

RELEASE IN FULL

From: Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2011 6:33 AM
To: H
Subject: Fw: UN rights body launches new inquiry on Syria

From: OpsNewsTicker
Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2011 06:30 AM
To: Syria Unrest; NEWS-Libya; NEWS-Mahogany
Cc: SES-O
Subject: UN rights body launches new inquiry on Syria

GENEVA (Reuters) - The U.N. Human Rights Council launched a new commission of inquiry into Syria's crackdown on anti-government protesters, including possible crimes against humanity, despite objections by countries including Russia, China and Cuba.

The 47-member forum easily adopted a resolution presented by by the European Union and the United States. The vote was 33 countries in favour with four against and 9 abstentions. Libya's membership in the council was suspended earlier this year so it has no vote.

"The resolution is adopted," Uruguay's ambassador Laura Dupuy Lasserre who chairs the Council, announced after the vote.

NewsTickers alert senior Department officials to breaking news. This item appears as it did in its original publication and does not contain analysis or commentary by Department sources.