

lack of baby milk. Other reports testify to the bleak living conditions of those internally displaced in Northern Syria, who have so little resources that they are forced to eat herbs and collect stagnant rainwater to drink and wash.<sup>xx</sup>

For the sake of the millions of children facing a future of fear and hunger, safe and unimpeded humanitarian access is needed to all areas of Syria by the most effective routes possible. Save the Children calls on governments to:

Build consensus across the international community, including in the UN Security Council, to demand all parties to the conflict fulfill their obligation to allow humanitarian aid—including UN aid—to all areas where children need it, across conflict lines and across Syria's borders;

Increase funding. Overall the UN is calling for over \$5 billion to meet needs inside Syria and among refugees in neighboring countries. Only 41%<sup>xxi</sup> of the appeal is funded. Governments must increase support for humanitarian operations throughout Syria by any possible channel, as well as scale up support for refugees and host communities in neighboring countries.

#### ENDNOTES

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ii. Al Jazeera: UN: Syria death toll rises above 100,000; <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/07/2013725142157450141.html> last viewed 28 August 2013.

iii. OHCHR, UN Committee on the Rights of the Child appalled by killing of Syrian children in alleged chemical attack, 26 August 2013; <http://www.ohchr.org/SP/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=13660&LangID=E> last viewed 28 August 2013.

iv. Updated Statistical Analysis of Documentation of Killings in the Syrian Arab Republic Commissioned by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, 13 June 2013, available at: <http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/SY/HRDAG-Updated-SY-report.pdf>

v. France 24: UN says 5,000 dying each month in the Syrian conflict; <http://www.france24.com/en/20130716-un-says-5000-people-dying-month-syrian-conflict>.

vi. The Telegraph: "One third of Syrians have fled their homes, reports United Nations" <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/middleeast/syria/10280869/One-third-of-Syrians-have-fled-their-homes-reports-United-Nations.html>

vii. Global News, "1 million children have fled Syria as refugees: UNICEF" <http://globalnews.ca/news/797520/one-million-children-have-fled-syria-as-refugees-unicef/>

viii. OCHA (2013) "Syrian Arab Republic: Humanitarian Dashboard (as of 11 July 2013)," <http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/syria.pdf>, last checked 16th August 2013

ix. The Guardian: "Half of Syrian population will need aid by end of year": <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/apr/19/half-syrian-population-aid-year>

x. OCHA (2013) "Syrian Arab Republic: Humanitarian Dashboard" (as of 11 July 2013), <http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/2resources/syria.pdf>, last checked 16th August 2013.

xi. Assessment Working Group for Northern Syria (2013) "Joint Regional Assessment of Northern Syria—II 2013, Final Report 2013," p. 20, [http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/JRANS%2011%20-%20Final%20Report\\_0.pdf](http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/JRANS%2011%20-%20Final%20Report_0.pdf), last viewed 28th August 2013

xii. UNICEF (2013) "UN Emergency Directors shocked by appalling plight of people in Syria," [http://www.unicef.org/media/media\\_67620.html](http://www.unicef.org/media/media_67620.html)

xiii. World Health Organisation (2013) "WHO warns of increased risk of disease epidemics in Syria and in neighboring countries as summer approaches," <http://reliefweb.int/report/syrian-arab-republic/who-warns-increased-risk-disease-epidemics-syria-and-neighbouring>

xiv. OCHA, UN-led relief convoys into hot-spot areas (January to 10 July 2013), updated with field information; [http://syria.humanitarianresponse.info/sites/syria.humanitarianresponse.info/files/syria\\_UN\\_led\\_relief\\_convoys\\_into\\_hot\\_spot\\_areas\\_january\\_to\\_10\\_july\\_2013\\_en.pdf](http://syria.humanitarianresponse.info/sites/syria.humanitarianresponse.info/files/syria_UN_led_relief_convoys_into_hot_spot_areas_january_to_10_july_2013_en.pdf), last viewed 28 August 2013.

xv. BBC, Syria crisis: UN launches largest ever aid appeal, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-22813207>, last viewed 28 August 2013.

xvi. Assessment Working Group for Northern Syria (2013) "Joint Regional Assessment of Northern Syria—II 2013, Final Report 2013," p. 36, [http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/JRANS%2011%20-%20Final%20Report\\_0.pdf](http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/JRANS%2011%20-%20Final%20Report_0.pdf), last viewed 28th August 2013

xvii. Col. A/HRC/23/58, p. 16.

xviii. FAO GIEW Country Brief, Syrian Arab Republic, <http://www.fao.org/giews/countrybrief/country.jsp?code=SYR>, last checked 3rd September 2013, and Syria Needs Assessment Project (2013) "Regional Analysis Syria: Part 1—Syria, July 2013," p. 16.

xix. DRAFT Child Protection Working Group assessment, Syria—publication pending

xx. Global Post: In north Syria, eating herbs to survive; <http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/news/afp/130402/north-syria-eating-herbs-survive-0>

xxi. OCHA, Financial Tracking services, Syrian Arab Republic Civil Unrest, 2013 Humanitarian Funding : Actual <http://fts.unocha.org/pageloader.aspx?page=emergencyCountryDetails&cc=syr>

#### RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 11:58 a.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Ms. BALDWIN).

#### AUTHORIZING THE LIMITED AND SPECIFIED USE OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES AGAINST SYRIA—MOTION TO PROCEED—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the time until 5 p.m. be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for up to 20 minutes at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, today there are hopeful signs that the

international community will act to secure Syria's chemical weapons which have caused so much pain and so much suffering, including the suffering of little infants and children. A peaceful resolution to the Assad regime's use of these lethal, outlawed weapons would certainly be the best outcome. I commend the resolve of President Obama, without which we wouldn't be looking at a potential diplomatic solution.

I wish to lay out for the record why we must act in response to the use of chemical weapons. Of course, I prefer it to be done through the international community. But I wish to be clear: There are certain norms, there are certain rules, there are certain laws that must be respected and obeyed; otherwise, we lose our humanity, and this is an example.

Famous leaders throughout history have called war various things. They have called war a contagion. They have called war hell. They have called war a scourge, murder, a crime, despicable. But even in the chaos and in the darkness of war, there are rules. There are red lines. There are boundaries. There are limits. There are norms and there are laws. That is why in our Nation, as difficult and as painful as it has been, we have held our servicemembers accountable when they acted outside those norms. We did it just last month with the conviction of a soldier for war crimes committed in Afghanistan.

The use of chemical weapons is way outside international laws, rules, boundaries, limits, and norms, and has been so since the end of World War I, when the world uniformly condemned them. We know—we know without a shadow of a doubt—that they have been used by Syria in a big way, and it is time for all Members of Congress and, frankly, all members of civilized society to look into our hearts, to look into our souls, and to look into our consciences. The painful way to do it is to look at the shocking acts committed against innocent, men, women, and children in Syria. Look at those videos, as difficult as it might be, of children and their families dying horrible, ghastly deaths, writhing in pain, gasping for air, foaming at the mouth as the gas attacks their nervous systems.

Do we have a conscience? I pray we do. Albert Einstein once said: "The world is a dangerous place not because of those who do evil, but because of those who look on and do nothing."

Let me repeat it. "The world is a dangerous place not because of those who do evil, but because of those who look on and do nothing."

Doing nothing can sometimes be an attractive alternative. I understand it. But each of us who looks at these videos, who reads about what happened, each of us must ask ourselves, as human beings, as citizens of our great Nation: Can we respond to these atrocities by doing nothing? Can we sit back and do nothing in the face of Syria's use of chemical weapons on its own people, its own children?