



## Security Council

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### **Letter dated 18 December 2019 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I have the honour to write to transmit to you a letter from the representative of the National Coalition of Syrian Revolutionary and Opposition Forces dated 16 December 2019 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the Security Council.

*(Signed)* Karen Pierce



## **Annex to the letter dated 18 December 2019 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I would like to extend my sincerest greetings to you on behalf of the National Coalition of Syrian Revolution and Opposition Forces. As people all over the world prepare to welcome the end-of-year holidays, millions of Syrians continue to be victims of the humanitarian catastrophe in Syria, which has been and continues to be the cause of displacement and destruction, mainly due to ongoing military operations and inability to receive much-needed humanitarian aid.

In accordance with Security Council resolutions [2139 \(2014\)](#) and [2165 \(2014\)](#), all parties in Syria were called upon to permit free access to humanitarian aid and allow direct humanitarian access across four border crossings not controlled by the Syrian regime. Security Council resolution [2449 \(2018\)](#) in paragraph 3 renewed “the decisions in paragraphs 2 and 3 of Security Council resolution [2165 \(2014\)](#) for a further period of twelve months, that is, until 10 January 2020.”

Security Council document (S/2019/820), dated 15 October 2019, and containing a report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolutions [2139 \(2014\)](#), [2165 \(2014\)](#), [2191 \(2014\)](#), [2258 \(2015\)](#), [2332 \(2016\)](#), [2393 \(2017\)](#), [2401 \(2018\)](#), and [2449 \(2018\)](#) provided detailed information on the deteriorating humanitarian situation in different parts of the Syrians territories and continued difficulties of accessing many of the areas where the need is greatest.

Over the last two months, since the date of the above report, the conditions have deteriorated further due to the ongoing escalation in many parts, particularly in northwestern Syria in the Idlib province, northern Hama, and western Aleppo. Furthermore, as the winter season approaches quickly, millions remain displaced to locations with no shelter of any kind, makeshift camps that do not have the basics for minimal living conditions, or camps that have proven unsuitable to withstand seasonal conditions like heavy rain and very hot or cold weather.

According to the above and based on the aforementioned Security Council resolutions, we call on the Security Council to:

1. Renew the decisions enumerated in paragraphs 2 and 3 of Security Council resolution [2165 \(2014\)](#) as a demonstration of continued commitment to address the deteriorating humanitarian situation in Syria;
2. Closely monitor and take all necessary steps to ensure full implementation of the resolutions relevant to humanitarian assistance provision to all Syrian territories, particularly those with the gravest humanitarian conditions, such as Idlib, northern Hama, western Aleppo, and Latakia, among others;
3. Increase and expand the scope of humanitarian assistance provided to meet basic and urgent needs, particularly those relating to shelter, food, education, and health services; and
4. Support the efforts of the political track to achieve a political transition and call upon all relevant parties to engage responsibly to reach a comprehensive political solution by fully implementing Security Council resolution [2254 \(2015\)](#), which among other things will ensure fundamentally resolving the humanitarian crisis in Syria.

Your Excellency, we count on you and other members of the Security Council as a body that was established to ensure international peace and security to shoulder its responsibilities and utilize all the tools at its disposal to achieve these goals in Syria and elsewhere.

*(Signed)* **Anas Abdah**

President

National Coalition of Syrian Revolutionary and Opposition Forces

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