



Office of the Special Coordinator
for Lebanon

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**

Tuesday, 23 March 2010

I just had a very good meeting with Prime Minister Saad Hariri.

I reported to the Prime Minister on the Security Council briefing on Security Council Resolution 1701, which took place in New York on Friday March 12. I briefed the Prime Minister that on the Security Council there was strong support in all quarters for Lebanon and for the full implementation of Resolution 1701. We hope that all relevant parties will make progress on issues related to the resolution in the coming period.

The Prime Minister and I also touched upon the regional situation and the domestic situation in Lebanon. I understand that Lebanon's Parliament is in the process of discussing draft reforms for the municipal elections that may take place in the near future. Whatever the Lebanese decide in this regard, we hope that the elections will take place in a free, fair and democratic atmosphere. In this regard, I welcome particularly the recent meeting of the National Dialogue and the reaffirmation of the commitment of Lebanese leaders to stability and calm rhetoric as municipal elections draw near.

QUESTION: What should be done to see Resolution 1701 fully implemented?

SCL MICHAEL WILLIAMS: We all have to work much harder. Much has been achieved on that resolution but there is much more to be done. There was a great deal of discussion of that in New York on the Council.

QUESTION: We always see the violations coming from Israel?

SCL MICHAEL WILLIAMS: On a daily basis. That is acknowledged by the reports that I give and the briefing that I gave to the Security Council. Of course it is not just air violations. There is the subject of the occupation of the northern part of Ghajar village, the Shebaa Farms.
