



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**

Wednesday, 29 September 2010

Good Morning,

I just had a very detailed and frank meeting with Mr. Ammar Moussawi, which was a very important meeting.

We discussed many issues. We discussed for example the implementation of Resolution 1701 and the situation in south Lebanon. Following the recent tensions, I am pleased that calm has been restored in the region. And I welcomed the continued cooperation between UNIFIL and the local population as well as with the LAF (Lebanese Armed Forces). This is imperative for UNIFIL to carry out its mission. I also cautioned the need to avoid any provocative action in south Lebanon, especially in the coming period.

Inevitably the implementation of Resolution 1701 is also affected by the internal situation in Lebanon itself. In that regard, I discussed with Mr. Moussawi the domestic situation and the recent rise in tension. I have urged all parties to do their best to refrain from escalatory rhetoric and to work together through dialogue to address difficult and sensitive issues. It is important to recall that much of the current tension is based on speculation. I believe in politics and in diplomacy it is important to act on the basis of concrete facts. I also underlined the support of the United Nations to the work of Lebanon's institutions, which safeguard the country's security and stability and its integrity needs to be preserved.

Thank you very much

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