

To Mr. Geir Pedersen, the Honorable United Nations Special Envoy for Syria

Syria is at a critical juncture where developments require an effective international response to avoid chaos and achieve a comprehensive and sustainable political transition. In this context, we emphasize the need to work in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 2254, which is the United Nations legal framework for achieving a comprehensive political solution that ends the suffering of the Syrian people and respects the rights of all its components. Ensuring the participation of Syrian women in all stages of the political process based on UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security is an essential element for building a democratic and stable Syria.

Syria today faces a number of serious challenges, first and foremost the ongoing military escalation, particularly the repeated Turkish attacks on northern Syria, as we can observe in Manbij. These attacks not only destabilize security, but also contribute to the forced displacement of thousands of people and strengthen the activity of ISIS sleeper cells, which pose a local, regional and international threat.

The people who have been living under tragic conditions in refugee camps in northern Aleppo (Shehba) since 2018 as a result of the Turkish occupation of Afrin have been forcibly displaced for the second time. These displaced people, especially women and children, are living in catastrophic humanitarian conditions, as there is no international aid so far and the Democratic Autonomous Administration in North and East Syria has to face this challenge alone. Despite the efforts of the Autonomous Administration and community initiatives, the worsening of the crisis is beyond their means, making rapid international intervention essential.

This crisis is particularly noticeable for women and children, who bear the brunt of the attacks and violence. Your responsibility as an international body concerned with the maintenance of international peace and security requires you to take decisive and immediate steps to contain the situation and prevent further deterioration.

We therefore ask you to:

1. Put immediate pressure on Turkey to stop the attacks and escalation:

We call on the United Nations to take urgent action to pressure Turkey and armed groups it supports to cease repeated military attacks on northern Syria in order to ensure the protection of civilians and preserve regional security. These attacks not only threaten the stability of Syria, but also contribute to the worsening humanitarian crisis and the displacement of thousands of civilians. We also call for the opening of safe humanitarian corridors to Shehba that allow humanitarian aid to reach those affected and provide protection to civilians trapped in the affected areas.

2. Maintain regional security and prevent the return of terrorist groups:

We call for decisive international action to prevent the resurgence of terrorist groups such as ISIS in areas of escalation. These groups are using the current chaos to expand their operations and pose a serious threat to regional and international security.

3. initiate the political settlement in accordance with Resolution 2254:

Ensure the acceleration of political negotiations under the supervision of the United Nations and provide clear mechanisms to manage the transition in a just and sustainable manner. Focus on protecting the unity and sovereignty of Syria and ensuring the rights of all ethnic, religious and cultural components of the country, as well as the rights of women.

4. Ensure the inclusion of women in the new Syrian constitution in line with Resolution 1325:

Ensure women's participation in all phases of negotiations and political transition to ensure their active role in building peace and social justice. Strengthen measures to protect women from violence and exploitation and support women in leadership roles in the next phase.

5. Addressing forced displacement and protecting the displaced:

Provide urgent support to displaced people from Afrin and other displaced areas and ensure their safe return to their areas of origin. Provide international protection to end violations and ensure security in northern Syria.

6. increase humanitarian aid:

Provide urgent humanitarian assistance to areas hosting displaced people, particularly in North and East Syria, to alleviate pressure on infrastructure and meet basic needs. Develop a UN plan to provide long-term assistance that contributes to reconstruction and stabilization

The Syrian people have been suffering for years under the scourge of war and conflict, and peace and stability can only be achieved through a just and democratic political solution that puts the interest of the people above all else and ensures that all components, especially women, are involved in shaping the future of the country.

Sincerely yours

Kongra Star December 9