



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**

Friday, 05 November 2010

Good Afternoon

I just had a good meeting with the Speaker of Parliament, Mr. Nabih Berri. We discussed the situation in Lebanon and also the latest report of the Secretary-General on resolution 1701.

We also discussed some of the recent tensions in Lebanon and the fears of escalation and instability. The position of the United Nations is that it is impossible to resolve any problems or disagreements without continuous dialogue between the different sides in the country. In this regard, I welcomed the efforts by the Speaker himself and also by President Michel Sleiman and Prime Minister Hariri, in terms of an insistence on dialogue and cooperation.

Earlier today, I also met with MP Michel Aoun, with whom I discussed the situation and with whom I emphasised the need for all Lebanese sides to engage to resolve outstanding issues.

On 1701, we discussed with Speaker Berri the latest report, and I welcomed the calm that has been restored in south Lebanon and the commitment of all sides to the implementation of the resolution. Speaker Berri also briefed me on his important visit to France and his meeting with President Sarkozy and with other senior French leaders.

Thank you. Shukran Jazeelan.
