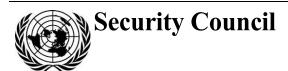
S/2021/271\* **United Nations** 



Distr.: General 22 March 2021 English

Original: Arabic

## **Identical letters dated 17 March 2021 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**

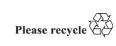
On instructions from my Government, I should like to convey to you the following information.

At 2235 hours on Tuesday, 16 March 2021, the Israeli enemy authorities once again attacked the territory of the Syrian Arab Republic, in flagrant violation of Security Council resolution 350 (1974) concerning the Disengagement of Forces Agreement, firing successive salvos of missiles from the occupied Syrian Golan at the environs of the capital, Damascus.

It should no longer be surprising that the Israeli occupying authorities, which engage in State terrorism and will occasionally go so far as to brazenly announce their crimes, are bombarding parts of Syria in coordination with friendly and allied armed terrorist groups. One of those groups committed a heinous act of terrorism on 15 March 2021 when it attacked a truck carrying Syrian Arab Army troops in Dar'a Governorate. Meanwhile, terrorists wearing suicide belts attempted to enter Damascus surreptitiously in order to carry out terrorist attacks, but that operation was thwarted by Syrian counter-terrorism officials.

This deplorable action demonstrates that the objectives of Israeli terrorism and takfirist terrorism are in complete alignment. They are two sides of the same coin and a currency that is traded in the stock markets of States that do not believe in international law, international authority or the Charter of the United Nations. Instead, those States believe in the law of the jungle and use it as the basis for their foreign policies. Israel continues to follow that law, and its conduct is blessed by certain States that cover up the crimes and recklessness of Israel in order to achieve their common objectives and implement their well-known geopolitical agenda, which is to prolong the Syrian crisis by supporting armed terrorist groups that are partners of Israel, on the one hand, and armed separatist groups, on the other, and by preventing the Syrian Arab Army and its allies from defeating Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), the Nusrah Front and other terrorist groups of various names.

The Syrian Arab Republic is not surprised that Israel continues to pursue its hostile and dangerous approach, that armed terrorists organizations continue to commit crimes and that the Israeli, Turkish and American occupiers continue to hold cherished parts of Syrian territory. Nor is it surprised that the European Union, the European Parliament, the United States of America and certain States that are in their orbit issued nearly identical statements to mark what they called "10 years of conflict





<sup>\*</sup> Reissued for technical reasons on 31 March 2021.

in Syria", in a blatant and shameful exchange of roles among those who are playing their designated parts in attacking the sovereignty and territorial integrity and unity of Syria.

The Syrian Arab Republic reaffirms that the recent attacks and dubious schemes directed against it will not deter it from exercising its authority under the constitution and waging its legitimate war against terrorism. It is completely unacceptable that these systematic attacks, which have become a serious threat to the security and stability of the region, should continue. The States that are behind them should be fully aware that they will bear full international responsibility for their consequences, in accordance with international law.

Syria also reaffirms that all these attacks and schemes will not succeed in intimidating the Syrian people. On the contrary, they have reinforced the Syrian people's determination to achieve their inevitable victory over terrorism and recover the occupied Syrian Golan up to the line of 4 June 1967.

The Syrian Arab Republic has counted on and continues to count on the United Nations to implement and defend the Charter by condemning all attacks against and violations of the sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Syria and the well-being of its people, including the repeated acts of aggression committed by Israel and the crimes committed by armed terrorist groups and the Turkish and American occupiers. To that end, the new United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Tor Wennesland, must honour his mandate and inform the Security Council of these attacks and violations in his monthly briefings, instead of covering them up like his predecessor, Nickolay Mladenov. In that connection, the Security Council must fulfil its responsibilities under the Charter, the most significant of which is the maintenance of international peace and security, and immediately take decisive measures in order to prevent the recurrence of Israeli acts of terrorism. Moreover, the Council must compel Israel to respect its resolutions concerning the Disengagement of Forces Agreement and hold it accountable for the acts of terrorism and crimes that it has committed against the Syrian people, each of which constitutes a flagrant violation of the Charter, international law, Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973), 350 (1974) and 497 (1981), and all international instruments and resolutions concerning counter-terrorism.

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

(Signed) Bassam Sabbagh Ambassador Permanent Representative

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