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pour le Liban

**United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon Michael Williams  
Statement Following Meeting with MP Michel Aoun  
Beirut, Lebanon**

Thursday, 15 October 2009

Good Morning.

I wanted to say that I just had a very excellent meeting with Gen. Michel Aoun.

Our discussions today focused on the process of government formation. I expressed my support for the open dialogue that all sides have adopted in Lebanon and which I hope will lead to the formation of a government soon. I should like to take this opportunity to commend General Aoun for the spirit in which he has conducted this dialogue with Prime Minister-designate Saad Hariri.

I think now, we are in a crucial week to resolve outstanding issues and to take the decisive steps to forming a cabinet. We believe a positive spirit is prevailing, after earlier delays that we were concerned about, but I am confident that progress can be made in the coming days.

Gen. Aoun and I also discussed the many challenges facing the country and agreed on the need for a new government to tackle critical issues of reform.

Thank you very much.

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