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Bureau du Coordinateur Spécial  
pour le Liban

**United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon Michael Williams  
Statement Following Meeting with Mr. Samir Geagea, Leader of the Lebanese Forces  
Party  
Beirut, Lebanon**

Wednesday, 10 August 2011

Good Afternoon,

I just wanted to say a few words, firstly to thank Dr. Samir Geagea for receiving me today. We had quite a detailed discussion about issues facing Lebanon and the wide region.

On Lebanon, I underlined the importance to Dr. Geagea of maintaining stability and also of protecting Security Council Resolution 1701. We believe that this has brought stability to Lebanon in the years since 2006 and must be maintained in the face of the many challenges. We also discussed, for example, in that regard the bomb attacks against UNIFIL on May 27 and July 26 and I cautioned that this sort of attack could not be tolerated any further.

We also discussed obviously the situation in Syria, which I think is of concern to all Lebanese. We have seen I think a sort of developing international consensus now about how serious the situation is in Syria. We noted carefully the remarks by the Gulf Cooperation Council, by Saudi Arabia, by the Arab League. We hope that something positive will emerge from the visit of Foreign Minister Davutoglu yesterday to Syria and I believe that other envoys will be in Syria today from important Security Council member Brazil, from India and from South Africa and this I think shows the wide wide circle of international concern about developments in Syria.

Thank you very much.

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