

9 July 2010

## SECURITY COUNCIL

### PRESS STATEMENT ON THE SITUATION IN LEBANON

The members of the Security Council commend the active role of UNIFIL in ensuring the implementation of Security Council resolution 1701. The members of the Security Council strongly deplore the recent incidents involving UNIFIL peacekeepers which took place in southern Lebanon on June 29<sup>th</sup>, July 3<sup>rd</sup> and July 4<sup>th</sup> in the UNIFIL area of operation. The members of the Security Council welcome the fact that, in its statement of July 8th, the government of Lebanon deplored the above mentioned incidents, reaffirmed its commitment to UNIFIL as well as to the full implementation of R. 1701

In this regard, the members of the Security Council emphasize the importance of not impairing the ability of UNIFIL to fulfil its mandate under Security Council resolution 1701. They call on all parties to ensure that the freedom of movement of UNIFIL remains respected in conformity with its mandate and its rules of engagement. The members of the Security Council also call on all parties to abide scrupulously by their obligation to respect the safety of UNIFIL and other United Nations personnel.

The members of the Security Council call for continued reinforcement of the cooperation between the Lebanese Armed Forces and UNIFIL. The members of the Security Council stress the importance of increasing the Lebanese Armed Forces deployed in Southern Lebanon, consistent with resolution 1701.

The members of the Security Council reiterate their full support for UNIFIL and call on all parties to cooperate with the mission in order to fully implement resolution 1701.