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Bureau du Coordinateur Spécial
pour le Liban

United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon Derek Plumbly
Statement following Meeting with Prime Minister Najib Mikati
(Delivered in Arabic)

Beirut, Lebanon

Wednesday, 27 June 2012

I have just met with Prime Minister Najib Mikati. We had a very good discussion.

I informed the Prime Minister that the next report of the UN Secretary-General on Resolution 1701 is due to be presented to the Security Council next week. We welcomed the calm that has prevailed in south Lebanon in recent months and discussed areas of the resolution that still need to be implemented.

I also took the opportunity to welcome the outcome of Monday's National Dialogue meeting. The commitment on the part of the different political movements in the country to continue dialogue is in itself important, as is their reaffirmation of the commitments made in the Baabda Declaration to restraint, to support for the Army and to Lebanon's neutrality with regard to regional conflicts.

In that context I also discussed with the Prime Minister follow-up with regard to the Dialogue conclusion concerning the Palestinian camps and the emphasis laid on addressing socio-economic issues there. I was impressed by the Prime Minister's determination to achieve progress in this area, which is important both for the people of Lebanon and for Palestinians living here. The United Nations looks forward to continuing to work closely with the government as it does so.

Finally I would like to take this opportunity to condemn the violence in Beirut earlier in the week and specifically the attack on the Al Jadeed television station. The Prime Minister underlined the absolute priority the government gives to safeguarding Lebanon's stability and security during this period. In that regard I welcomed the steps the Lebanese authorities, led by the Ministry of the Interior, have initiated this week to strengthen security measures and the rule of law across the country.