



Office of the Special Coordinator
for Lebanon

Bureau du Coordinateur Spécial
pour le Liban

**United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon Michael Williams
Statement Following Meeting with Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri
Beirut, Lebanon**

Tuesday, 02 February 2010

Good Afternoon,

I just had a very good meeting with the Speaker of Parliament, H.E. Nabih Berri. We discussed the general developments in Lebanon and in the region. But first I took the opportunity to express to him my profound condolences on the tragedy of the airplane crash on Monday of last week and the awful loss of life and we are conscious that many of the victims of that tragedy came from the south of Lebanon. We take some comfort in this tragedy from the way in which the Lebanese people worked together and also that the Lebanese authorities worked very closely with UNIFIL.

Our talks today also focused on the implementation of Resolution 1701, as the next report of the Secretary-General on this resolution will be due at the end of February. Speaker Berri underlined again Lebanon's continued commitment to the full implementation of this resolution, which the UN warmly welcomes. In this regard, I also met yesterday with the Foreign Minister, Mr. Ali Shami, on the resolution 1701.

I also informed the Speaker about my recent visit to Israel and that Israeli officials assured me that they still remain committed to the prevailing cessation of hostilities and to Security Council Resolution 1701.

Thank you very much.

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