

**Security Council**

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**Letter dated 10 March 2004 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to write to you in reference to document S/2004/20 dated 14 February 2004 concerning matters of which the Security Council is seized and the stage reached in their consideration. In this connection, on instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that the Syrian Arab Republic requests the retention of the following items listed in paragraph 8 of the above-mentioned document:

1. The Palestine question.
16. The Middle East problem, including the Palestinian question.
19. The question of the exercise by the Palestinian people of its inalienable rights.
26. Letter dated 4 February 1986 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/17787).

I take this opportunity to reaffirm the position of the Syrian Arab Republic set out in its note dated 9 February 1998 (S/1998/111) addressed to the President of the Security Council.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

*(Signed)* **Fayssal Mekdad**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative