The Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Special Procedures Branch, and in reference to the Joint Urgent Appeal released by a group of mandate holders (the First Vice – Chair of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention; the Special Rapporteur on the protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression; the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment; and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders) regarding Mr. Bassel Khartabil, would like to draw the kind attention of the Office of the High Commissioner to the inaccuracy of what was mentioned in that Appeal about not receiving any response by the Syrian Government to previous communications related to the situation of Mr. Khartabil.

The Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic transmitted to the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention information about this case in its note (No. 119/15 dated 29/April/2015). We deeply regret ignoring this note, and we would like to demand the information contained in to be reflected in the documents and communications of the concerned Mandate holders, specially the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, with regard to the case of Mr. Khartabil and his involvement in unlawful activities.

The Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights, Special Procedures Branch, the assurance of its highest consideration.

Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights,
Special Procedures Branch

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