

UN Special Envoy Says Iran's Presence in Syria Talks Would Be Useful



Geneva, January 29 (RHC)-- UN-Arab League envoy Lakhdar Brahimi says Iran's presence in the peace talks on Syria could be useful, adding that the mediators will seek Tehran's cooperation in the future.

Syrian Information Minister Omran al-Zoubi joined his voice to the request, saying that "Iran should be part of the region's issues and its solutions, especially in the Syrian crisis. It should have been invited to Geneva II... since its role cannot be ignored."

In response, Brahimi said, "I think we will try to talk and cooperate with Iran in the future, so it would do its role and bear its responsibility in the region."

He also admitted that there has not been any breakthrough yet in the talks between the delegations from the Syrian government and foreign-backed opposition. The two sides have been negotiating in Geneva over the past few days, with talks deadlocked over the opposition's insistence that Syrian President Bashar al-Assad resign.

Brahimi also said that the U.S. and Russia are working hard to find a solution to the conflict in Syria, adding that the talks will continue through Friday.

The Geneva II conference, aimed at finding a political solution to the Syrian crisis, has been underway in Switzerland since January 22nd.

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