



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, 08 September 2009

Good Morning,

I just had a meeting with the Speaker of Parliament, Mr. Nabih Berri. It was an opportunity for me to wish him a Ramadan Kareem, hoping that this holy month will bring goodwill to all the Lebanese people. I also hope that it might see the formation of a new government.

In my discussions today with Speaker Berri, we touched upon the latest developments concerning the formation of the government here in Lebanon. I expressed my concern that no agreement had been reached more than ten weeks after the designation of Saad Hariri as Prime Minister-designate and despite intense efforts to do so. I also expressed the hope that we will see the formation of a government supported by all in the near future.

At this point, I call on all Lebanese to continue to work towards the goal of a unity government. Democracy needs compromise. Lebanon must not return to the old days of polarisation and crisis.

My talks with Speaker Berri today also touched upon the implementation of Security Council Resolution 1701 and the situation in south Lebanon. We are both pleased by the calm that has prevailed in southern Lebanon recently, and we hope that all sides concerned continue to move towards the full implementation of the resolution soon.

Thank you very much.

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