

*For immediate release*

**Statement by the Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues,**

Rita Izsák, and the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief, Heiner Bielefeldt, strongly condemned the increased number of government aerial attacks in Syria and the use of indiscriminate weapons, such as barrel bombs, including in civilian populated areas. They warned that such attacks could escalate retaliatory action by non-state armed groups against religious and

conversion, or death. They recalled that incitement