

**New York, 17 November 2010 - Statement attributable to the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General on Israel's decision to withdraw from Northern Ghajar**

The Secretary-General welcomes the Government of Israel's decision today to accept, in principle, the United Nations proposal for a withdrawal of the IDF from the northern part of Ghajar and its redeployment south of the Blue Line.

The IDF's withdrawal from northern Ghajar would be an important step towards the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1701 (2006). The United Nations intends to continue to work closely with all parties in the coming period in a process to resolve the permanent status of Ghajar.

The Secretary-General commends all sides for their continued commitment to Security Council resolution 1701 (2006) and stresses his determination and commitment to advance the full implementation of this and other relevant resolutions.