

UN Special Coordinator for Lebanon Pernille Dahler Kardel
Statement on Behalf of the International Support Group for Lebanon after
Meeting President Michel Aoun

14 June 2018

I am speaking here on behalf of the ISG for Lebanon. We had a constructive meeting with President Michel Aoun and it is always an honor to meet him.

We renewed our congratulations to him, the people and authorities of Lebanon for the completion of parliamentary elections on 6 May and encouraged the continued process of the formation of a national unity government as soon as possible.

One of the main objectives of our meeting today was to submit an Aide Memoire that includes an informal set of principles that we encourage the new government to take into consideration, and which are based on Security Council resolution 1701 and the partnership that was underlined by the different international conferences held for and with Lebanon during the past six months, beginning with the ISG meeting in Paris last December to the Rome conference for supporting the Lebanese Armed Forces in March and the CEDRE meeting in Paris in April and the special meeting on Syrian refugees that took place in Brussels also in April.

We also discussed with the President the Syrian refugee file and we reiterated our confirmation as ISG that the presence of the Syrian refugees in Lebanon is temporary. We agreed on the need to push forward the partnership between Lebanon and its international partners in a constructive and fruitful manner to address this issue. We stressed together the importance of this issue.

We also reaffirmed our strong, collective support for the continued unity, security, stability, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon.