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From:	Abedin, Huma <abedinh@state.gov></abedinh@state.gov>
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Subject:	Fw: Syria says oil output cut by third due to sanctions (Reuters)

From: OpsNewsTicker Sent: Saturday, December 24, 2011 04:48 AM To: NEWS-Mahogany Cc: SES-O Subject: Syria says oil output cut by third due to sanctions (Reuters)

CAIRO, Dec 24 (Reuters) - Syrian Oil Minister Sufian Alao said on Saturday that his country's oil production had fallen by about 30 to 35 percent as a result of sanctions imposed on Syria over its nine-month crackdown on anti-government protests.

The European Union has stepped up its sanctions against Syria's oil industry, including blacklisting stateowned firms.

"We reduced our production by 30 to 35 percent till we resume exports," he told reporters on the sidelines of a Arab oil ministers meeting in Cairo, adding that current output was about 260,000 barrels per day.

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