

## The Elders denounce bombing of UN aid convoy in Syria; demand immediate humanitarian access

**NEW YORK, 20 September 2016**  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Elders today condemned unreservedly the aerial attack on a UN aid convoy travelling in northern Syria and demanded immediate unrestricted access for aid deliveries to civilians trapped in Aleppo and other besieged areas of Syria.

[Kofi Annan](#), Chair of The Elders and former UN Secretary-General, said:

*“The bombing of a humanitarian convoy attempting to get aid to people in desperate need represents a new low in the Syria conflict. We call for urgent measures to prevent any recurrence.”*

As world leaders gather in New York for today’s opening of the UN General Assembly’s annual debate, The Elders urged the five permanent members of the Security Council to give full support to the efforts of UN Special Envoy Staffan de Mistura to bring peace to Syria.

[Gro Harlem Brundtland](#), Deputy Chair of The Elders, added:

*“The sight of trucks laden with food waiting at the Turkish border unable to reach starving civilians in Syria is a moral and humanitarian outrage. The tactic of denying aid access being used by both government and rebel forces simply cannot continue.”*

The Elders condemned the actions of spoilers and urged all parties to the conflict to adhere to the ceasefire agreement brokered last week by the United States and Russia.

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## **About The Elders**

The Elders are independent leaders using their collective experience and influence for peace, justice and human rights worldwide. The group was founded by Nelson Mandela in 2007.

The Elders are [Martti Ahtisaari](#), [Kofi Annan](#) (Chair), [Ela Bhatt](#), [Lakhdar Brahimi](#), [Gro Harlem Brundtland](#) (Deputy Chair), [Hina Jilani](#), [Ricardo Lagos](#), [Graça Machel](#), [Mary Robinson](#) and [Ernesto Zedillo](#).

[Fernando Henrique Cardoso](#), [Jimmy Carter](#) and [Desmond Tutu](#) are Honorary Elders.

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For biographies of the Elders, blogs, photos, videos and more information about their work please go to [www.theElders.org](http://www.theElders.org).

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