

*Translated from Arabic*

**Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations**

New York

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic wishes to inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations that it objects to the delineation and demarcation of the Lebanese maritime boundaries set out by Lebanon in Presidential Decree No. 6433 of 1 October 2011, which was deposited with the Secretary-General on 19 October 2011. The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic wishes to affirm the following points:

- The fact that the Lebanese side deposited the Decree does not give it any binding legal effect on other States. It remains only a notification, and one to which the Syrian Arab Republic objects.
- The borders between neighbouring or adjacent States cannot be delineated by the sole will of one of those States. The Decree, as deposited, is a domestic legislative act issued in accordance with Lebanese national laws. Under the provisions of international law, it is not binding outside the national borders of Lebanon, and is therefore not binding on the Syrian Arab Republic.
- The sovereign rights of the Syrian Arab Republic are defined in Law No. 28 of 19 November 2003, which was deposited with the United Nations and is consistent with the provisions of international law and norms and with the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

*(Signed)* Bashar **Ja'afari**

Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic

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