



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 MP Michel Aoun  
Rabieh, Lebanon**

Wednesday, 27 January 2010

Good Morning.

I just had a very good meeting with Member of Parliament General Michel Aoun.

Because I have been travelling the last few days, I have not had the opportunity to express my deepest condolences to the Lebanese Government and people and to the families of all the victims, Lebanese and non-Lebanese, who perished in the terrible plane crash off the coast of Beirut in the early hours of Monday morning. This was a terrible tragedy. The shock and the grief that all of us feel is enormous, but I take some comfort from the unified image of all the Lebanese people working together to overcome this tragedy.

In my discussions today with Gen. Aoun, I expressed the hope that this image of unity will always characterize the efforts of the Lebanese people to support and reinforce the state and to address to the needs of the population.

Our talks today touched on the agenda of the Government of Lebanon, and I again expressed the readiness of the United Nations to assist whenever requested, particularly in the areas of development and social and economic reforms, which I believe are so important.

Finally, I also discussed with Gen. Aoun the implementation of Resolution 1701 ahead of the next report of the Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to the Security Council at the end of February. I was in Israel earlier this week in the framework of consultations on the implementation of this Resolution. I am pleased that, overall, Israeli officials communicated to me their continued commitment to the cessation of hostilities between Lebanon and Israel.

Thank you.

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