

Distr.: General 5 March 2019 English

Original: Arabic

General Assembly Seventy-third session Agenda items 38, 55, 64 and 73 **Security Council** Seventy-fourth year

The situation in the Middle East

Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli **Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian** People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories

Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources

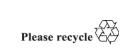
Right of peoples to self-determination

Identical letters dated 28 February 2019 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I should like to convey to you the following alarming information.

The Israeli occupying authorities continue to put pressure on our people in the occupied Syrian Golan and are forcing them to register their land, which was owned by their parents and grandparents, with the Israeli Land Registration Office. They are forcing them to submit title deeds registered in the homeland or other instruments establishing ownership of land to the Land Registration Office of the Israeli occupying authorities, so that they can be given Israeli-issued title deeds in their place. In advance of taking a measure that will affect all villages in the occupied Syrian Golan, the Land Registration Office of the Israeli occupying authorities has asked the residents of the occupied village of Ayn Quniyah and the industrial zone of the occupied village of Majdal Shams to submit their title deeds.

The actions of the Israeli occupying authorities are part of a systematic policy of aggression the aim of which is to seize the land of our people in the occupied Syrian Golan and pass off a new type of occupation that presents a false picture to the entire world of integration between the indigenous population, who are the Syrian Arab citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan, and the Israeli settlers, thus giving the Israeli occupying authorities a legal excuse to apply the unjust law on the annexation of the occupied Syrian Golan and place the territory under brutal Israeli occupation.





The Syrian Arab Republic reaffirms that the occupied Syrian Golan is an integral part of its national territory and that it will recover it, sooner or later, by all available means. It also reaffirms its support for the Syrian Arab citizens of that territory as they continue to resist Israeli occupation and reject the decision to annex the Syrian Golan to the occupying State and all other illegal decisions that the Israeli occupying authorities have imposed to date that are aimed at changing the demographic and geographical character and legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan.

The Syrian Arab Republic once again calls upon the Security Council to act without delay to maintain international peace and security by compelling Israel to cease its illegal settlement policies and its oppressive measures against our people in the occupied Syrian Golan, as those polices and measures constitute a flagrant violation of the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions, in particular Security Council resolution 497 (1981), which provides that the decision of Israel to impose its laws and administration in the occupied Syrian Golan is null and void and has no legal effect at the international level.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 38, 55, 64 and 73, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Bashar **Ja'afari** Ambassador Permanent Representative

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