



**THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE SYRIAN ARAB
REPUBLIC TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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Most Urgent

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The permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations presents its compliments to the UN Secretariate and has the honor to draw its attention to the attempt of the Permanent Mission of France to the UN to promote what is known as “The National Coalition of the Syrian Revolution Forces and Opposition” through organizing an event to be held on September 26, 2013 in the ECOSOC Chamber at the UN Headquarters, with the participation of the Secretariate, and using the interpretation services and UN Webcast for the purpose of this event.

In this regard, the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic would like to refer to the following facts:

- Using of the UN Headquarters to organize meetings with groups opposing the constitutional and legitimate governments is a blatant interference in the internal affairs of Member States. This also violates paragraph /7/ of Article II of the UN Charter, which states that "Nothing contained in the present Charter shall authorize the United Nations to intervene in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any state..."

- The UN Headquarters are exclusively available for meetings consistent with the purposes and principles of the UN, and may not be used for purposes directed against a Member State. The General Assembly, in its resolution 67/237 in operative paragraphs /2/ and /3/ of its second part, “*called upon* the Secretary-General and Member States to adhere to the guidelines and procedures contained in the administrative instruction ST/AI/416 for the authorization of the use of United Nations premises for meetings, conferences, special events and exhibits; and it *Emphasized* that such meetings, conferences, special events and exhibits must be consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations.”
- Member States wishing to hold meetings with groups opposed to the governments of other Member States have to respect the nature and particularity of the UN Headquarters, and work on the organization of such meetings outside the UN Headquarters. The United Nations is not a profit or commercial enterprise so that its rooms be used to hold meetings and events that are in favor of a group of States at the expense of other states, as well as at the expense of the principles of international relations.
- The promotion and attempts to confer legitimacy on a faction of the external Syria opposition groups, while ignoring the fact that this faction does not represent nor the Syrian people neither the opposition itself, completely opposes the principle of a Syrian-led political solution to the Syrian crisis, as confirmed by Security Council resolutions 2042 and 2043, and the terms of the Geneva Declaration of June 30, 2012, and the Russian-American understanding reached on May 7, 2013 aiming to hold a Geneva 2 conference.

Based on the above, the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic calls on the UN Secretariat for the **immediate cancellation** of the event, and prevent establishing a dangerous precedent in the United Nations that may lead to repeat this with other member states, respectively, in a flagrant violation of the UN resolutions, the provisions of international law, the role of the United Nations, and the will of the people.

The Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic avails itself on this opportunity to renew, to the UN Secretariate, the assurances of its highest consideration.

Bashar Ja'afari
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-Moon
Secretary General of the United Nations

CC:

Under-Secretary General for General Assembly and Conferences Management

Under-Secretary General for Public Information

Chief of the Meetings Management