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Bureau du Coordinateur Spécial
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**United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon, Michael C. Williams
Statement following Meeting with Prime Minister Najib Mikati
Beirut, Lebanon**

Tuesday, 06 September 2011

I just had an excellent meeting with the Prime Minister, H.E. Najib Mikati. I congratulated the Prime Minister on Lebanon's presidency of the Security Council this month. So it is quite a historic month. I am also very pleased that the President will be going to New York later this month and also separately the Prime Minister will be going to New York. It will be a very important month because many issues will be discussed in the Security Council. But above all, there will be a number of meetings on Middle Eastern issues. The question of Palestine, as you know, is perhaps uppermost in that regard. But I am sure also there will be discussions on events in Libya and also the question of the situation in Syria will be discussed.

The Prime Minister and I also talked about the situation here in Lebanon. I emphasized the need to safeguard Lebanon's stability and security, particularly at a time of dramatic changes throughout the Arab world and part of that stability is guaranteed by Security Council Resolution 1701. I am very pleased that the Prime Minister and his government remain so strongly committed to Security Council Resolution 1701, which I believe has brought stability to Lebanon along the Blue Line for more than five years now since the tragedy of the 2006 war.

Thank you very much.

QUESTION: Are you confident that Lebanon will remain committed to the STL?

SCL MICHAEL WILLIAMS: I commended the Prime Minister on his remarks, I think two days ago, when he made a very strong statement of support with regard to the STL. I think justice is very very important. It is important in a domestic situation naturally. The government has long recognized that. But it also has had, for over 20 years now, an international dimension. There have been many courts established on the Former Yugoslavia, Sierra Leone, Cambodia and so on. And this court is well established now and I think is likely to exist for some years.
