



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY
TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE IN GENEVA

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-URGENT-

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Turkey to the United Nations Office in Geneva and other international organizations in Switzerland presents its compliments to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and with reference to the joint urgent appeal from Special Procedures, dated 11 December 2019 (Ref: UA TUR 12/2019), has the honour to enclose herewith an information note, comprising the response of the Government of the Republic of Turkey.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Turkey avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 9 March 2020



Encl. A/S

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

**INFORMATION NOTE IN REPLY TO THE JOINT URGENT APPEAL FROM SPECIAL
PROCEDURES DATED 11 DECEMBER 2019**

(UA TUR 12/2019)

With reference to the Joint Urgent Appeal from Special Procedures Ref: UA TUR 12/2019 dated 11 December 2019, the following observations are brought to your kind attention.

The four French nationals referred to in the Joint Urgent Appeal, namely [REDACTED], as accompanied by [REDACTED] children, were repatriated to France [REDACTED].

Throughout the process of repatriation, coordination with the French Embassy in Ankara had been ensured and relevant notifications were made in advance of the actual travel date.

As for the issues raised in the Joint Urgent Appeal, it would be noted once again that Turkey has been pursuing such a repatriation policy that facilitates the return of third country nationals to their home countries. In this respect, while honoring its responsibilities in line with the relevant UNSC Resolutions, Turkey upholds human rights and observes the principles of non-discrimination and the best interest of the child. The considered repatriation process also attests to this principled stance.

On the other hand, Turkey expects further cooperation from its international partners in its efforts to cope with the challenges associated with foreign terrorist fighters, as its efforts directly contribute to international security and the fight against terrorism.