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The situation in the Middle East**

**Security Council
Seventy-seventh year**

**Letter dated 11 April 2022 from the Permanent Representative of
the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General**

I have the honour to attach herewith the letter dated 10 April 2022 addressed to your Excellency from Fayssal Mekdad, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the Syrian Arab Republic (see annex).

We would highly appreciate it if the present letter and its annex could be brought to the attention of the Security Council members and circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 38, and of the Council.

(Signed) Bassam **Sabbagh**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



Annex to the letter dated 11 April 2022 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations

[Original: Arabic]

Letter dated 10 April 2022 from the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the Syrian Arab Republic addressed to the Secretary-General

I am writing to you today regarding the military attack carried out at around 1845 hours yesterday, Saturday 9 April 2022, by Israeli fighter aircraft which arrived from northern Lebanon and targeted parts of the central region of Syria before being confronted by the Syrian air defence.

My country, the Syrian Arab Republic, condemns this blatant act aggression and reserves the right to respond by appropriate means in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations. In that connection, it wishes to draw the attention of the Secretary-General to a serious, fundamental and extremely alarming issue, namely the fact that Israel has persisted with such attacks, which amount to a systematic and typical act of aggression. The Secretariat and the Security Council must intervene immediately to protect and preserve the Disengagement of Forces Agreement signed in Geneva on 31 May 1974 under the auspices of the United Nations and in the presence of representatives of the Governments of permanent members of the Security Council. The first paragraph of the Agreement provides for a ceasefire on land, sea and air.

The position of the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic is to reject aggression and any course of action that genuinely imperils peace and security in the Middle East. We have long warned of the consequences that would result from the continuation of this situation, which poses a threat to international peace and security and contravenes international law and norms. Because such repeated acts of aggression have been ignored, the Israeli side has been emboldened to persist with and expand its attacks on Syrian territory, testing the credibility of the United Nations and the effectiveness of its competent entities.

I should also like to point out that, last month, the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations in New York sent a formal letter of protest to the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs regarding the contents of the briefings delivered before the Security Council by the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, who persists in ignoring the Israeli settlement activities in the occupied Syrian Golan and the repeated Israeli attacks on the Syrian territories. That stance shows that he is not committed to his mandate or to the position of the United Nations, on both legal and factual grounds, concerning the Israeli occupation of the occupied Syrian Golan and its illegal practices, including its repeated attacks on Syrian territories.

The Secretary-General should clearly condemn those repeated attacks on the sovereignty of the Syrian Arab Republic. The Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs and the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, for their part, should fulfil their mandates by bringing this alarming issue to the attention of the Security Council and demanding that the Israeli side respect the relevant Security Council resolutions, comply with the Disengagement of Forces Agreement signed in Geneva on 31 May 1974, and desist from endangering regional and international peace and security.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Fayssal Mekdad
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates