

# U.S. TREASURY DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 18, 2012 CONTACT: Treasury Public Affairs (202) 622-2960

FACT SHEET: INCREASING SANCTIONS AGAINST SYRIA

# **Syrian Officials**

### Subhi Ahmad Al-Abdullah

Subhi Ahmad Al-Abdullah was appointed as Minister of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform by Presidential decree No. 210, issued by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on June 23, 2012.

#### Safwan Al-Assaf

Safwan Al-Assaf was appointed as Minister of Housing and Urban Development by Presidential decree No. 210, issued by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on June 23, 2012.

# Adib Mayaleh

Adib Mayaleh is the Governor of the Central Bank of Syria. In addition to being designated today for being a senior official of the Government of Syria, in his capacity as Central Bank Governor, Mayaleh has attempted to avoid sanctions placed on Syria by moving funds out of Syria. Further, Mayaleh has assisted Tanchon Commercial Bank in opening bank accounts in Syria. Tanchon Commercial Bank, a North Korean bank, was designated by the Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) under its WMD sanctions authority, Executive Order (E.O.) 13382, for facilitating payments related to North Korea's proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

## Wael Nader Al-Halqi

Wael Nader Al-Halqi was appointed as Minister of Health by Presidential decree No. 210, issued by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on June 23, 2012. In addition to being designated today for being a senior official of the Government of Syria, the European Union sanctioned Al-Halqi in February 2012, stating that under his responsibility hospitals were ordered to

deny care to protestors.

#### Mohammad Al-Jleilati

Mohammad Al-Jleilati was appointed as Minister of Finance by Presidential decree No. 210, issued by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on June 23, 2012. In addition to being designated today for being a senior official of the Government of Syria, the European Union sanctioned Al-Jleilati in December 2011 stating that he is the Minister of Finance and responsible for the Syrian economy.

#### Hala Mohammad Al-Nasser

Hala Mohammad Al-Nasser was appointed as Minister of Tourism by Presidential decree No. 210, issued by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on June 23, 2012.

# Mohammad Abdul-Sattar Al-Sayyed

Mohammad Abdul-Sattar Al-Sayyed was appointed as Minister of Religious Endowments (Awqaf) by Presidential decree No. 210, issued by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on June 23, 2012.

## Yasser Al-Sibaei

Yasser Al- Sibaei was appointed as Minister of Public Works by Presidential decree No. 210, issued by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on June 23, 2012.

#### Hazwan Al-Wazz

Hazwan Al-Wazz was appointed as Minister of Education by Presidential decree No. 210, issued by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on June 23, 2012.

## **Omran Ahed Al-Zoubi**

Omran Ahed Al-Zoubi was appointed as Minister of Information by Presidential decree No. 210, issued by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on June 23, 2012.

#### **Mansour Fadlallah Azzam**

Mansour Fadlallah Azzam was appointed as Minister of Presidential Affairs by Presidential decree No. 210, issued by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on June 23, 2012. In addition to being designated today for being a senior official of the Government of Syria, the European Union sanctioned Azzam in February 2012 stating that he is an advisor to the President.

#### **Hussein Mahmoud Farzat**

Hussein Mahmoud Farzat was appointed as Minister of State by Presidential decree No. 210, issued by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on June 23, 2012. In addition to being designated today for being a senior official of the Government of Syria, the European Union sanctioned

Farzat in March 2012 stating that, as Minister of State, he was closely associated with the regime's policy.

# Omar Ibrahim Ghalawanji

Omar Ibrahim Ghalawanji was appointed as Deputy Prime Minister for Services Affairs, Minister of Local Administration by Presidential decree No. 210, issued by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on June 23, 2012. In addition to being designated today for being a senior official of the Government of Syria, the European Union sanctioned Ghalawanji in March 2012 stating that he was responsible for local government authorities and thus, responsible for repression against the civilian population by local governments.

#### Radwan Habib

Radwan Habib was appointed as Minister of Justice by Presidential decree No. 210, issued by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on June 23, 2012.

## Ali Haidar

Ali Haidar was appointed as Minister of State for National Reconciliation Affairs by Presidential decree No. 210, issued by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on June 23, 2012.

#### **Bassam Hanna**

Bassam Hanna was appointed as Minister of Water Resources by Presidential decree No. 210, issued by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on June 23, 2012.

## Riyad Hijab

Riyad Hijab was appointed as Prime Minister by Presidential decree No. 210, issued by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on June 23, 2012.

#### Said Mu'zi Hneidi

Said Mu'zi Hneidi was appointed as Minister of Oil and Mineral Resources by Presidential decree No. 210, issued by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on June 23, 2012.

# Qadri Jamil

Qadri Jamil was appointed as Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs, Minister of Internal Trade and Consumer Protection by Presidential decree No. 210, issued by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on June 23, 2012.

#### **Imad Mohammad Deeb Khamis**

Imad Mohammad Deeb Khamis was appointed as Minister of Electricity by Presidential decree No. 210, issued by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on June 23, 2012. In addition to being designated today for being a senior official of the Government of Syria, the European

Union sanctioned Khamis in March 2012 stating that he was responsible for using power cuts as a method of repression.

