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Bureau du Coordinateur Spécial
pour le Liban

**United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon Michael Williams
Statement Following Meeting with Defense Minister Elias Murr
Beirut, Lebanon**

Friday, 04 June 2010

Good Afternoon,

I just had a very good meeting with H.E. Elias Murr, the Minister of Defense. We talked about several issues.

One, we reflected on the tragedy that took place in international waters on the flotilla that was carrying humanitarian aid to Gaza and which was attacked by Israeli Defense Forces. I think the position of the Secretary-General has been very very clear on this. He has condemned it and he has explained why this tragedy has happened. It happened because of the blockade of Gaza. And now after such a tragedy, it is even more imperative that that blockade is lifted on Gaza and its people.

The Minister and I also discussed Security Council Resolution 1701. The next report to the Security Council will be due by the end of June. The Minister and I agreed that we both would like to see further progress from all sides with this key resolution, which is so important for Lebanon and the region.

Thank you very much.
