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CANADIAN GOVERNMENT BRIEFED ON SYRIA TRANSITION ROADMAP Ziadeh, Senior Officials Discuss Plan for Post-Assad Transition

Washington, DC – On November 13, 2013, <u>Syrian Center for Political and Strategic Studies (SCPSS)</u> Executive Director Dr. Radwan Ziadeh was invited to Ottawa, Ontario by <u>the Department of Foreign Affairs</u>, <u>Trade and Development of Canada</u> to give a presentation on <u>Syria Transition Roadmap</u>, a document recently published by SCPSS and the <u>Syrian Expert House</u> detailing the Syrian opposition's vision of the post-Assad democratic transition in Syria.

Dr. Ziadeh met with senior representatives of the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development to outline key aspects of the report, including constitutional reform, political and administrative reform, electoral reform, security sector reform, economic reform, and transitional justice and national reconciliation. During the briefing Ziadeh outlined plans for its implementation.

Additionally, Dr. Ziadeh presented the Department of Foreign Affairs with a formal letter of gratitude addressed to the Honorable John Baird. In the letter, the Syrian Center for Political and Strategic Studies thanked the Government of Canada for the generous support of Syrian Transition Roadmap given through Canada's International Development Research Centre.

Syria Transition Roadmap is the result of a year-long consensus-building research process conducted by the Syrian Expert House, a group of approximately 300 Syrian human rights activists, academics, judges, lawyers, leaders of the political opposition, defected government officials, defected military officers, members of local revolutionary councils, and commanders of the armed opposition.

While in Canada, Dr. Ziadeh was also invited by the Canadian Council of International Law to their 42nd annual conference, *Contemporary Actors and their Actions: A New Look at the Formation of International Law.* On November 14th, Dr. Ziadeh spoke at the opening session entitled *International Law and Development: Justice in Transition in Syria* where he discussed transitional justice opportunities in Syria.

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