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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 Saad Hariri
Beirut, Lebanon**

Friday, 21 May 2010

Good evening,

I just met with Prime Minister Saad Hariri. Our talks focused on the busy diplomatic activity involving Lebanon at the moment. There have been a number of visitors here in Beirut this past week, and of course the Prime Minister has been engaged also in a regional tour to major capitals ahead of his forthcoming trip to Washington and New York.

We discussed the trip in some detail and I wished the Prime Minister well. His forthcoming visit to the United Nations, where he will be meeting with Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and chairing a session of the Security Council, is very significant, and we wish him all success. Lebanon's presidency of the Security Council this month is a great responsibility but also an opportunity to shape the Security Council's engagement and to make a proactive contribution to international efforts to promote peace and security, both in the Middle East and around the world.

In this context, we also discussed today progress on the implementation of Security Council Resolution 1701. I am pleased to say that recent tension is now diminishing and that all sides have scaled back the rhetoric. But all of us still have much work to do to push forward the implementation of the resolution.

Thank you very much.
