

*Human Rights Council – 32<sup>st</sup> session  
Item 4 – Human rights situations that require the  
Council’s attention  
Interactive Dialogue with the Commission of inquiry on  
the Syrian Arab Republic (Oral Update)*



*Speaker: Arie de Pater*

*Tuesday, 21 June 2016*

Mr. President,

On behalf of the World Evangelical Alliance, I would like to thank the Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic for their efforts to document the horrific human rights abuses that take place in Syria.

Whatever the future of Syria, accountability and justice will be key in overcoming the current dark pages of the country.

The latest report of the Commission, documenting atrocities against the Yezidi community makes for depressing reading. But the truth must be told.

The World Evangelical Alliance calls on the International Community to closely monitor the plight of all threatened religious communities in Syria and especially those under IS. Further, we call on the international community to put the people first. With you, the World Evangelical Alliance is convinced that a political solution is the only sustainable way out but let us not forget the immense and long suffering of the people of Syria. They need our generous support and they need it now!

In the political process non-discrimination and equality before the law for all, irrespective of race, religion or other status, is the corner stone for sustainable peace and indeed of SDG16. The World Evangelical Alliance is convinced that respect for diversity is the core element of any stable society and we call on all of you to lead by example and to review any law and action on this respect for diversity, either directly or indirectly!

We thank you Mr. President.