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**Office of the
Special Coordinator
for Lebanon**

**Bureau du
Coordinateur Spécial
pour le Liban**

**UN Special Coordinator Michael Williams
Statement After Meeting with Prime Minister Fuad Siniora**

Beirut, 14 November 2008 -- following is the statement of UN Special Coordinator for Lebanon Michael Williams after his meeting today with Prime Minister Fuad Siniora:

I just had a very good meeting with the Prime Minister, Mr. Fuad Siniora. We discussed several issues and above all the implementation of Security Council Resolution 1701. I wanted to discuss this with the Prime Minister ahead of the next report of the Secretary-General which will be discussed with the Security Council on Tuesday the 25th of November at a meeting in New York which I will attend.

I also talked with the Prime Minister about my recent visits to Israel, Syria and to Egypt in the past week.

I conveyed to the Prime Minister the strong support of the Secretary-General for the normalization of relations, for the establishment of diplomatic relations between Lebanon and Syria. The Secretary-General is following this issue with very close interest.

With regard to other issues, the Secretary-General is very encouraged by the national dialogue on a defence strategy that Lebanese leaders have engaged on and by the reconciliation initiatives that have taken place in Lebanon in recent weeks. We hope that these efforts will be sustained and will contribute further to a positive atmosphere in the country.

We also talked briefly about the interfaith dialogue that took place in New York on Wednesday and Thursday this week and also the role at which Lebanon was represented at by President Suleiman but we also talked about the role that Lebanese itself can play in setting an example of communication and dialogue among different religions.

Thank you very much.
