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## DOCUMENT SUMMARY TRANSLATION

DOC. TYPE:	Letter	DOC. DATE:	8 December 2013
SENDER:	Secretary-General of the League of Arab States		
ADDR. TO:	The Secretary-General		
TOPIC:	Draft Security Council resolution regarding the humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic		
ATTACHMENT(S):	Draft resolution		

### SUMMARY OF CONTENT:

The author conveys his support for the Secretary-General's initiative to convene a second Geneva conference on 22 January 2014, with a view to arriving at a political solution to the Syrian crisis.

He also transmits a draft resolution concerning the humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic that the Group of Arab States intends to circulate to the members and President of the Security Council for their consideration. The text of the draft resolution is based on consultations the Group held in November 2013 with the Council members and other stakeholders.

The authors asks the Secretary-General to support the draft resolution and do what he can to ensure that the Council adopts it.

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الأمين العام

2013/12/8

معالي السيد بان كي مون  
الأمين العام للأمم المتحدة

تحية طيبة وبعد،

أود بداية أن أعرب عن تقديري لجهودكم الحثيثة الرامية لتسهيل انعقاد مؤتمر جنيف (2) في 2014/1/22، ودعني الكامل لمواقفكم الداعية إلى تحقيق وقف شامل لإطلاق النار وجمعي أعمال العنف والتدمير في الأراضي السورية إفساحاً للمجال أمام دخول قوات المساعدة الإنسانية إلى المناطق المحاصرة والمتضررة في سوريا، الأمر الذي من شأنه أن يسهم في تهيئة الأجواء الملائمة لعقد مؤتمر جنيف (2) ووضوح الأزمة السورية على مسار الحل السياسي المتفاوضي.

وبهذهني أن أشير في هذا الصدد إلى أن المجموعة العربية في نيويورك، وبعد مشاورات مكثفة أجرتها خلال الشهر الماضي مع الدول الأعضاء في مجلس الأمن ووسع مختلف الأطراف المعنية، قد انتهت من إعداد مشروع القرار المقترح عرضه على مجلس الأمن حول الأوضاع الإنسانية في سوريا، كما سوف تقوم المجموعة العربية خلال الأيام المقبلة بمسليم مشروع القرار هذا إلى رئيس مجلس الأمن ومن ثم إلى الدول الأعضاء في المجلس لاستطلاع آرائهم حول نص المشروع والتوقيعات المناسبة لطرحه على مجلس الأمن.

ويأتي هذا التحرك العربي بناءً على القرار رقم 7717 بتاريخ 2013/11/3 الصادر من مجلس جامعة الدول العربية على المستوى الوزاري والذي نص على: "تكليف المجموعة العربية في الأمم المتحدة بالتحذار التدابير اللازمة لتقديم مشروع قرار لمجلس الأمن ودعوته للقيام بمسؤولياته نحو تقديم كافة أشكال الإغاثة العاجلة للسكان المدنيين في سوريا وحمايتهم من كافة التهديدات التي تعرض حياتهم للخطر وذلك وفقاً لما تنص عليه أحكام القانون الدولي الإنساني وخاصة اتفاقية جنيف الرابعة، وفي إطار مقاصد ميثاق الأمم المتحدة ومبادئ الإعلان العالمي لحقوق الإنسان والمعايير الدولية ذات الصلة بحقوق الإنسان".



## الأمين العام

كما أن هذا الموقف العربي يستند أيضا إلى قرار مجلس الجامعة العزاري رقم 7716 بتاريخ 2013/11/3 الذي نص على: "دعوة جميع أطراف المعارضة السورية إلى التجاوب مع الجهود المبذولة لعقد مؤتمرات جنيف (2) والتعجيل بتشكيل وفدها لمفاوض برنامسة الإعلام الوطني لقوى الثورة والمعارضة السورية للمشاركة في هذا المؤتمر"، كما أكد هذا القرار على: "ضرورة التزام كافة الأطراف المعنية بتوفير المناخ الملزم لمواكبة التطلعات أعمال مؤتمر جنيف (2)"، وذلك عبر اتخاذ مجموعة من الإجراءات العاجلة من بينها: ضمان دخول المساعدات الإنسانية إلى جميع أنحاء سوريا وبالأخص المناطق التي تعاني من الحصار وسياسة التجويع، ورفع كافة أشكال الحصار والموانع لإدخال مواد الإغاثة الإنسانية للمواطنين المتضررين"، إضافة إلى ذلك دعا هذا القرار إلى بذل الجهود من أجل "إفراج عن جميع المعتقلين والمحجزين"، وسحب جميع القوات والمليشيات الأجنبية من سوريا، والتزام جميع الأطراف بحوقف بالشامل لإطلاق النار ولكل أعمال العنف والقتل ضد المدنيين من أي جهة كانت وأيا كان مصدرها".

وفي هذا الصدد، أود التأكيد على أن هذا الموقف العربي إنما ينسجم مع مضمون البيان الرئيسي الصادر عن مجلس الأمن بتاريخ 2013/10/2، ويهدف إلى تلبية ما يفرض تنفيذه من صعوبات وعراقيل أوردتها التقارير الدورية الصادرة عن السيدة فاليري أموس وكيلة الأمين العام للأمم المتحدة للشؤون الإنسانية ومسئولة شؤون الإغاثة في حالات الطوارئ المعارضة.

