

RELEASE IN PART
1.4(B),B1,B5,1.4(D),B6

From: Sullivan, Jacob J <SullivanJJ@state.gov>
Sent: Saturday, November 12, 2011 12:23 PM
To: H
Subject: Fw: Calls on Arab League mtg

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~ Declassify on: 11/11/2026

FYI

----- Original Message -----

From: Feltman, Jeffrey D
Sent: Saturday, November 12, 2011 11:29 AM
To: Sullivan, Jacob J; Zeya, Uzra S; Sawyer, Julie L; Carl Yoder, Samantha A; Grantham, Chris W; Wells, Alice G; Dibble, Elizabeth L; Hof, Frederic C; Walles, Jacob; Schedlbauer, Amy W; Carle, Lisa M; Conlon, Steven M; Wittes, Tamara C; Holtz, Greta C (NEA); Djerassi, Alexander M; Irwin, Matthew T; Posner, Michael H; Graze, Deborah E; Ryu, Rexon Y; DiCarlo, Rosemary A (USUN); 'Steven_N_Simon [REDACTED]'; 'Hagar_H._Hajjar [REDACTED]'; Patterson, Anne W; Blome, Donald A; Sievers, Marc J; Hallett, Stephanie L; Connelly, Maura; Ford, Robert S; Mahoney, Haynes R; Tachco, Amy N; 'Dennis B. Ross [REDACTED]'; 'Samantha_J._Power [REDACTED]'; Brimmer, Esther D; Grimm, Brian M; Henzel, Christopher P; Nuland, Victoria J; Smith, Dana S (PA); Ricciardone, Francis J; Ziadeh, Susan L; Smith, James B; Schmierer, Richard J; Cretz, Gene A; Corbin, Michael H; Feierstein, Gerald M (Sanaa); Richard, Elizabeth (Sanaa); Jeffrey, James F (Baghdad)
Subject: Calls on Arab League mtg

B6

I've been in touch with many of the participants in today's Arab League meeting. I'll attempt to summarize here. There is a real sense of accomplishment among those with whom I spoke, a feeling that they showed the AL can be relevant and respond to an Arab crisis and Arab public opinion. As one told me, "we exceeded expectations." They all seem tired, too, at what sounds to be an exhausting and rather historic debate -- Syria, unlike Libya, is a heavyweight in Arab politics. Remarkable that the AL followed through. That said, this giddiness shouldn't disguise the fact that there's not much in the way of implementation beyond the suspension of Syria's participation in AL bodies.

The FMs seem to agree that there were three primary accomplishments (and I'm not quoting the communique here but what they saw as significant):

-- agreement to suspend the participation of Syria from all AL bodies, starting November 16. The suspension lasts until the SARG fully implements the AL initiative. (More below on this date.)

-- agreement that AL SecGen al-Araby would work on plans to protect civilians, including by looking at how to cooperate with Arab and international human rights groups (again, more below). He is expected to present ideas for the 11/16 meeting in Rabat.

-- call on Arab states to withdraw ambassadors from Damascus, although with a caveat that such decisions are the sovereign right of each state.

According to what I heard, the sanctions language was more or less a place holder reference. There is nothing in the language to implement this. The Arabs will discuss this again when they meet on 11/16 in Rabat, but I didn't get the sense that they expect to implement formal sanctions. Still, the mention of sanctions is useful.

B1
1.4(B)
1.4(D)

B1
1.4(B)
1.4(D)

B1
1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B5



B1
1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B5

Jeffrey Feltman