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No. 1887/n

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Excellency,

As we are aware, the General Assembly draft resolution on the situation in Syria prepared by a group of "like-minded" countries in a non-transparent manner contravening the existing practice of the UN General Assembly is going to be tabled and voted in the coming days. We have to reiterate our strong position that such a one-sided and biased resolution if adopted would constitute a destructive and deplorable move against the need to end all violence and seek a sustainable political solution to the ongoing Syrian crisis through an inclusive Syrian-led political dialogue.

The counterproductive nature of the above draft becomes even more evident against the backdrop of the understandings on ways ahead on the Syrian crisis reached on May 7, 2013 between the Russian Foreign Minister and the US Secretary of State following their talks in Moscow. It is clear that now all responsible members of the international community must vigorously contribute more than ever to finding a peaceful solution to the crisis on the basis of the Geneva Communiqué of June 30, 2012.

In this regard we consider that tabling and supporting such a resolution will be a serious blow to all attempts to bring the Syrian sides to the negotiating table and let them decide on a peaceful future of their own country.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Vitaly Churkin

All Permanent Representatives and Observers to the United Nations