



Security Council

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Identical letters dated 15 July 2019 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, and further to our previous letters on the topic, the most recent of which was dated 19 March 2019 ([S/2019/250](#)), I should like to inform you that my Government categorically rejects the baseless allegations made by the Permanent Representative of the Qatari regime in her letter dated 24 June 2019 ([S/2019/518](#)). In that connection, I should like to reiterate the following:

It has been more than eight years since the terrorist war being waged against my country began, and the truth concerning the events that have occurred and continue to occur in Syria has been revealed to all, as has the identity of the international and regional actors behind those events. It has also become indisputably clear that the sheikhdom of Qatar has spearheaded the criminal scheme against Syria by providing limitless support and funding to armed terrorist groups, chief among them the Nusra Front, that have been listed as terrorist organizations by the Security Council.

The sheikhdom of Qatar, which is now lamenting the events in Idlib, is responsible for the suffering of the people of that city because it supports the Nusra Front terrorist organization, whose ranks include thousands of foreign terrorist fighters, and other terrorist organizations linked to the Nusra Front that have numerous names and affiliations, such as Hurras al-Din, the Army of Emigrants and Supporters and the Eastern Turkistan Army and others. Were it not for the sheikhdom's unrestrained support of those terrorist organizations, those criminal groups would not have managed to kill thousands of innocent children, women and elderly persons, or to use hundreds of thousands of Syrian civilians as human shields or perpetrate the most heinous and barbaric crimes against them. Without that support, those groups would have been unable to cause death and devastation and appropriate civilian facilities, including hospitals and schools, which they have converted into military barracks and centres in which they detain, torture and kill anyone who dares to reject their takfirist ideology and their barbaric rulings.

As I explained in my previous letters, the sheikhdom of Qatar has openly and consistently affirmed, at various international conferences and in interviews with the press, that it is necessary to provide military and financial support for armed terrorist groups in Syria. It has also paid millions of dollars in ransom to finance the terrorist organizations Nusra Front and Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, a fact that is by now common knowledge. In that connection, I should like to draw attention to some official Qatari statements on the subject:



1. On 27 November 2016, the former Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Qatari regime, Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani, stated in an interview with Reuters that Qatar would continue to arm Syrian rebels even if President Donald Trump ended United States backing for the multinational effort.
2. On 12 May 2015, in an interview with the French newspaper *Le Monde*, the then-Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Qatari regime, Khalid bin Mohammad al-Atiyah, when asked whether his Government considered the Nusrah Front to be a terrorist group, said that, except for Da'esh, all of those groups fight to overthrow the regime. We cannot say to the moderates in the Nusrah Front: 'stay home, because we do not want to work with you.' We must be realistic and take into account field conditions.
3. In October 2017, the regime's former Prime Minister, Hamad bin Jasim, acknowledged in an interview broadcast on Qatari State television that his country, along with Saudi Arabia and other States, had spent approximately \$137 billion on supporting armed terrorist groups and destroying Syria.

These and other official Qatari statements constitute public acknowledgments that the Qatari regime supports terrorism in Syria and provides weapons and money to terrorist groups, in particular the Nusrah Front terrorist organization. The regime's support violates the relevant Security Council resolutions, defies the international community's desire to combat terrorism and flies in the face of the Council's unanimous decision to designate the Nusrah Front as a terrorist entity.

My country's Government reiterates that the Qatari letter is merely the latest in a series of desperate attempts by the Qatari regime to conceal its criminal acts. Those actions include the criminal use of oil and gas revenues to provide unrestrained support for terrorism and terrorist entities, including those listed as terrorist organizations by the Security Council, and to support and enable terrorist organizations to use chemical substances as weapons against the civilian population of my country, operate transnational organized crime networks and spread corruption, bribery and similar immoral practices that exemplify the systematic international, political, economic and commercial policies of the Qatari regime. The time has come for the Qatari regime to realize that oil and gas wealth and paying kickbacks and bribes cannot forever buy immunity or impunity around the world or at the United Nations. One day, the regime will be held responsible for supporting and funding terrorism in Syria and elsewhere.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic once again calls on the Security Council to act immediately and take the appropriate and necessary measures to hold the Government of Qatar fully responsible for supporting terrorism, defying the international community, violating Security Council resolutions and threatening international peace and security. The representatives and puppets of the Qatari regime must not be allowed to avoid being held accountable or go unpunished for their crimes.

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

(Signed) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative