

New Round of Syrian Talks Slated for March 23rd



United Nations, March 9 (RHC-Xinhua) -- UN Special Envoy for Syria Staffan de Mistura told reporters on Wednesday that a new round of Syrian peace talks is set to take place on March 23rd in Geneva.

De Mistura urged a solid ceasefire in Syria to guarantee fundamental conditions for peace talks and appealed for all Syrians and parties involved to abandon what he described as “the fantasy of a military victory.”

He said the new round of talks, the fifth, should build on what was achieved during previous rounds, noting that no one should start now to try to set back the process.

The fourth round of Syrian peace talks ended on Friday with no breakthrough achieved towards reaching a political solution to end the country's six-year war.

U.N. Security Council president Matthew Rycroft said the council supported envoy Staffan de Mistura in his agenda for the new talks. But Rycroft expressed concern regarding ceasefire violations and the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Syria.



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