



Security Council

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Identical letters dated 17 March 2020 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I should like to draw to your attention the following information.

On Monday, 16 March 2020, armed terrorist groups supported by the Turkish occupation forces attacked facilities belonging to non-governmental humanitarian organizations in Idlib and Ariha. They raided the headquarters and clinics of the organizations, attacked volunteers who were on site, and looted and seized the contents.

That attack on humanitarian organizations underscores once again the brutal, criminal nature of the armed terrorist groups, which continue to receive military and logistical support from the Turkish regime. The international community must recognize and confront the serious threat posed by those groups to the security of humanitarian staff and the safety of volunteers.

The Syrian Arab Republic condemns the attacks in the strongest possible terms. Over the last few days, certain States, including France, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, which are permanent members of the Security Council, have shed crocodile tears for the Syrian people, all the while providing support for terrorists and covering up their heinous crimes, including crimes against humanitarian organizations and staff. The Syrian Arab Republic warns, once again, that it is dangerous to ignore such conduct. The Security Council must mobilize immediately and take tangible measures to guarantee the safety of those who work for humanitarian organizations. Moreover, the Council must compel State sponsors of terrorism to implement the resolutions concerning counter-terrorism and desist from pursuing their base policies, which are aimed at undermining the stability of Syria, and from targeting civilians, including by encouraging and supporting attacks on humanitarian staff.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be issued as a document of the Security Council.

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