وبناء عليه، وفي إطار مواصلة التشاور معكم، فقد رأيت مخاطبتكم للنظر في ما يمكن عمله من أجل توفير الدعم اللازم لمشروع القرار العربي وتحقيق التوافق حوله في مجلس الأمن. وذلك لتخفيف المعاناة القاسية عن الشعب السوري عبر تبني الإجراءات والتدابير العاجلة لتسهيل أعمال الإغاثة وتوفير المساعدات الإنسانية وبما يضمن تهيئة الأجواء الملزمة لاتخاذ نجاح لمؤتمر جنيف (2) في الموعد المحدد له.

وتفضلوا بقبول فائق الاحترام،

مع أطيب تحياتي

د. نبيل  
بني ربيع

الأمين العام

The Security Council,

*Recalling* its Resolutions 2042 (2012), 2043 (2012), 2059 (2012) and 2118 (2013), and its Presidential Statements of 3 August 2011, 21 March 2012, 5 April 2012 and 2 October 2013,

*Reaffirming* its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of Syria, and to the purposes and principles of the Charter,

*Expressing* outrage at the continuing escalation of violence in the Syrian Arab Republic, which has caused over 100,000 casualties in Syria as reported by the UN Secretary-General and the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, (based on S/PRST/2013/15),

*Gravely alarmed* by the significant and rapid deterioration of the humanitarian situation in Syria, and *noting* with grave concern that several million Syrians, in particular internally displaced persons, nearly half of whom are children, are in need of immediate humanitarian assistance and that without urgent increased humanitarian action, their lives will be at risk, (based on S/PRST/2013/15)

*Noting* with great concern the outbreak of diseases in some areas of the Syrian Arab republic, including leishmaniasis and the first reported cases of polio in 14 years,

*Stressing* the urgency to provide all needed humanitarian support to the Syrian people (LAS Ministerial resolution 7717) and *recognizing* that the magnitude of the humanitarian tragedy caused by the conflict in Syria requires immediate action to facilitate safe and unhindered delivery of humanitarian assistance in the whole country, including in areas and districts where humanitarian needs are especially urgent, (based on S/PRST/2013/15)

*Emphasizing* the importance of the protection of the Syrian civilian population and providing emergency relief to those in need of assistance in accordance with international

humanitarian law, in particular the fourth Geneva Convention, and the principles of the United Nations Charter.

*Stressing* that all parties must respect the United Nations guiding principles of humanitarian emergency assistance and the importance of such assistance being delivered on the basis of need, devoid of any political prejudices and aims, (based on S/PRST/2013/15)

*Recalling* resolution 7717 of the Ministerial Council of the League of Arab States on 3 November 2013, in which it expressed grave concern at the deterioration of the humanitarian situation in Syria, (new)

*Also recalling* the statement made by the Under-Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator before the Security Council on 25 October 2013, in which she reported that despite the Council's grave alarm at the significant and rapid deterioration of the humanitarian situation and its calls for urgent increased humanitarian action, fighting continues to intensify across the country and its impact on civilians continues to grow each day, (new)

*Deploing* the failure to ensure the immediate, safe and unimpeded provision of humanitarian assistance to all areas affected by the fighting, in particular by the Syrian Government (based on A/C.3/68/L.42)

*Noting* with concern the deliberate targeting of hospitals, medical, personnel and transportation, and recalling that under international humanitarian law, the wounded and sick must receive, to the fullest extent practicable, and with the least possible delay, medical care, (based on Amos' proposal)

*Alarmed* at the denial of humanitarian access, in particular that humanitarian agencies are still unable to provide assistance to an estimated 2.5 million people trapped in hard to reach and besieged areas, (based on Amos' briefing)

*Expressing* its deep concern at the consequences of the refugee crisis caused by the conflict in Syria, which has a

destabilizing impact on the entire region and *expressing its appreciation* for the significant efforts that have been made by the neighboring countries and the countries of the region, notably Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq and Egypt, to accommodate the more than two million refugees who have fled Syria (S/PRST/2013/15)

*Reaffirming* its call for the convening, as soon as possible, of an international conference to implement the Geneva Communiqué of 30 June 2012; (based on S/RES/2118)

*Expressing* alarm at the failure to protect the population of the Syrian Arab Republic, and recalls in this regards that the Syrian authorities bear the primary responsibility to protect their populations. (S/PRST/2013/15)

*Underscoring* that Member States are obligated under Article 25 of the Charter of the United Nations to accept and carry out the Council's decisions, (S/Res/2118 (2013))

