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STATEMENT OF JAMES R. SILKENAT, PRESIDENT, **AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION RE: Thursday's** scheduled vote at the U.N. Security Council involving **Syria**

WASHINGTON, May 21, 2014 - The American Bar Association, as it did in November 2011 and June 2012, again urges the United Nations Security Council to refer the situation in Syria to the International Criminal Court for investigation of possible war crimes and crimes against humanity. A resolution sponsored by France, currently scheduled for a vote on May 22, 2014, would authorize the ICC to investigate allegations of atrocities perpetrated by the Syrian government, pro-government militias and armed opposition groups in the ongoing civil war in Syria. The ABA joins the scores of nations that have co-sponsored the resolution in calling for the Security Council to approve it. A just rule of law demands nothing less.

(Media contact: Bill.Choyke@americanbar.org)

Please click here for a biography and photo of James R. Silkenat, president of the American Bar

With nearly 400,000 members, the American Bar Association is one of the largest voluntary professional membership organizations in the world. As the national voice of the legal profession, the ABA works to improve the administration of justice, promotes programs that assist lawyers and judges in their work, accredits law schools, provides continuing legal education, and works to build public understanding around the world of the importance of the rule of law. View our privacy statement online. Follow the latest ABA news at www.ambar.org/news and on Twitter @ABANews.

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