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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, 03 August 2010

Good afternoon,

I just had a very good meeting with the Speaker of Parliament, H.E. Nabih Berri.

During the course of the meeting we heard disturbing news from the south that there had been fire from the Israelis from near the village of Adaysseh and then there was return fire from the Lebanese Army. These are very disturbing incidents and we understand that at least two people have been injured. Gen. Bonifante, the UNIFIL Deputy Force Commander, is now traveling to Adaysseh to try and calm the situation down and we will speak with Gen. Bonifante shortly.

We discussed this with Speaker Berri and it is most unfortunate that this incident has happened so soon after the very important visit to Lebanon by H.M. King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia and President Assad of Syria. That visit as well as the visit of Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa, the Emir of Qatar, has contributed a great deal to Lebanon's calm and stability. With the Speaker we discussed the impact of this and we hope that this will have a lasting effect on the Lebanese domestic situation.

We also earlier discussed the situation with regard to 1701 and the restoration of calm in the south. I want to pay tribute to the Speaker's personal efforts to restore the calm and the excellent relationship between the UNIFIL and the LAF.

We discussed the coming legislative programme of the Lebanese Parliament and the issues of oil and gas exploration and also with regard to Palestinian issues and the right to work.

But our main concern now is the incident in the south and to do everything we can to restore stability on the Blue Line

Thank you very much.
