



Security Council

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Identical letters dated 30 November 2015 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 wish to draw your attention to the following points.

Under the Charter of the United Nations, Member States entrust the Security Council with primary responsibility for maintaining peace and security and consulting with States experiencing unstable situations or threats to their national security. Those functions are performed on behalf of Member States and in accordance with the Charter.

The Security Council holds several monthly and periodic meetings on topics that involve the Syrian Arab Republic and the occupied Syrian Golan. These include the situation in the Middle East; counter-terrorism and the implementation of Security Council resolutions 1267 (1999), 1373 (2001), 1540 (2004), 1624 (2005), 1989 (2011), 2170 (2014), 2178 (2014) and 2199 (2015); the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolutions 2118 (2013), 2139 (2014), 2165 (2014) and 2191 (2014); and women and children in armed conflict.

Under rule 19 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the President of the Security Council shall represent the Council in its capacity as an organ of the United Nations.

In point of fact, the programme of work of the Council for November 2015, under the presidency of the United Kingdom, has included several meetings on issues related to the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic. In view of those considerations, the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations asked the President of the Security Council to meet with its Permanent Representative for consultations.

However, the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom, in his capacity as President of the Security Council for November 2015, ignored the request for a meeting, which was made on 6 November 2015 and reiterated by e-mails of 9 and 12 November 2015 and by a formal memorandum of 12 November 2015. The delegation of my country, the Syrian Arab Republic, wishes to protest against that course of action in the strongest possible terms.

It is truly regrettable that the Permanent Representative of a State that has held a permanent seat on the Security Council for seventy years has shown such disregard



for diplomatic standards and the fundamental and binding rules of procedure in force at the United Nations. In so doing, he has exploited the presidency of the Council to serve the political agenda of his country. The latter has turned a deaf ear to anything that contradicts its approach. Instead, it has clung stubbornly to its irrational policies. The years that have elapsed since the outbreak of the Syrian crisis have shown that those policies are mistaken, and have merely exacerbated the turmoil and the spread of terrorism across the Middle East and the world.

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

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