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November 7th, 2020

Statement on 13th session of the Forum on Minority Issues:

“Hate Speech, Social Media and Minorities”

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Thank you Chair for giving us the floor

According to the United Nations Resolution 47/135 of December 18, 1992; we see that since the beginning of the Arab Spring in the Middle East has been a new state of approach in many different issues, which took a downward turn and adopted a low convulsive and hostile discourse towards some minority groups in the region whose ideological approach is not in accordance and is leveled with intellectual and religious pluralism superior to the rest. Doctrines and political currents.

These groups players responded negatively, with their multiple religious and intellectual references, portend that there is a deliberately ignorance on the adoption of non-fearful and dangerous hatred speech.

We also noticed a complete absence of effective accountability by the relevant official authorities to deter these actions. Consequently, the first and second paragraphs of Article 1 in addition to the first and second paragraphs of Article 8 of the International Bill of Rights are flagrantly violated.

False Media also triggered hate by creating tensions that lead to massacres and hatred among societies and sects, which were serving suspicious projects, no less dangerous than the destructive war itself.

As a result, hundreds of thousands of citizens in the East, specifically minorities, have been displaced, deprived of their most basic rights as a result of speeches that have been marketed in media circles calling for their excommunication, killing and abuse.



On the other hand, caricatures worsened the situation of religious party and atrocious crimes against humanity were committed, which leads us to the necessity to clarify that the cartoons are offensive against the Prophet Muhammad, and the reaction to beheading, slaughtering in the streets under this pretext is also a crime.

We conclude by noting that solutions must be based on the law through competent courts, so that the International Bill of Human Rights is well implemented.

Sincerely yours

Amb. Dr. HAISSAM BOU-SAID
Special Envoy to Geneve