



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 Mr. Ammar Moussawi, head of the International
Relations Department of Hizbullah
Beirut, Lebanon**

Tuesday, 24 May 2011

I just had a very good meeting with Sayyed Ammar Moussawi and I am very grateful to him for receiving me today. We had very extensive discussions of many issues, the situation in Lebanon and also the extremely complicated situation in the region and in the Arab world at the moment.

On Lebanon, I think we both agreed that it was imperative that a new government is formed as soon as possible. There are many difficulties, economic difficulties but we also consider for example the security problems in the region. It is by definition, people are strengthened when they have a government to protect them.

We also discussed the tragedy that happened on May 15 in Maroun El-Ras and I once again expressed my condolences for the many Palestinian lives that were lost on that tragic day. I believe too that because of the situation in the region and in the south, it is very important for all parties to commit to resolution 1701. I know there are different views on the implementation of 1701 and I believe that this is natural. But I still believe that 1701 has brought a stability to southern Lebanon and the people of southern Lebanon, which they did not have for many many years before the 2006 war.

So once again I express my thank to Sayyed Ammar Moussawi for agreeing to this very lengthy discussion today on so many issues.

Shoukran Jazeelan.

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