## Fuad Shukri Kurdi

Fuad Shukri Kurdi was appointed as Minister of Industry by Presidential decree No. 210, issued by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on June 23, 2012.

#### **Mohammad Zafer Mihbek**

Mohammad Zafer Mihbek was appointed as Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade by Presidential decree No. 210, issued by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on June 23, 2012.

# Mohammad Yehya Moalla

Mohammad Yehya Moalla was appointed as Minister of Higher Education by Presidential decree No. 210, issued by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on June 23, 2012.

#### Lubanah Mshaweh

Lubanah Mshaweh was appointed as Minister of Culture by Presidential decree No. 210, issued by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on June 23, 2012.

#### Imad Abdul-Ghani Sabouni

Imad Abdul-Ghani Sabouni was appointed as Minister of Communications and Technology by Presidential decree No. 210, issued by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on June 23, 2012. In addition to being designated today for being a senior official of the Government of Syria, the European Union sanctioned Sabouni in February 2012 stating that under his responsibility free access to the media was being seriously hampered.

## **Mahmoud Ibrahim Said**

Mahmoud Ibrahim Said was appointed as Minister of Transport by Presidential decree No. 210, issued by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on June 23, 2012.

#### Nazira Farah Sarkis

Nazira Farah Sarkis was appointed as Minister of State for Environment Affairs by Presidential decree No. 210, issued by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on June 23, 2012.

# Joseph Jurji Sweid

Joseph Jurji Sweid was appointed as Minister of State by Presidential decree No. 210, issued by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on June 23, 2012. In addition to being designated today for being a senior official of the Government of Syria, the European Union sanctioned Sweid in March 2012 stating he was closely associated with the regime's policy.

## Jassim Mohammad Zakarya

Jassim Mohammad Zakarya was appointed as Minister of Social Affairs and Labor by Presidential decree No. 210, issued by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on June 23, 2012.

# **Scientific Studies and Research Center Related Entities**

Industrial Solutions, Mechanical Construction Factory (MCF), Handasieh (aka General Organization for Engineering Industries), Business Lab, and Syrian Arab Company for Electronic Industries (aka Syronics) were all designated for acting on or on behalf of Syria's Scientific Studies and Research Center (SSRC).

Established in 1971, the SSRC is responsible for developing and producing non-conventional weapons and missiles to deliver them. The SSRC also has an overtly promoted civilian research function; however, its activities focus substantively on the development of biological and chemical weapons.

The SSRC has used MCF to procure various components used in the production of solid propellant for production of rockets and missiles from Iran in 2009 and 2010. A wax investment casting molding line sought by Handasieh in 2010 was intended for a Syrian SCUD missile project managed by the SSRC. SSRC used both Industrial Solutions and Business Lab to conduct business dealings throughout 2011. Additionally, Business Lab attempted to purchase 500 liters of pinacolyl alcohol, which can be used in the preparation of the nerve agent soman, in 2009.

These companies are being designated under E.O. 13382, which is aimed at freezing the assets of proliferators of weapons of mass destruction and their supporters, and at isolating them from the U.S. financial and commercial systems. Designations under E.O. 13382 generally prohibit transactions between the designees and any U.S. person, and freeze any assets the designees may have under U.S. jurisdiction.

In addition, Industrial Solutions, Mechanical Construction Factory, Handasieh, Business Lab and SYRONICS were sanctioned by the European Union on December 2, 2011, per Council Implementing Regulation (EU) No. 1244/2011, for acting as front companies for the acquisition of sensitive equipment by the SSRC.

## **Drex Technologies**

The U.S. Department of the Treasury today announced the designation of Drex Technologies, a British Virgin Islands-based company that is owned by powerful Syrian businessman and regime insider Rami Makhluf. Makhluf was designated by the Treasury Department in February 2008 under E.O. 13460 for improperly benefiting from and aiding the public corruption of Syrian regime officials. Today's action was taken pursuant to E.O. 13572, which authorizes the United States to sanction any entity that is owned or controlled by any person designated under E.O. 13460. As a result of today's action, U.S. persons are generally prohibited from engaging in transactions with Drex Technologies and any assets it may have subject to U.S. jurisdiction are frozen.

Rami Makhluf registered Drex Technologies in Tortola, British Virgin Islands, in July 2000. As of late 2011, Makhluf was Drex's shareholder, director, and beneficial owner. Makhluf has used Drex to facilitate and manage his international financial holdings.

# **Identifying information**

#### INDIVIDUALS:

Individual: AL-ABDULLAH, Subhi Ahmad

DOB: 1951

POB: Idleb, Syria

Title: Minister of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform

Individual: AL-ASSAF, Safwan

DOB: 1959

POB: Hama, Syria

Title: Minister of Housing and Urban Development

Individual: AL-HALQI, WAEL NADER

DOB: 1964

POB: Daraa, Syria Title: Minister of Health

Individual: AL-JLEILATI, Mohammad A.K.A.: AL-JILILATI, Mohammad

DOB: 1945

POB: Damascus, Syria Title: Minister of Finance

Individual: AL-NASSER, Hala Mohammad

DOB: 1964

POB: Raqqa, Syria

Title: Minister of Tourism

Individual: AL-SAYYED, Mohammad Abdul-Sattar

DOB: 1958

POB: Tartus, Syria

Title: Minister of Religious Endowments

Individual: AL- SIBAEI, Yasser

DOB: 1951

POB: Homs, Syria

Title: Minister of Public Works

Individual: AL-WAZZ, Hazwan

DOB: 1962

POB: Damascus, Syria Title: Minister of Education Individual: AL-ZOUBI, Omran Ahed

DOB: 1959

POB: Damascus, Syria

Title: Minister of Information

Individual: AZZAM, Mansour Fadlallah

DOB: 1960

POB: Sweida, Syria

Title: Minister of Presidential Affairs

Individual: FARZAT, Hussein Mahmoud

DOB: 1957

POB: Hama, Syria Title: Minister of State

Individual: GHALAWANJI, Omar Ibrahim

DOB: 1954

POB: Tartous, Syria

Title: Deputy Prime Minister for Services Affairs, Minister of Local Administration

Individual: HABIB, Radwan

DOB: 1962

POB: Aleppo, Syria Title: Minister of Justice

Individual: HAIDAR, Ali

DOB: 1962

POB: Hama, Syria

Title: Minister of State for National Reconciliation Affairs

Individual: HANNA, Bassam

DOB: 1954

POB: Aleppo, Syria

Title: Minister of Water Resources

Individual: HIJAB, Riyad

A.K.A.: HIJAB, Riyad Farid

DOB: 1966

POB: Deir Ezzor, Syria Title: Prime Minister

Individual: HNEIDI, Said Mu'zi

DOB: 1954

POB: Damascus, Syria

Title: Minister of Oil and Mineral Resources

Individual: JAMIL, Qadri

A.K.A.: JAMIL, Kadri

DOB: 1952

POB: Damascus, Syria

Title: Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs, Minister of Internal Trade and

**Consumer Protection** 

Individual: KHAMIS, Imad Mohammad Deeb

DOB: August 1, 1961

POB: near Damascus, Syria Title: Minister of Electricity

Individual: KURDI, Fuad Shukri

DOB: 1953

POB: Aleppo, Syria Title: Minister of Industry

Individual: MAYALEH, Adib A.K.A.: MAYALA, Adib

DOB: 1955

POB: Daraa, Syria

Title: Governor of the Central Bank of Syria

Individual: MIHBEK, Mohammad Zafer

DOB: 1945

POB: Aleppo, Syria

Title: Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade

Individual: MOALLA, Mohammad Yehya

DOB: 1951

POB: Lattakia, Syria

Title: Minister of Higher Education

Individual: MSHAWEH, Lubanah

DOB: 1955

POB: Damascus, Syria
Title: Minister of Culture

Individual: SABOUNI, Imad Abdul-Ghani A.K.A.: SABOUNI, Emad Abdul-Ghani

DOB: 1964

POB: Damascus, Syria

Title: Minister of Communications and Technology

Individual: SAID, Mahmoud Ibrahim

DOB: 1953

POB: Lattakia, Syria

Title: Minister of Transport

Individual: SARKIS, Nazira Farah

DOB: 1962

POB: Aleppo, Syria

Title: Minister of State for Environment Affairs

Individual: SWEID, Joseph Jurji A.K.A.: SUWAID, Joseph

DOB: 1958

POB: Damascus, Syria Title: Minister of State

Individual: ZAKARYA, Jassim Mohammad

DOB: 1968

POB: Hasaka, Syria

Title: Minister of Social Affairs and Labor

#### **ENTITIES:**

Entity: Drex Technologies S.A.

AKA: Drex Technologies

British Virgin Islands Business Account No.: 394678

Location: British Virgin Islands

**Entity: INDUSTRIAL SOLUTIONS** 

Location: Baghdad Street 5, P.O. Box 6394, Damascus, Syria

Entity: MECHANICAL CONSTRUCTION FACTORY

Location: P.O. Box 35202, Industrial Zone, Al-Qadam Road, Damascus, Syria

**Eentity: HANDASIEH** 

AKA: ORGANIZATION FOR ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES

Location: P.O. Box 5966, Abou Bakr Al Seddeq Street, Damascus, Syria Alt. Location: P.O. Box 2849 Al Moutanabi Street, Damascus, Syria

Alt. Location: P.O. Box 21120 Baramkeh, Damascus, Syria

**Entity: BUSINESS LAB** 

Location: Maysat Square Al Rasafi Street Bldg. 9, P.O. Box 7155, Damascus, Syria

Entity: SYRIAN ARAB CO. FOR ELECTRONIC INDUSTRIES

**AKA: SYRONICS** 

Location: Kaboon Street, P.O. Box 5966, Damascus, Syria