UGANDA: SNHR takes part in GAAMAC III

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The Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR), founded in June 2011, is a non-governmental, independent group that is considered a primary source for the OHCHR on all death toll-related analyses in Syria.

Uganda, May 23-25, 2018: SNHR took part in the third Global Meeting for the Global Action Against Mass Atrocity Crimes initiative (GAAMAC III). A large number of government representatives from all around the world were in attendance, as well as UN members and civil society groups from different parts of the world.

The meeting was held over three days. The opening session included a recorded speech by the United Nations Secretary-General, before the attendance moved on to discussions that involved presenting research papers. On the next day, the 36-page document ‘Manual on Best Practices for the Establishment and Management of National Mechanisms for Genocide and Mass Atrocities Prevention’ was explored. Held in the Ugandan capital Kampala, the meeting aimed to examine the best methods to achieve a global protection against atrocities, hold their perpetrators accountable, and implement the ‘Responsibility to Protect (R2P)’ norm. The meeting worked on reaching and approving a final version of the document ahead of having it translated to different languages and disseminated on the possible largest scale.

“Syria is the most important example that demonstrates that the Responsibility to Protect norm needs to be revised and reviewed.” Fadel Abdul Ghany, chairman of SNHR, stressed. “The ruling regime in Syria is the one who is perpetrating the most of the atrocities in Syria, firstly, and, secondly, given the utter inability at the Security Council because of the Russian veto. Therefore, there will be no protection for the civilians in Syria against crimes against humanity and war crimes. As a member of the International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect, SNHR has called for implementing the Responsibility to Protect norm on hundreds of occasions, as well as finding a formula to overcome the existing cripple at the Security Council that will go on no matter how much we tried.”

SNHR’s visit and involvement in GAAMAC III in Uganda is part of the continued advocacy efforts upheld by SNHR at every possible serious opportunity.