and 11.6 percent for Lebanon. The demographics of Syria are drastically changing, and with change comes even more complexity adding thus adding even more strain and pressure on Syria's Health care system. The population is growing at 2.5 percent a year, which is around 475,000 people, adding more to this population is the 1.5 million Iraqi

refugees. Country that is barely supporting it's own people will have unfathomable strain on vital public services. "When you have a 2.5 percent population growth each year you need to improve the budget by more than 2.5 percent at minimum. But the state budget doesn't have enough resources; we've had a deficit for the last few years" says Syrian economist, Samir Seifan. Almost all private health facilities are located in large urban areas also so this makes it difficult to seek healthcare in rural areas. Among a population with small salaries and state subsidies few are actual able to afford private healthcare, a major problem for those living in rural areas.

With this soaring issue of healthcare, a European Union funded modernization program is helping the Syrian government run it's state facilities and hospitals. Officials have estimated that half of Syrians most unneedingly finance their own health vitals by doing things such as buying medicine from pharmacies and attending private doctor offices before going to large state hospitals. Health insurance schemes are a big issue, both private and public, are starting to be considered as a means of covering the public and individual issue of Syria's healthcare.

Along with obvious budget issue there is a raging civil war that has been occurring and it's effects are waving throughout every aspect of Syria most specifically in the real of healthcare. The United Nations has estimated that in Syria this civil war has left more than 2.5 million people in dire need of vital things such as water, food, and medical supplies. This civil war had lasted 18 months more than thousands of people are dead, even more wounded. This

statistic makes it quite clear that healthcare is and is going to be in high demand long after the war is over. Before the uprising began Syria proudly boasted that they were in a grand state of healthcare with 500 hospitals and 70 pharmaceutical manufactures.

In a Voanews online article it reads “The 350-bed National Hospital has been completely destroyed,” Jasarevic said. “Lack of access to health care facilities, both by patients who need care and health workers who provide care, is one of the main obstacles being faced.”

“Staff shortages make matters worse. “At least half of all the medical doctors in Homs have left the city,” Jasarevic said. “Many of the health facilities are staffed with volunteers who don’t have any medical or health training.” These facts display why Syria is in such a rough shape. How can a country help itself when it’s never had an actual complete successful healthcare system in the past in the first place anyway, but now most recently with what they did have, is now mostly swept away because of the war and the danger it brought to medical personnel and staff. Unless Syria is continually being reached out to, and volunteers from around the world are willing to step in and lend their help it is questionable as to what they will have left.

- Law

The modern Syrian state was established after the First World War as a French mandate. Then Syria gained its independence in April of 1946 as a Parliamentary Republic. However, post Syrian Independence, there was immense unrest in the state. Large numbers of military groups tried to usurp control of the

country between 1949 and 1971. Syria and Egypt united from 1958 and 1961 but was interrupted by a military coup.

Syria was under Emergency Law from 1963 to 2011. Under this law, the constitutional protections for citizens in Syria were suspended. Bashar al-Assad is the president of Syria since the year 2000. Bashar al-Assad was preceded by his father Hafez al-Assad who was in office from 1971. Moreover, Syria has been suspended from the Arab League, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and self-suspended itself from the Union for the Mediterranean.

The Allies of Syria are China, Iran, and Russia. Furthermore, in March of 2011, Syria entered into a bloody Civil War. On November 9th of 2011, an uprising against Bashar Al-Assad totaled 35,000 deaths. According to the United Nations, there were 250 children under the age of two years old killed and an immense number of eleven year boys were thought to have been gang raped by military officials. Individuals who were thought to be against Al-Assad, 200 were massacred, 300 were injured in Hama by government forces on July 12 of 2012. Authorities in Syria arrested human rights activists, censoring websites, detained blogs, and banned traveling in the country. Furthermore, when these actions took place, arbitrary detentions, torture, and disappearances were very common.

Emergency Law until April 21st was enacted and personal statutes laws and penal codes discriminate against women and girls. The Syrian oppositions are Turkey, Iraq, Lebanon, and Israel. In fact, Israel continues to clash with Syria over Golan Heights since Israel usurped control in 1981. This keeps Syria with the justification to continue in a state of Emergency where the people of the country are oppressed.

Decrees issued by the Syrian president must be approved by the People's Council unless the country is undergoing a state of emergency like it was until a few years. The Ba'ath Party is the ruling party of the country. In 2012 Syria's Constitution was a result of a constitutional referendum on the 26th of February. The Constitution is now drafted into six parts which are: Introduction, Rights, State Authorities, Supreme Court, Amending the Constitution, and Transitional Provisions. With the new 2012 revision, the Ba'ath Party was no longer the only party in Syrian politics. The government agreed to casting votes and political pluralism. It also introduced presidential elections and limited presidential terms to one re-election for a maximum of seven years. In other words, Syria has agreed to more democratic ways of governing their country.

Although there have been decades of Assad dictatorship, the country is ameliorating as a whole. The new generation of Syrians are rising to injustices and have fought and are still fighting immensely hard for change and social justice. Syria is considered to be a non-democratic and a non-free country which is now on the road to achieving equality. Many believe that the changes placed on the Emergency Law will not be enough to satisfy protesters and social activists. The protesting began in the north of Syria and have spread all around the country. Although the law was repealed and the constitution was reformed, the dominant party gained even more seats in government and remains in control. Many Syrians have escaped the country but countries like Jordan who have a great concentration of Syrian refugees, has closed its doors.

Countries like the United States tried to choke the economic system of Syria through diminishing its oil and touring numbers which would surrender the dominant party. However, countries and Allies like Russia commenced aiding the Syrians. Over all, the laws in Syria are very unjust to those who opposed the dominant party. Before the referendum of 2012, the Constitution entrenched the Ba'ath Party to be the one and only. Not only that, but for more than 40 years, one family reigned the country and had no running opposition. This party is so strong that the individuals against Assad and the Neo-Ba'athist government were dehumanized and instantly shut down. In simpler words, the power of the country was held in the hands of one group that even if democratic elections occurred as portrayed in 2012, the affluent and corrupt leaders of Syria still have complete influence over the rest of society. The most important part to understand about Syrian laws is that just recently their constitution was reformed to meet the needs of the citizens who lost their lives and protested against al-Assad's dictatorship. In addition, there is huge uproar in the Middle East where Syria has been suspended for its inhuman actions against its own people. However, friend countries like Russia and Iran continue supporting Syria while the U.S has tried to limit the dominant party's powers through restrictions and constraints.

- Human Rights

Amnesty International considers that the crimes being committed in Syria amount to crimes against humanity as they appear to be part of a widespread attack against the civilian population. Many hundreds of people have died during or in connection with the mass protests which began in mid-March 2011. Many of them were

reportedly killed by live ammunition used by the Syrian army and security forces.

The armed forces' operations have involved shelling of residential areas.

The Syrian authorities have arrested thousands and held many incommunicado at unknown locations where torture and other ill-treatment are reported to be rife.

Scores of people are reported to have died in custody, many, it seems, as a result of torture or other ill-treatment. Some persons detained have been subjected to enforced disappearance. Many appear to have been detained simply for expressing their support for protests or their opposition to the regime orally or in writing.

Human rights defenders are among those arrested and allegedly tortured in detention.

The Human Rights Committee first works to identify and disrupt the supply chains on which the Syrian government relies to carry out widespread and systematic attacks on civilians. They aim to leverage the full range of U.S. financial and political pressure on enablers of atrocities and to stem the flow of goods and services necessary to perpetrate crimes against humanity.

Pro-reform demonstrations in Syria developed into mass protests in the spring of 2011 after security forces used grossly excessive force against people calling for the release of children who had been detained. More than 10,000 people reportedly died during or in connection with the protests and during funerals of demonstrators. Most of those killed were apparently shot by members of the security forces, including snipers. Tanks were used in military operations in civilian residential areas. Some members of the security forces were also killed, some allegedly for refusing to fire

on protesters and others in attacks by defecting soldiers and other individuals who joined in opposition to the government.

Thousands of people have been detained in connection with the protests, with many held incommunicado and tortured. At least 370 detainees reportedly died in custody in suspicious circumstances; many appeared to have been tortured. The authorities have failed to conduct independent investigations into alleged unlawful killings, torture and other serious human rights violations, which the security forces committed with impunity. Thousands of Syrians have been forcibly displaced by the repression; many fled to neighboring countries.

Syria is principally a destination country for women and children subjected to forced labor or sex trafficking; women from Indonesia, the Philippines, Somalia, and Ethiopia are recruited by employment agencies to work in Syria as domestic servants, but are subsequently subjected to conditions of forced labor; some economically desperate Syrian children are subjected to conditions of forced labor within the country, particularly by organized street begging rings; some Syrian women in Lebanon may be forced to engage in street prostitution and small numbers of Syrian girls are reportedly brought to Lebanon for the purpose of prostitution.

Tier 2 Watch List is a government made modest anti-trafficking efforts, however, it did not demonstrate evidence of increasing efforts to investigate and punish trafficking offenses. It did not inform the public about the practice of human trafficking, or provide much-needed anti-trafficking training to law enforcement and social welfare officials. A transit point for opiates, hashish, and cocaine bound for

regional and Western markets; weak anti-money-laundering controls and bank privatization may leave it vulnerable to money laundering.

