Good afternoon,

I want to thank Minister Mohammad Fneish for receiving with me today. It was very important to meet with the minister and hear his personal views and those of Hizbullah. We had a very good discussion both about the domestic situation and the regional situation.

On the domestic situation, I think the minister was cautiously optimistic that we would see a government soon in Lebanon and that is certainly something that I and the United Nations support very strongly. I think the sooner the government is formed the better.

On the regional discussion, we looked at all the countries and issues from Syria to Tunisia. From the point of view of the UN, I emphasized the need for dialogue, the need to respect human rights and the need to avoid violence.

Thank you very much