

# *UN Envoy Announces Next Round of Syria Talks to Open Next Week*

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United Nations, March 2 (RHC)-- UN Special Envoy for Syria Staffan de Mistura has announced that the next round of negotiations to end the deadly conflict in the Arab country will get underway on March 9th. He changed an earlier decision based on which the talks were set to resume on March 7.

De Mistura said that the delay was due to "logistical and technical reasons" and also for the ceasefire to "better settle down."

He had said earlier that the talks could be postponed based on the situation on the ground.

A ceasefire agreement in Syria brokered by Russia and the United States entered into force on February 27th amid hopes the truce would lead to an end of nearly five years of war.

Syrian President Bashar al-Assad said on Tuesday that the army has so far refrained from responding to breaches of the ceasefire in the country but there are "limits" to its patience. He added that the cessation of hostilities is a "glimmer of hope," and stressed that Damascus would play its part "to make the whole

thing work."

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