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**United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon Michael Williams
Statement Following Meeting with Prime Minister-designate Saad Hariri
Beirut, Lebanon
Monday, 20 July 2009**

I just wanted to say that I had a very good meeting with PM-designate Saad Hariri. We talked both about the domestic situation and the regional situation.

We encouraged him in his efforts to form a new government. We wished him well in these endeavours, and we informed the Prime Minister-designate that the United Nations stands ready to support him in every way possible following the formation of the government.

The formation of that government is awaited with great interest, I think, by all members of the international community and by the United Nations itself, and I know that the Secretary-General, Mr. Ban Ki-moon, is personally following this very closely.

We also talked with H.E. Saad Hariri about the implementation of Security Council resolution 1701, and we agreed that it was very important for all parties to commit themselves to resolution 1701. Any resolution from time to time faces many tests and challenges. There have been some testing incidents in recent days. I take this opportunity to call on all parties to renew their commitment and to exercise the utmost restraint.

We also discussed with the Prime Minister-designate one particular aspect, or one serious violation, which Lebanon is subject to on a daily basis, namely the over-flights of the Israeli Air-Force. This is something that every single report of the United Nations on 1701, and there have now been ten successive reports, has condemned. We take the opportunity to call on Israel again to draw an end to these over-flights.

Q: What is your position regarding the last incident that happened in the South? What are you going to do about this?

A: We are talking with General Graziano, with all the parties on this. I have nothing further to say on this at this time.

Q: Did you ask something special about this incident from Prime Minister Hariri?

A: No.

Thank you very much.
