



Security Council

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Identical letters dated 26 January 2020 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 convey to you the following information.

Armed terrorist groups, led by the Levant Liberation Organization (Nusrah Front), which is included in the Security Council list of terrorist groups, continue to terrorize and commit crimes against civilian population centres, and to target humanitarian sites and service facilities, such as hospitals, schools and houses of worship, in Aleppo Governorate and its countryside and in Idlib Governorate. Those groups have killed and injured many persons, most of them children, women and elderly individuals, and destroyed much civilian infrastructure. For example, the Syrian Arab Republic notes that, in the past week alone, 23 civilians were killed when those groups bombarded the Sukkari neighbourhood and nearby areas of Aleppo city on 16 January 2020.

The precise and well-planned military operations that are being carried out by the Syrian Arab Army and its allies in Aleppo and Idlib Governorates are a response to the appeals of Syrian civilian in those Governorates and to the systematic crimes that those armed terrorist groups have been able to commit thanks to the unlimited military and logistical support provided by Western States and their proxies in the region.

The Syrian Arab Republic draws the attention of the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council to the fact that the Nusrah Front and affiliated terrorist groups continue to besiege civilians in order to prevent them from leaving through the humanitarian corridors that the relevant authorities opened in Abu al-Duhur, Habit and Hadir in the countryside of Idlib and Aleppo Governorates. Moreover, they continue to target civilians seeking to escape their criminal practices, although it has been nearly two weeks since those corridors, which are protected by Syrian Arab Army units operating in those areas, were opened. In those areas, full-service medical clinics that can serve children, women and ill civilians have been established and the required means of transportation have been put in place.

The Syrian Arab Republic, in keeping with its obligations under its Constitution and international law, reaffirms that the Syrian Arab Army and its allies will not cease their military operations aimed at eliminating the gang members of Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, the Nusrah Front and other terrorist organizations until they have annihilated those terrorists, who threaten the safety and security of Syrian civilians.



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
