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NEW PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SYRIA PRESENTS CREDENTIALS

Georges J. Tomeh, the new Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations, presented credentials yesterday (13 October) to the Secretary-General, U Thant. He was accompanied by the United Nations Chief of Protocol, Pierre de Meulemeester.

Mr. Tomeh, before his present appointment, was Professor of Philosophy at the Syrian University, 1964-65 and, prior to that period, served as Minister of Economy of the Syrian Arab Republic, 1963-64.

During a long career in the foreign service, he was connected with United Nations activities in various capacities.

Mr. Tomeh was born in Damascus in 1921. He received his M.A. degree at the American University of Beirut in 1944 and his Ph.D. in Philosophy at Georgetown University (United States) in 1951.

He was Attache to the Syrian Embassy in London, 1945-46, and also his country's alternate delegate to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). From 1947 to 1952 he served in the Syrian Embassy in Washington, D.C., and as delegate to the Food and Agriculture Organization. In 1950, he was an Alternate Governor of the International Monetary Fund.

In 1953-54, he was Director of the United Nations and Treaties Department of the Foreign Ministry, in Damascus, and also alternate delegate to the Executive Board of UNESCO.

During 1954-56, he was Assistant Professor of Philosophy and Assistant to the Dean of Arts and Sciences at the American University of Beirut. He then served as Director of the Research Department of the Foreign Ministry, Damascus.

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In September 1957, he was appointed Consul-General of Syria in New York and a representative to the twelfth session of the United Nations General Assembly.

In 1958, he served as the representative of Syria, and later of the United Arab Republic, on the Trusteeship Council of the United Nations. During that year, he became Consul-General of the United Arab Republic in New York and in 1959 was elected President of the Society of Foreign Consuls in New York. In March 1961, he was appointed to the rank of Minister Plenipotentiary of the United Arab Republic. In October 1961, he was appointed Consul-General and Deputy Permanent Representative of Syria to the United Nations.

In May 1963, he was appointed Minister of Economy of the Syrian Arab Republic, and subsequently became Professor of Philosophy at the Syrian University.

Mr. Tomeh has published numerous works in Arabic and English, in his own country and in the United States.

He is married and has three children.