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The Hon. Mr. Malcolm Turnbull MP
Prime Minister of Australia
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Dear Prime Minister,

In view of your upcoming meetings with US officials, in which you will discuss matters related to ISIS, Kurdish Lobby Australia requests you consider raising and discussing the following matters.

1. Given the sacrifices and successes of unpaid, undersupplied Kurdish and multi ethnic forces fighting ISIS in Syria and Iraq (Peshmerga from Kurdistan of Iraq and Iran, Syrian Kurdish YPG/YPJ, PKK from Turkey and the Syrian Democratic Force (SDF), the majority of whom are Kurdish) and the growing geopolitical importance of Kurds, please ensure that Kurdish representatives are included in all political negotiations to end the wars against ISIS and President Assad.
2. Given that to defeat ISIS and ensure no other movement takes its place, political transformations are as important as military strategies, seriously consider Kurdish aspirations for democratic federal or confederal structures as valid alternatives to centralised regimes, the models of which can be found in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq and Rojava (northern Syria), the latter demonstrating the importance of establishing local multi-ethnic administrations as soon as an area is liberated from ISIS, or when ceasefires are established in Syria.
3. Given the disagreements over who is a terrorist and who is a legitimate Opposition group in Syria, consider broadening the criteria for an Opposition group to participate in negotiations to include a willingness to (1) negotiate with the Assad Regime; (2) implement a ceasefire; (3) establish an inclusive local administration which employs democratic mechanisms; and (4) defend the area from attack and infiltration by ISIS, Al-Nusra and other groups designated as terrorists.
4. Given the extensive damage to infrastructure and services in Syria and Iraq, as well as eastern Turkey, consider that the international community launch something akin to a Marshall Plan linked to political milestones.
5. Given local peoples' lack of trust and experience in negotiating and compromising, discuss the need for international mediation, monitoring, resources and programs over the long term to ensure citizen-supported political transformations.
6. Given that the Turkish government has launched a war on PKK since 24 July 2015, and is promising to intensify this war, meanwhile vilifying Kurdish politicians and suppressing dissent, arresting elected Kurdish mayors and



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officials and replacing them with state appointed administrators and bureaucrats, while conducting collectively punishing 1.3 million Kurdish citizens by way of security zones, curfews, arrests and extrajudicial killings, and given that Turkey has escalated tensions in Syria and Iraq, and with other countries such as Russia, consider appropriate mechanisms to facilitate a ceasefire and political negotiations in Turkey.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr. Gina Lennox, Kurdish Lobby Australia