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**United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon Michael Williams
Statement Following Meeting with Prime Minister-designate Saad Hariri
Beirut, Lebanon**

Tuesday, 27 October 2009

Good evening.

My meeting just now with Prime Minister-designate Saad Hariri revolved around the formation of the government and the forthcoming report of the Secretary-General on Resolution 1701. I take this opportunity to commend Saad Hariri's dedication and commitment to the people of Lebanon and hope his endeavors will soon lead to success.

It has now been almost five months since the parliamentary elections took place in Lebanon in June. Lebanon needs a government to address important challenges, both domestically and regionally. It is critical, I believe, that a new government be formed soon to deal with these challenges.

Compromises are necessary. I very much hope that an agreement can be reached soon and that when I brief the Security Council two weeks from today, I can report on this important development.

Thank you very much.
