



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**

Friday, 23 July 2010

Good evening,

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

I briefed the Prime Minister about my recent visit to New York – I came back two days ago – and in particular I discussed with the Prime Minister the Security Council session held last week on Security Council Resolution 1701. That meeting in New York was a very good meeting in which all members of the Council emphasized that resolution 1701 has stabilized the situation in south Lebanon and along the Blue Line and that the existing cessation of hostilities must be maintained.

As you know, Lebanon is a member of the Council, and Ambassador Nawaf Salam did a very good job in presenting Lebanon's position and interests to the Council.

I discussed with the Prime Minister today some areas of 1701 on which we need to move forward. There is much work to be done, as always, but I remain hopeful.

A smooth implementation of resolution 1701 requires calm and stability inside Lebanon. I shared with Prime Minister Hariri the UN's support for all efforts in that direction. In particular, I welcomed the initiative of President Sleiman who has been meeting with the participants in the National Dialogue in order to defuse recent political tension in the country and to resolve differences in a calm and constructive manner.

Thank you very much

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