The shocking escalation in unlawful killings, torture, arbitrary detention and the wanton destruction of homes in Syria demonstrates just how urgent the need for decisive international action to stem the tide of increasingly widespread attacks on civilians by government forces and militias which act with utter impunity.

In recent field investigations in Syria, Amnesty International has found disturbing new evidence of grave abuses — many of which amount to crimes against humanity and war crimes — committed by the Syrian army in towns and villages around Idlib, and Aleppo, as well as in the Jebel al-Zawiyah and Jebel al-Oustani areas between late February and late May 2012. Syrian government armed forces and militias are rampaging through towns and villages, systematically dragging men from their homes and summarily executing them. They are burning homes and property and sometimes the bodies of those they have killed in cold blood. They are recklessly shelling and shooting into residential areas, killing and injuring men, women and children. They are routinely torturing detainees, sometimes to death.

- Medicine & Science

Outbreaks of Hepatitis A and other diseases spread by poor hygiene are now becoming a very serious problem among the Syrian society. Many Syrians that are involved in the civil war are prone to these diseases first hand. One of at least four United Nations agencies is seeking to add a new sense of urgency to the humanitarian crisis afflicting the country. Syria is having a hard time delivering clean water. One of the main reasons is because one third of the hospitals have been shut down. There is a shortage of doctors and ambulances. Most of the ambulances

have been damaged during war and combat. The spread of Hepatitis A is a serious and highly contagious liver disease. It can be prevented with a vaccine. The virus is spread by close personal contact and sharing food and drinking water.

More than 60,000 Syrians have been killed since the uprising against president Bashar al Assad began nearly two years ago. The United Nations has registered more than 755,000 Syrians as refugees in neighboring countries, they estimate the number of Syrians internally displaced by the conflict at more than 2 million and those in urgent need of assistance at more than four million. Hospitals and clinics that can still function are facing acute shortages of medicine and equipment, including anesthetics, antibiotics and serums. Health workers have been shouting for international aid as the emerging health system of Syria falls apart into a catastrophe.

It is normal to find corpses on the streets. Prisoners who have died in prison are thrown into the streets and burned into ashes. People recognize the smell by now and they are frightened because of the diseases and pollution spreading because of unsanitary conditions. Society has been affected in a major way because children now wander the streets because schools are closed. Children often spend time outside, playing with dangerous debris. The worse part is that these children are likely to touch the garbage that clutters the streets.

A serious lack of infrastructure and medical aid also endangers the lives of people suffering from cancer or chronic diseases like diabetes. There is absolutely no way to find medications such as insulin or chemotherapy drugs. "The country desperately needs trained operators, even someone able to instruct volunteers by

phone would be a great help to the country. According to a surgeon he claims that “At the moment, it is almost impossible to estimate the number of deaths, the spread of new diseases or the main causes of injuries in the country,”. He shares the common belief that a lack of communication is beneficial to the government. “Many of the victims, in Aleppo and in the eastern part of the country could have probably been saved without the regime’s bombs, that killed many of them and destroyed hospitals.”

I believe that the Medical community should be focusing on a way to help the affected in Syria. I believe that if Doctors and Hospital organizations unite internationally and find a way to fund new hospitals and medicines to cure this epidemic in Syria. Even though Syria is a very dangerous country, it is also important that there is military action taken place to protect our doctors and surgeons while they are over seas. A bio terrorist attack would be unmoral because the viruses and toxins that would be released into Syria would not only affect the people who are fighting in the civil war but also innocent children who have lost up to both of their parents.

- Security

The General Security Directorate is under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Interior. It is divided into three branches: Internal Security Division, internal surveillance of the population, External Security Division, foreign intelligence work, Palestinian Affairs Division, monitoring the activities of Palestinian groups in Syria and Lebanon. From these three securities, Syria was able to

keep the relations with other nations peacefully. However, Syria is now in a devastated state due to the Syrian civil war.

The Syrian civil war, also known as the “Syrian Uprising” is an ongoing conflict between the supporters of Ba’ath Party and the anti-Ba’ath Party. The conflict began on May 5, 2011 with nationwide demonstrations, as part of a wider protest movement as the Arab Spring. Protesters demanded a resignation of President Bashar al-Assad, whose family has held the presidency in Syria since 1971, as well as the end to nearly five decades of Ba'ath Party rule. Not only does Syria’s security become vulnerable to the public, it became the source of devastation for innocent civilians. With the soldiers abusing the citizens and lack of funding due to the war, the security systems are breach by corrupted citizens. This led to only chaos within the government, resulting more unnecessary violence.

After the announcement in approval of the open fire, the soldiers used violence against

the protesters; protests evolved into an armed rebellion. United States, European Union, and other countries responded with disapproval on the usage of violence that was implemented by the Syrian government to control the protesters. Syrians need as much help they can get from other countries such as aids in shelter, food, or even medical attention. The water pollution effectively wipe out a huge portion of civilians resulting disease in a wide spread. The attention to curing the water pollution is needed in order to eliminate anymore spread of disease which can cause unknown deadly diseases.

