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Bureau du Coordinateur Spécial  
pour le Liban

**United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon Michael Williams  
Statement Following Meeting with Prime Minister-designate Saad Hariri  
Beirut, Lebanon**

Tuesday, 13 October 2009

Good afternoon.

I just had a good meeting with Prime Minister-designate Saad Hariri. This was our second meeting in just over a week. Once again, the main focus of our attention and discussion was the process of forming a government in Lebanon. Following recent developments in the region and here in Lebanon itself, I think we are now in a crucial week to resolve outstanding issues and take the decisive steps to forming a cabinet.

Prime Minister-designate Hariri and I also discussed the substantive agenda that lies ahead. The United Nations has repeatedly stressed the importance of forming the government as soon as possible to tackle the many challenges facing the country.

Today's meeting was also an opportunity to brief the Premier-designate on the preparations for the next report on Resolution 1701 that is due at the Security Council by the end of the month. In this regard, we are very concerned by the reports of the explosion which took place last night in the area of Tayr Felsay. We are keeping a close eye on this because of its relevance to Resolution 1701 while waiting for the outcome of the UNIFIL and LAF investigations into this incident. I also expressed the hope to the Prime Minister-designate that the new government will reiterate Lebanon's commitment to the implementation of 1701.

Thank you very much.

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