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Biographical Note

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NEW PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SYRIA PRESENTS CREDENTIALS

Dia-Allah El-Fattal, the new Permanent Representative of Syria to the United Nations, presented his credentials this afternoon to Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

This is Mr. El-Fattal's second appointment to this post, which he held from 1981 to 1986. In the interim, he has served as his country's Deputy Foreign Minister in charge of political affairs.

Mr. El-Fattal was born in 1927 in Damascus. He received a License in Law from Damascus University in 1951, and commenced his diplomatic career the following year as an attaché at the Syrian Legation to the Holy See. From 1958 to 1961, he held the post of Second Secretary at the United Arab Republic Embassy in Addis Ababa.

From 1962 to 1966, he was at the Syrian Embassy in Washington, D.C., where he served successively as Second Secretary and First Secretary. During that time, he received a Master's degree in philosophy from the School of International Service at American University. From 1967 to 1972, he was a Counsellor at his country's Mission to the United Nations in New York.

His overseas service was punctuated by a two-year term in Damascus (1972 to 1974) as Director of Syria's Department of International Organizations and Conferences. From 1975 to 1981, he was Syria's Permanent Representative to the United Nations at Geneva.

Mr. El-Fattal is married and has two children.

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