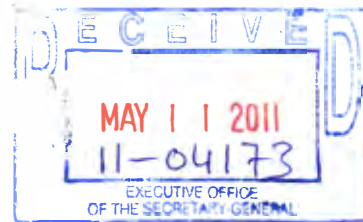




THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

820 Second Ave., 15th Floor, New York, N. Y. 10017
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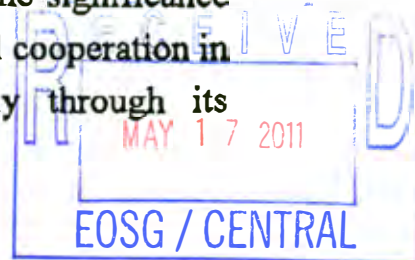


C/PGA/371

The Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations presents its compliments to the President of the Sixty Fifth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, and in reference to the candidature of the Syrian Arab Republic to the membership of the Human Rights Council for the term 2011-2014 in the election to be held 20 May 2011 during the 65th Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, has the honor to inform the latter that departing from the comprehensive reforms currently taking place in Syria and, subsequently, in light of national reprioritizing policy of the candidatures of the Syrian Arab Republic to the different bodies of the United Nations System, and having consulted and coordinated with the Kuwaiti Government, the Syrian Government decided to switch its candidature to the Human Rights Council for the term 2011-2014 with the Kuwaiti candidature to the same body for the term 2013-2016. Consequently, the Syrian candidature to the Human Rights Council will be for the term 2013-2016 instead of 2011-2014.

The Asian Group, in its meeting which was held on 11 May 2011, agreed to switch between the candidature of Syria and the candidature of Kuwait to the Human Rights Council, and endorsed the candidature of Kuwait to the Human Rights Council for the term 2011-2014.

The Syrian Arab Republic was actively involved in the establishment of the Human Rights Council and the formulation of its mandate, and thus it is fully committed to make further and sustained contribution to the independent work of the Human Rights Council aiming at immunizing the latter against any irresponsible attempts of politicization. It attaches particular importance to its candidature to the membership of the Council due to the significance that it sees in the enhancement of the constructive international cooperation in the field of protection of the Human Rights, especially through its



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membership in the Human Rights Council. The voluntary pledges and commitments expressed by the Syrian Arab Republic in the document A/65/784 are still valid for its candidature to the Human Rights Council for the term 2013-2016.

The Permanent Mission of Syria has further the honor to kindly request the assistance of to the President of the General Assembly in circulating this letter as an official document of the 65th Session of the General Assembly under agenda item 112 (c) "Elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other elections: election of fifteen members of the Human Rights Council"

The Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the President of the Sixty Fifth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

11 May 2011

To: The President of the General Assembly
CC: The Secretary General of the United Nations
The Secretariat of the General Assembly Affairs Branch
United Nations
New York

