



Statement of
The Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic

By
H.E. Dr. Bashar Ja'afari
Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic
At

The Security Council

“The Situation in the Middle East”

I thank our colleague Ambassador Eugene Richard Gasana for the successful management of the work of the Security Council for this month. I would also like to thank the ladies and gentlemen who briefed us during this session.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen,

These days, The Syrian people are celebrating the sixty-seventh anniversary of Syria's independence from French colonizers, and I take the opportunity from the Security Council to salute the soul of the first martyr who fell fighting this colonizer, who was then the Minister of Defense, Yousof Al Azmeh, and I would like to assure him that his legacy to the Syrians is entrusted in good hands. The people of my homeland, Syria, are opponents to occupation, dismissive of dominance and servility, and anyone thinking, even for a moment, to turn the clock back, is an illusionist, because the people of Syria, who participated in making history for thousands of years will not allow anyone, whether great or mighty, clear in its identity or working undercover, old or new, near or far to threaten its sovereignty, dignity, political independence and national unity. Although there are some differences in the way Syrian citizens love their homeland, but they are determined, all of them, to stand united in the face of any attempt aims to undermine Syria's dignity, its political independence and well-established national principles.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Allow me to thank Ms. Valerie Amos and Ms. Margaret Chan, and, also, Artharin Cousin, Antonio Guterres and Anthony Lake for the appeal they issued on behalf of the United Nations in the "New York Times" on 15/4/5/2013, and applause the humanitarian feelings they expressed towards Syria and its people. We wish that this appeal would have touched on the core issues causing the suffering of the Syrians in terms of addressing the state of the unilateral coercive illegal measures imposed on the Syrian people, and also what the Syrians are going through due to the dangers, challenges and threats stemming from the spreading of international terrorism on Syrian territory, and the impact of this blind terrorism demonstrated by destruction, mass killing and displacement, not only on infrastructure and humans, but on all what Syria represents of coexistence, social harmony, religious tolerance and cultural and ethnic diversity, and a balanced regional role in a volatile area of the world whose capacities are manipulated through bloody alliances between the Arabs living in the era of ignorance and Israel's interests and its protectors.

The crisis in Syria unveiled serious flaws in the system of international relations, as well as in the mechanisms of applying the principles of international law and the provisions of the Charter. All the challenges and risks faced by Syria are dealt with in terms of unprecedented double standards and scandalous political hypocrisy, which leaves no room for doubt about the selectivity through which the mechanisms of so-called international action. The blind terrorism hitting my country finds zealous supporters here, those who work on legalizing it in media, and politically and diplomatically, and recognize it as part of the movement in the country, while they claim fighting the same terrorism in Mali and the African Sahel. Also, the economic blockade that stifles my country's capabilities and

undermines the living conditions of its people have those who defend it and give it a legal status, at a time when the EU discusses purchasing of Syrian oil, which is the right of the Syrian people, from terrorist groups that control some oil wells in Syria. Therefore, today, we say that there is no excuse for any Western government to justify its ignoring of the crossing by terrorists of its citizens of international borders to Syria and actively participate in the shed of Syrian blood. After today, Syrian people will not forgive facilitating the movement of thousands of European and Western terrorists and jihadists, sponsored by well-known intelligence agencies, across the borders of dozens of countries from Australia to the United States to reach the Turkish, Lebanese and Jordanian borders with Syria, where they are accommodated in training camps to then enter my country and spread destruction and sabotage, and shed innocent blood. We cannot also forget the Israeli partnership with the Salafi, Takfiri and terrorist groups, and allowing those groups to cross the separation line in occupied Syrian Golan, and treating their wounded in Israeli hospitals.

Mr. President,

Those states and parties try through the actions I mentioned above to culminate their illegal and immoral actions to damage the sovereignty, role and status of Syria in the United Nations. Perhaps the scholars of politics and law will have plenty of time to study the case of Syria, a founding country of the United Nations, and what it was subjected to at the hands of traders and pirates of politics.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen,

My country emphasizes its commitment to its obligations with the United Nations in accordance with the Response Plan to the Humanitarian Needs of the year 2013, which helped in the delivery of humanitarian aid to various regions of Syria, and including A'zaz area, about 1 Kilometer from the Turkish border, within the framework of General Assembly resolution 46/182.

The full response of the Syrian government to the Humanitarian Response Plan was obstructed by poor funding and conditionality; and the commitments launched by donors in media, including those in the Kuwait meeting, in January 2013, and in a number of other international forums remained unfulfilled. We all know that OCHA received only 34% of the required funding, and this confirms what we have said many times before that those pledges are nothing but media propaganda promoted by crisis traders, and lies and falsity promoters. In response to the Syrian government cooperation, there are parties, known to everyone, that insist on the scandalous contribution to the sustainability of the cycle of violence in my country, through supporting terrorist groups affiliated with Al-Qaeda in a clear threat to international peace and security in Syria, the region as well as the world. Many reports indicate buying off some governments in some countries by petrodollars in order to open their borders to the weapons delivered to blind terror groups active in my country. Those weapons, purchased by Qatari - Saudi petrodollars from several sources, well known to everybody, and also what has been smuggled, and is still smuggled, until now, across the borders of some neighboring countries of Syria, from the Libyan arms depots, according to the final report of the Expert Group of the Security Council established pursuant to resolution 1973 (2011) on Libya.

Mr. President,

I would like to emphasize as well on the exclusive responsibility of the Syrian Government in protecting its citizens, in accordance with the principles of international law, in a way that safeguards its sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity, and restores its constructive and leadership role in the international arena.

The crude and excessively passive and aggressive propaganda which some governments and agencies are trying to promote come as a justification for their attempts to interfere in Syria's domestic affairs, and breaching Syrian sovereignty under pretexts such as "humanitarian intervention", imposing "no-fly zones", establishing "safe humanitarian corridors" and the concept of "Responsibility to Protect". Some host countries, as well, try to exacerbate Syrian refugee crisis by preventing them from returning to their homeland and trading with their suffering, despite repeated and continued requests by Syrian government of the governments of those states to allow the Syrians who want to return to their homeland to come back.

On the subject of sexual violence, I would like to refer you to the statement I delivered, on behalf of my country, to the Security Council's session yesterday, April 17, 2013, and I would like to add that Syria did not witness, throughout its history, anything like this kind of heinous crimes committed by the thugs of Jihad and bandits. Women were enjoying the environment of security and safety available to them in Syria to exercise their natural role in society. Syria used to rank third in the world in terms of safety. However, a complex factor of sabotage entered the Syrian society and distorted this behavioral reality in Syria. Armed terrorist groups carrying Wahhabi, Salafi and takfiri imported ideology from petrodollar Gulf countries entered through neighboring countries. These groups backed with financial, intelligence, military and media generous support, as well as weapons, offered by some Arabs from the era of ignorance, Western complicity and Israeli partnership worked deliberately and systematically to sabotage the security and safety of the Syrians, including women and children.

Mr. President,

Dozens of political and media reports, as well as testimonies of well-known non-government parties, have proven the resorting of armed terrorist groups to recruit children into their ranks, and force them to take up arms and participate in terrorist acts and execute the orders of leaders of armed groups to carry out acts of murder and sabotage against public and private property. This is in addition to burning and looting and destruction of more than 3000 schools and kindergartens, in a blatant attack on the right of an entire generation of children in getting education and knowledge that will enable them to contribute in the future of building the country. During the deliberate attacks of armed groups terrorist on educational institutions and the teaching staff in Syria in documented cases, people were directly and indirectly threatened and prevented from sending their children to school, through bombing of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) on schools, or through targeting of schools deliberately with missile by terrorist groups. Those incidents are repeated with the start of the school year in Syria.

The Syrian Arab Republic is committed by its obligations under Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict since 2003.

Mr. President,

While states continue to build their social contract based on the concepts of diversity and pluralism, harmony and real citizenship, we find strong subversive powers seeking to break the social contract in our region, which is famous for its diversity, richness and plurality, through devoting the culture of religious, sectarian and factional divisions, and promoting the concept of slaughtering people on the basis of their identity, and seeking to displace important components of our societies outside their homeland. I Emphasize here that Syria will not allow to pass another Sykes - Picot at the expense of the peoples of our region, and will remain the strongest link that will face any attempt to impose any new reality alien to our region and its peoples who have lived in harmony and coexistence with each other over the centuries, and taught mankind that belonging to the homeland and the land is the supreme and most everlasting of all emotions.

Finally, I would like to say, Enough, Enough. After two years of trading in the fate of Syria and the blood of its citizens, there must be earnest work to help my country, people and government, to move forward on the way of a political solution endorsed by the United Nations in its resolutions 2042 and 2043 to 2012, and approved by also Geneva Communiqué. My government insists on applying this political solution through a Syrian-led inclusive national dialogue in which all the people of Syria are represented, and their voice is heard internally, regionally and internationally; their voice which will say to the whole world, Enough, Enough, and stop manipulating a country whose citizens never extended throughout their history but the goodness and love for all the citizens of the world.

Thank you, Mr. President.