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Assyrian Universal Alliance

Member: Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization (UNPO)

For Immediate Release

Sunday March 14, 2010

On March 11, 2010 the Swedish Parliament passed a resolution recognizing the genocide perpetrated by the Ottoman government during World War I against the Assyrians, Armenians, and the Pontic Greeks. The Assyrian Universal Alliance is taking this opportunity to express its appreciation to the members of the Swedish Parliament, all the activists of the Seyfo Center and other Assyrian organizations and institutions, and to the public for initiating, supporting and passing this important historical resolution.

The victimization of Assyrians continues to this day. In the last few weeks, several Assyrians have been killed by terrorists and fundamentalist groups in Iraq's northern city of Mosul in a continued attempt to intimidate and uproot the Assyrians. Hundreds of thousands of Assyrians have been forced to flee their ancestral homeland and now live as refugees in more than 40 countries worldwide. The Swedish parliament's recognition of the genocide committed against the Assyrian people is the first of many necessary steps needed to be taken by the international community in order to stop the perpetual violence committed against Iraq's indigenous community.

With the very existence of one of the world's oldest communities at stake, it is the responsibility of all international organizations and governments to take the necessary measures to ensure the protection and survival of the Assyrian people. Therefore, we urge other governments to follow the direction set forth by the Swedish Parliament and recognize the atrocities committed against Assyrians by the Ottoman government.

Since its inception, the Assyrian Universal Alliance has asserted that the only solution for resolving the problems faced by the Assyrian nation is the establishment of an Assyrian Autonomous Region on our ancestral lands in Northern Iraq. The provisions set forth by the Iraqi Constitution provide the opportunity for Assyrians to establish this region as an integral part of Iraq and under the jurisdiction of its federal government. We urge the international community to intervene on behalf of all Assyrians, encouraging the government of Iraq to support our national petition for establishing this region to ensure the survival of our ancient nation.

Executive Board
Assyrian Universal Alliance