



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**

Saturday, 28 August 2010

Good Afternoon

I just had a very good meeting with Prime Minister, H.E. Saad Hariri. We covered quite a number of developments in Lebanon and the region. It was the first time I'd seen the Prime Minister since 23 July.

We discussed the situation in the south of Lebanon and along the Blue Line, and the implementation of resolution 1701. I look forward to Monday, August 30, when I expect the Security Council to renew the mandate of UNIFIL. I welcomed the return of calm to the south following the serious incident at Al-Adaysseh on 03 August and I welcome the commitments of both parties to the cessation of hostilities. Since this incident, there have been two meetings of the tripartite group in Naqoura, one of which I attended myself on 04 August, and there will be another meeting next week I believe on September 02. All sides I think now have to work very hard to prevent a recurrence of any incident like that of August 03, which could lead to a deterioration of the situation. But I believe at the moment we have returned to relative normality.

I also discussed some latest developments here in Lebanon and in Beirut and expressed my condolences to the Prime Minister about the lives that were lost in Bourj Abi-Haidar last Tuesday evening. I commended the Prime Minister and his Government for the actions they have taken in the wake of that serious incident to contain any further outbreaks of violence and to address the issue of firearms in the city of Beirut.

I also commended the role of the Lebanese Armed Forces in working hard to maintain security and stability in Lebanon and underlined the importance of Lebanon's institutions in maintaining calm and stability at this moment.

Shoukran. Thank you.

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