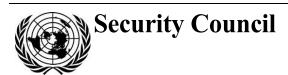
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Letter dated 15 February 2019 from the representatives of Egypt, France, Germany, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

We, as the representatives of Egypt, France, Germany, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, the United Kingdom and the United States, wish to draw your attention to the joint statement as issued by our Ministers for Foreign Affairs during the meeting of the Syria Small Group held on 6 February 2019 in Washington, D.C. The statement expressed our full support for United Nations efforts to achieve a political solution to the Syrian conflict on the basis of Security Council resolution 2254 (2015). We kindly request that the present letter be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

Furthermore, we, the Syria Small Group, underscore our commitment to the full implementation of all elements of a credible political solution as outlined in resolution 2254 (2015) and look forward to working with the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria, Geir O. Pedersen, to advance those objectives.

(Signed) Mohamed Edrees
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Egypt

(Signed) François Delattre

Ambassador

Permanent Representative of France

(Signed) Christoph Heusgen

Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Germany

(Signed) Sima Bahous

Ambassador

Permanent Representative of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

(Signed) Abdallah Y. Al-Mouallimi

Ambassador

Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia





(Signed) Karen Pierce

Ambassador

Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and

Northern Ireland

(Signed) Jonathan Cohen

Ambassador

Permanent Representative of the United States, Acting

Chargé d'affaires a.i.

2/3

Annex to the letter dated 15 February 2019 from the representatives of Egypt, France, Germany, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

The text of the following statement on Syria was released by the Governments of Egypt, France, Germany, Jordan, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America.

Statement

We, the Foreign Ministers and representatives of Egypt, France, Germany, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America, met today in Washington to continue our work in support of the UN's efforts to achieve a political solution to the conflict in Syria on the basis of UN Security Council Resolution 2254.

There is no military solution for Syria and no alternative to a political solution, thus there is a concerted need for diplomacy and international political will to end the Syrian conflict and alleviate the continued suffering of the Syrian people. We affirm in the strongest terms that those who seek to destabilize the region or seek a military solution will only succeed in increasing the risk of a dangerous escalation and wider conflagration in the region. We are determined to focus our efforts and move forward with a political solution consistent with UN Security Council Resolution 2254.

We reiterate our support for the United Nations and UN Special Envoy for Syria Pedersen's efforts. We underscore the Office of the UN Special Envoy's clear mandate from the Secretary-General and the UN Security Council to move forward with these objectives and encourage all sides to engage substantively to end the Syrian conflict.

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