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Security Council

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Identical letters dated 17 January 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 draw your attention to the following:

The Turkish regime continues to blatantly violate the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic. Its actions have led to the killing, wounding and displacement of thousands of innocent civilians and the destruction of infrastructure and public and private property, in flagrant violation of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and all the United Nations resolutions affirming the unity of the territory and people the Syrian Arab Republic.

As we have indicated in dozens of previous letters, the Turkish regime continues to seize and encroach on slices of Syrian territory, building walls and roads through them and carving them up. By way of example, seven roads were recently built, five of them around the town of Bulbul, in the Afrin district of Aleppo Governorate, some 2.5 km to 5 km north-east of the town; one 3.3 km north of Harim in Idlib Governorate; and another 16 km west of Ayn ‘Arab in Aleppo Governorate.

The President of the Turkish regime is now issuing statements about setting up a safe zone as its military aggression proceeds in northern and north-eastern Syria, in the wake of the havoc that its proxy terrorist groups have wrought by oppressing and killing Syrian civilian inhabitants of that region and displacing them from their homes and villages. Such statements and actions confirm that that regime is nothing more than a sponsor of terrorism in the region and the terrorists at the Astana talks. It is a reckless rogue regime that knows only the language of occupation, aggression and threats.

The Syrian Arab Republic stresses that the presence of Turkish military forces on its soil is an act of aggression and will be dealt with as such. The Turkish regime’s seizure of and encroachment on Syrian territory will not alter the legal status of that territory or the fact that it belongs to the Syrian Arab Republic. It will not have any effect whatsoever on the sovereign legal rights of the Syrian Arab Republic.

The Syrian Arab Republic once again calls on the Security Council to condemn these ongoing acts of aggression and violations by the Turkish regime of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic. It calls on the Council to take immediate action to put a stop to these grave Turkish violations, and to compel the Turkish regime to withdraw its troops from Syrian territory, cease providing support to terrorist organizations, and desist from policies that are in

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flagrant violation of the Charter of the United Nations and international law and pose a threat to regional and international peace and security.

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