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Identical letters dated 31 October 2019 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.

The military aggression by the Turkish regime against the territory and people of the Syrian Arab Republic continues unabated. Turkish regime forces and the regime's mercenaries have occupied several Syrian villages and attacked with ferocity the Syrian Arab Army. Moreover, Turkish regime forces and the regime's terrorist mercenaries have fired artillery and other weapons at civilian homes in villages in Hasakah Governorate, causing a significant number of persons, estimated to be in the tens of thousands, to be displaced.

In order to stop the Turkish regime from propagating its justifications and lies, the Ministry of Defence of the Syrian Arab Republic and other bodies issued a statement on 30 October 2019 in which the general command of the army and armed forces calls upon the members of the so-called Syrian Democratic Forces to join Syrian Arab Army units, in order to enable all the citizens of a unified Syria to defend the nation's sovereignty and recover every inch of occupied Syrian Arab Republic territory. Moreover, the Ministry of the Interior of the Syrian Arab Republic announced that it stands ready to provide all civil status services to the people of the Jazirah region of Syria who have been unable to obtain civil status documents because of the difficult conditions that the region has experienced. The Ministry confirmed that it will accept all members of the so-called Asayish who are interested in joining the Internal Security Forces. The Ministry of Education issued a statement in which it announced that, in view of the security and military situation that has arisen in the region as a result of terrorist operations and has prevented students from pursuing their education, it was prepared to address the situation of students in the Jazirah region and ensure that they are able to pursue the education that they had been denied.

Those statements and several other measures announced by the Syrian Arab Republic demonstrate to the world the genuine desire of the Syrian State to embrace all its people throughout the Syrian Arab Republic, including in north-western Syria, by doing everything possible and providing every opportunity to strengthen the cohesiveness of the Syrian people in the face of the conspiracies being directed against the country, whether by the Turkish regime or the international coalition led by the United States of America. The Constitutional Committee that is being facilitated by the United Nations in Geneva began its work on 30 October 2019. This development is yet more evidence that the Syrian State is determined to resolve the

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problems facing Syria by remaining committed to the principle of the unity of the people and territory of the Syrian Arab Republic, and that it is prepared to respond to all projects aimed at breaking up the country and encouraging secession and to the criminal unilateral economic measures that certain States continue to impose in order to forestall a political solution and enable them to continue supporting anything that will lead to further bloodshed in Syrian territory, allow them to loot the country's oil wealth and other resources, and reduce the capacity of the Syrian State to address the economic and social challenges imposed by the nature of the crisis and by terrorist forces and the States in the region and beyond that support them.

The Syrian Arab Republic reiterates its unwavering determination to continue the war against terrorism and liberate any territory, in particular in northern Syria, that terrorist groups continue to control. The Syrian Arab Republic calls upon international humanitarian aid organizations to provide without delay, in implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions, the assistance that the victims of the Turkish invasion and terrorism need. It also calls upon them to cooperate with the Government the Syrian Arab Republic in a sincere and honest manner, and not to support dubious and selective agendas that, as proven by developments, have not been and will never be a sound basis for ending the crisis in Syria. The key to resolving the crisis is for the aforementioned States and actors to stop supporting terrorism and efforts to divide Syria and undermine the unity of its people, its territorial integrity and its sovereignty, and to stop interfering in the internal affairs of Syria without any justification.

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