At a time when people in Syria may need protection the most, Jordan is effectively threatening to close its borders, further exposing them to harm. However, under the international law, those who are fleeing due to persecution have the right to receive asylum from other neighboring country. The agreement was set to ensure the protection of all and every individual nation regardless of their situation and its complexity. Currently, Syria faces an extremely unique and difficult problem – it is up to the point that their only hopes of restoring order in their nation would be to have international countries come aid them. The signed agreement guarantees the immediate and unconditional help and it naturally begins with the closest neighboring countries to Syria.

In order for Syria to keep a mutual relation with other countries, they need to maintain a good image of themselves for first. This is more of an international relation security amongst countries. Syria took action by shutting down their internet and mobile networks in order to prevent the world from learning what is amid increasing. Thus might help maintain their situation more privately without any intervention from other countries or nations. Even though Syria is trying to keep the truth from leaking out, Dozens of UN members urge immediate ICC referral of ‘desperate’ situation in Syria. For almost two years, the Security Council has stood by as crimes against humanity, as well as war crimes after the internal armed conflict began, have been committed with complete impunity against the Syrian people. Policies and laws such as international laws, allow other countries to intervene when security is at stake

amongst the countries, and humanitarian law came into play too. Intervention from international countries will allow the proper access to Syria's situation more entirely for their own benefit especially when their people's safety is at stake. The more external aid Syria receive will mean that they are many steps closer to bring chaos and tense down in hopes to restore balance.

- Resources

Among the resource issues in Syria, water is one of the main concerns. In this semiarid nation, it shares and depends on many of its neighboring countries water supply. Syria's rising population and growth also contributes to the larger demand for water along with its pollution. In addition, the governments' poor management plan and enforcement regulation is a huge factor in this water crisis.

Located on a slightly elevated plateau, Syria has one main river, the Euphrates.

Originating in Turkey, it runs through Syria and Iraq, emptying in the Persian Gulf.

Over thousands of years, nations have clashed together over control of this river.

Only recently has Syria and Iraq been able to reach to an agreement, fairly dividing the amount of water intake. The Euphrates River also serves many purposes for

Syria. Surrounded by desert, it is the only water source for those who live in

northwestern Syria. Also it provides irrigation to sustain Syria's large agriculture

industry producing mainly raw cotton and wheat. More importantly, it is a source of

hydroelectricity that powers Syria. Syria's largest dam, the Tabqa Dam, is located

on the Euphrates River and creates Syria's largest reservoir, Lake Assad. This lake

also provides many services similar to the Euphrates. In addition to irrigating the

land, it also supports a fishing industry and has developed into an important ecological zone. It also provides water for the city of Aleppo.

Another major water source in Syria is the groundwater. However it has recently reached its tipping point. With higher demand for water, more wells are being dug, resulting in a decline in flow in rivers such as the Khabur River. The groundwater has been critically overexploited.

Pollution of what little water supply has become a big issue in Syria. Industrial waste and domestic waste has contaminated the areas around the Barada River, which runs through Damascus. Dangerous amounts of ammonia and nitrate have been found in well and spring water found in basins as a result of runoff from fertilizers while other water is bacterially contaminated from sewage discharge.

According to the World Health Organization this has led to widespread outbreak of diseases such as hepatitis A. Fortunately, a United Nations organization, UNICEF has announced to provide chlorination supplied to treat the water.

The water management plan also contributes to the water crisis in Syria. One example is how farmlands are irrigated. According to Jihad Yazigi, editor in chief in Damascus of The Syria Report, farmlands are irrigated by flooding, which waste water, instead of through pipes and tubes. The Syrian government has also passed many laws to protect the water. Well drilling and groundwater pollution has been prohibited but has not been enforced. Another water management plan is reclaiming water for irrigation use. All treated wastewater is reused for irrigation.

Syria can no longer live with a poorly designed water resource management with such a high demand. The government must also enforce its laws to protect the water

supply. Without these changes being made, the rest of Syria could transform into a dusty wasteland.

Five Key Issues :

- One of Syria's ongoing issue is the issue of the availability of healthcare and the safety of medical personnel.
- Since 1971, the Syrian citizens were forced into "emergency law" which limited their human rights and they are now rebelling against the government which thus lead to the referendum of their constitution.
- Water pollution and water shortage has become a major concern for the citizens of Syria.
- Syria is principally a destination country for women and children subjected to forced labor or sex trafficking
- The Syrian Government Health Care Policies has collapsed; facing problems due to the lack of government involvement, the maintenance of information and inadequate funding.