

Human Rights Council on Libya; Member States call for commission of inquiry and suspension of Libya from Council

UN Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner

25 February 2011 (...) Ms. Pillay recalled that under international law, any official at any level ordering or carrying out atrocities and attacks could be held criminally accountable and widespread and systematic attacks against the civilian population could amount to crimes against humanity. (...) Numerous speakers called on the General Assembly to suspend Libya's membership on the Human Rights Council... Concern for foreign nationals in Libya was also expressed by numerous delegations, as there were reports that foreigners were being blamed for the instability in the country and thus subject to attack. Speakers further called for the establishment of an independent commission of inquiry to hold perpetrators of human rights violations accountable. (...)

See full debate

[summary](#)

Resolution S-15/2 on Libya in Special Session

(...) 2.

Strongly calls

upon

the Government of Libya to meet its

responsibility to protect

its population, to immediately put an end to all human rights violations, to stop any attacks against civilians, and to fully respect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including freedom of expression and freedom of assembly;

3.

Strongly calls

upon

the Government of Libya for the immediate release of all arbitrarily detained persons, including those who were detained before the recent events, as well as for the immediate cessation of intimidation, persecution and arbitrary arrests of individuals including lawyers, human rights defenders and journalists;

4.

Urges

Libyan authorities to ensure the safety of all civilians, including citizens of third countries, to refrain from any reprisals against people who have taken part in the demonstrations, to facilitate the departure of those foreign nationals wishing to leave the country, and to allow the provision of urgent humanitarian assistance to those in need; (...)

(...) 6.

Further urges

Libyan authorities to respect the popular will, aspirations and demands of its people and to do

their utmost efforts to prevent further deterioration of the crisis and to promote a peaceful solution ensuring safety for all civilians and stability for the country;

7.
Recalls
the importance of accountability and the need to fight against impunity and in this regard stresses the need to hold to account those responsible for attacks in Libya, including by forces under government control, on civilians; (...)

(...)10.
Calls on
the Libyan authorities to guarantee access to human rights and humanitarian organisations including human rights monitors;

11
Decides
to urgently dispatch an independent, international commission of inquiry, to be appointed by the President of the Council, to investigate all alleged violations of international human rights law in Libya, to establish the facts and circumstances of such violations and of the crimes perpetrated, and , where possible identify those responsible to make recommendations, in particular, on accountability measures, all with a view to ensuring that those individuals responsible are held accountable, and to report to the Council at its seventeenth session, and calls upon the Libyan authorities to fully cooperate with the Commission;

12.
Requests
the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner to provide all administrative, technical and logistical assistance required to enable the above-mentioned commission of inquiry to fulfil its mandate; (...)

(...)14.
Recommends
to the United Nations General Assembly, in view of the gross and systematic violations of human rights by the Libyan authorities, the consideration of the application of the measures foreseen in OP8 of General Assembly resolution 60/251; (...)

See full
[resolution](#)

See full Special Session [summary](#) .