Council Implementing Decision (CFSP) 2020/212 of 17 February 2020 implementing Decision 2013/255/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Syria

COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING DECISION (CFSP) 2020/212

of 17 February 2020

implementing Decision 2013/255/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Syria

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union, and in particular Article 31(2) thereof,

Having regard to Council Decision 2013/255/CFSP of 31 May 2013 concerning restrictive measures against Syria[(1)], and in particular Article 30(1) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy,

Whereas:

(1) On 31 May 2013, the Council adopted Decision 2013/255/CFSP.

(2) In view of the fact that prominent businesspersons are making large profits through their ties with the Assad regime and are helping to finance that regime in return, including through the joint ventures formed by certain prominent businesspersons and entities with State-backed companies to develop expropriated land, those businesspersons and entities are supporting and benefiting from the Assad regime including through the use of expropriated property.

(3) Furthermore, the expropriation of land by the Assad regime from persons displaced by the conflict in Syria prevents those persons from being able to return to their homes.

(4) Eight natural persons and two entities should be added to the list of natural and legal persons, entities or bodies subject to restrictive measures in Annex I to Decision 2013/255/CFSP.

(5) Decision 2013/255/CFSP should therefore be amended accordingly,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Annex I to Decision 2013/255/CFSP is amended as set out in the Annex to this Decision.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Changes to legislation: *There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Council Implementing Decision (CFSP) 2020/212. (See end of Document for details)*

Done at Brussels, 17 February 2020.

For the Council

The President

J. BORRELL FONTELLES

***Changes to legislation:** There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Council Implementing Decision (CFSP) 2020/212. (See end of Document for details)*

ANNEX

1. The following persons are added to the list set out in Section A (Persons) of Annex I to Decision 2013/255/CFSP:

	Name	**Identifying information**	**Reasons**	**Date of listing**
‘288	Yasser Aziz ABBAS (a.k.a. Yasser, Yaser, Yasr; Aziz, Aziz; Abbas, Abas; ياسر عزيز عباس)	Gender: male Date of birth: 22.8.1978 Nationality: Syrian Relatives/ business associates/ entities or partners/links: Bajaa Trading Services LLC, Qudrah Trading, Tafawoq Tourism Projects Company, Top Business, Yang King, Al-Aziz Group	Leading businessperson operating in Syria. Supports and/or benefits from the regime through business dealings, including fuel smuggling and weapons transfers. Yasser Aziz Abbas profits from facilitating oil imports on behalf of the Syrian regime and uses his relations with the regime to obtain preferential dealings and treatment.	17.2.2020
289.	Mahir BurhanEddine AL-IMAM (a.k.a. ماهر برهان الدين الإمام)	Gender: male Nationality: Syrian Position: General Manager of Telsa Group/ Telsa Telecom Relatives/ business associates/ entities or partners/links: Telsa Group/ Telsa Telecom; Tazamon Contracting LLC; Castro LLC	Leading businessperson operating in Syria with business interests in tourism, telecommunications and real estate. As General Manager of the regime-backed Telsa Communication Group as well as of Castro LLC, and through his other business interests, Mahir BurhanEddine	17.2.2020

Changes to legislation: *There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Council Implementing Decision (CFSP) 2020/212. (See end of Document for details)*

			Al-Imam benefits from the regime and supports its financing and lobbying policy as well as its construction policy.	
290.	Waseem AL-KATTAN (a.k.a. Waseem, Wasseem, Wassim, Wasim; Anouar; Al-Kattan, Al-Katan, Al-Qattan, Al-Qatan; وسيم قطان, وسيم أنوار القطان)	Gender: male Date of birth: 4.3.1976 Nationality: Syrian Position: President of Damascus Countryside (Rural) Province Chamber of Commerce Relatives/ business associates/ entities or partners/links: Larosa Furniture/ Furnishing; Jasmine Fields Company Ltd.; Muruj Cham (Murooj al-Cham) Investment and Tourism Group; Adam and Investment LLC; Universal Market Company LLC; Treasurer of the Federation of Syrian Chambers of Commerce	Leading businessperson operating in Syria benefitting from and supporting the regime. Owner of multiple businesses and holding companies with interests and activities in various economic sectors such as real estate, luxury hotel industry and commercial centres. Waseem Al-Kattan rose rapidly as a leading businessman by imposing taxes on goods smuggled into Eastern Ghouta under siege, and is now involved in aggressive forms of clientelism to the benefit of the regime. Waseem Al-Kattan benefits financially from favoured access to public tenders as well as to licences and contracts	17.2.2020

***Changes to legislation:** There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Council Implementing Decision (CFSP) 2020/212. (See end of Document for details)*

			awarded by government agencies as a result of his close ties to the regime.	
291.	Amer FOZ (a.k.a. عامر فوز)	Gender: male Date of birth: 11.3.1976 Nationality: Syrian Passport Number: 06010274747 Position: General Manager of ASM International General Trading LLC (ASM International Trading) Relatives/ business associates/ entities or partners/links: EU-designated Samer Foz; EU-designated Aman Holding (Aman Damascus Joint Stock Company); ASM International General Trading LLC (ASM International Trading)	Leading businessperson with personal and family business interests and activities in multiple sectors of the Syrian economy, including through Aman Holding (formerly known as the Aman Group). Through Aman Holding, he benefits financially from access to commercial opportunities and supports the Assad regime, including through involvement in the regime-backed development of Marota City. Since 2012, he has also been General Manager of ASM International Trading LLC. He is also associated with his brother Samer Foz, who has been designated by the EU since January 2019	17.2.2020