

PERMANENT MISSION OF TURKEY
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Ambassador

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Excellency,

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I am writing under the instructions from my Government with regard to the letter circulated no 1461731E, dated September 26, 2014, which constitutes yet another futile attempt by the regime in Syria.

As being the sole responsible and the root cause of the enormous destruction and human suffering in Syria, it strives for diverting the attention from the crimes it commits.

Turkey has not only been a safe refuge for the 1.5 million Syrians who had to flee Syria for their lives as the regime bent on collectively punishing the people of Syria in all impunity, but it has also ensured that cross-border humanitarian assistance reach millions of people in dire need on the Syrian side of the border, in conformity with its international obligations and in support of the UN.

As of September 2014, 3 million Syrians have benefited from the Turkish health care system, around 500.000 Syrians were treated in Turkish hospitals, 31.000 Syrian babies were born in Turkey and 69.000 Syrian children are receiving education, all accorded by our own national resources. Under these circumstances, the regime in Syria, has no right to question Turkey's efforts to give back to the Syrian people, and especially Syrian children, some of the dignity they have lost due to the regime's oppression.

We understand that a tragic incident occurred in Syria on September 16, 2014, during an immunization campaign. Turkey neither provided the vaccines, nor conducted the immunization campaign. Apparently, a comprehensive investigation has been initiated. When it is concluded, we hope we will be able to see actually what happened and who is responsible.

It is well-known fact that it was the regime who did not have any qualms about bombing Syrian cities indiscriminately, killing tens of thousands of civilians including children, firing ballistic missiles on them, putting sieges around densely populated areas, starving, without hesitation, mostly women and children, to death and even poisoning them with chemical weapons.

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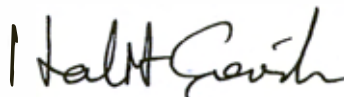
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Mocking the realities and insulting the memories of thousands of innocent people cannot be condoned and are no way compatible with the principles which the international community upholds.

The only way to end this bloodshed in Syria is a genuine and inclusive political transformation on the basis of the Geneva Declaration and the legitimate expectations of the Syrian people. Otherwise, peace and stability cannot be reinstated in Syria and this regime will continue, denying an opportunity for a brighter future for the Syrian people.

I would be grateful if the present letter could be brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

Please accept, Madam President, the assurances of my high consideration.



Y. Halit Çevik
Permanent Representative

H.E. Ms. María Cristina Perceval
President of the Security Council,
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Argentina to the United Nations, New York

cc: H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-Moon
Secretary General of the United Nations, New York