1. *Regrets* that the provisions of its Presidential statement of 2 October 2013 have not been implemented;
2. *Condemns* all violence, irrespective of where it comes from, and *demand*s all parties to immediately put an end to all forms of violence, including terrorist acts and acts of violence or intimidation that may foment sectarian tensions, and to comply strictly with their obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law; (based on A/C.3/68/L.42)
3. *Also condemns* in the strongest terms the widespread violations of human rights and international humanitarian law by the Syrian authorities, as well as any human rights abuses and violations of international humanitarian law by armed groups; (based on S/PRST/2013/15);
4. *Demand*s that all parties immediately put an end to all violations and abuses of international human rights law and international humanitarian law, and *recalls*, in particular, the obligation under international humanitarian law to distinguish between civilian populations and combatants,



the prohibition against indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks and all attacks against civilians and civilian objects;(A/C.3/68/L.42)

5. *Also demands* that all parties to the conflict take all appropriate steps to protect civilians, including by desisting from attacks directed against civilian objects, such as medical centers, schools and water stations, immediately demilitarize such facilities, avoid establishing military positions in populated areas and enable the evacuation of the wounded and all civilians who wish to do so from besieged areas, and *recalls* in this regard that the Syrian authorities bear primary responsibility for protecting its population; (A/C.3/68/L.42)
6. *Condemns* any use by Syrian authorities or any other parties of starvation to enforce submission among the civilian population of Syria, and recalls that any intentional use of starvation as a war tactic constitutes a war crime; (new)
7. *Demandsthat* all parties, in particular the Syrian authorities, end their siege of all besieged areas, and allow the evacuation of civilians from these areas; (based on Amos' proposal)
8. *Condemns* all cases of denial of humanitarian access, and *recalls* that arbitrarily depriving civilians of objects indispensable to their survival, including willfully impeding relief supply and access, can constitute a violation of international humanitarian law; (based on S/PRST/2013/15)
9. *Demandsthat* all parties, in particular the Syrian authorities, take all appropriate steps to facilitate the efforts of the United Nations and the League of Arab States, their specialized agencies and all humanitarian actors engaged in humanitarian relief activities, to provide immediate humanitarian assistance to the affected people in Syria, including by promptly facilitating safe and unhindered humanitarian access to populations in need of assistance in

all areas under their control and across conflict lines and through the most direct route; (based on S/PRST/2013/15)

10. *Calls on* all parties, in particular the Syrian authorities, to allow free passage to all areas in Syria for humanitarian and medical personnel; (based on Amos' proposal)

11. *Demandsthat* the Syrian authorities take immediate steps to facilitate the expansion of humanitarian relief operations, and lift bureaucratic impediments and other obstacles, including through:

(a) expediting the approval of further domestic and international Non-Governmental Organizations to engage in humanitarian relief activities,

(b) easing and expediting the procedures for the operationalization of further humanitarian hubs, the entry and movement of humanitarian personnel and convoys by granting the necessary visas and permits in a predictable manner, the importation of goods and equipment, such as communication tools, protective armoured vehicles and medical and surgical equipment, needed for humanitarian operations,

(c) promptly facilitating safe and unhindered humanitarian access to people in need, through the most effective ways, including across conflict lines and, where appropriate, across borders from neighbouring countries in accordance with the UN guiding principles of humanitarian emergency assistance, and

(d) accelerating approval for the implementation of humanitarian projects, including those in the revised Syria Humanitarian Assistance Response Plan.

(S/PRST/2013/15)

11 bis: Urges all parties to:

(a) take all appropriate steps to ensure the safety and security of United Nations personnel, those of its specialized agencies, and all other personnel engaged in humanitarian relief activities, without prejudice to their



freedom of movement and access, and stresses that the primary responsibility in this regard lies with the Syrian authorities;

(b) immediately demilitarize medical facilities, schools and water stations, refrain from targeting civilian objects, and agree on the modalities to implement humanitarian pauses, as well as key routes to enable promptly — upon notification from relief agencies — the safe and unhindered passage of humanitarian convoys along these routes to access people in need; and

(c) designate empowered interlocutors with the necessary authority to discuss with humanitarian actors operational and policy issues. (S/PRST/2013/15)

12. *Urges* all Member States to respond swiftly to the United Nations' humanitarian appeals to meet the spiralling needs of people inside Syria, in particular internally displaced persons, and Syrian refugees in neighbouring countries, and to ensure that all pledges are honoured in full, in this regard welcomes the hosting by the government of Kuwait, on 30 January 2013, of the pledging conference for the United Nations joint appeal, and also welcomes the generous offer of the Government of Kuwait to host the second donors conference for Syria on 15 January 2014; (based on S/RES/2013/2118)
13. *Calls on* all parties to designate empowered interlocutors to engage with the United Nations and the League of Arab States and their relevant agencies on an ongoing basis to implement the present resolution; (based on Amos' proposal)
14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Council on the implementation of the present resolution within 30 days of its adoption, and every 30 days thereafter; (new)
15. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.



**THE LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES**

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AL/ 92/2013

December 9, 2013

I would be grateful if you could kindly forward the enclosed letter dated December 8, 2013, addressed from H.E. Dr. Nabil Elaraby, Secretary General of the League of Arab States to H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon, Secretary General of the United Nations.

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

Ahmed Fathalla  
Ambassador

Mrs. Susana Malcora  
Chef de Cabinet  
S-3516, Secretariat Bldg.  
United Nations  
New York, NY 10017

Best regards  
Z  
happy new year.