

الرقم الصادر: ۱۰۹۱ -أ ۲٤/ نيويورك في: ۲۰۲٤/۰۷/۳۰

سعادة رئيس مجلس الأمن،

أودعكم ربطاً رسالة معالي وزير الخارجية والمغتربين الدكتور عبدالله بو حبيب إلى مجلس الأمن.

أرجو من سعادتكم توزيع هذه الرسالة ومرفقاتها على أعضاء مجلس الأمن وإصدارها كوثيقة رسمية من وثائق المجلس في إطار بند الحالة في الشرق الأوسط.

الثقائد بالأعمال بالوكالة مادي هادي هادي هادي

سعادة رئيس مجلس الأمن السيد فاسيلي نيبينزيا المحترم نيويورك Republic of Lebanon Ministry Of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants The Minister

> H.E Ambassador Vassily Nebenzia President of the Security Council United Nations, New York

## Excellency,

Lebanon expresses great concern over the tragedy of July 27, in the town of Majdal Shams in the occupied Syrian Golan, which caused the death of 12 children and injured tens other. The circumstances surrounding this terrible incident remain unclear, and the responsibility of the Israeli occupying forces cannot be ruled out.

Lebanon has been swift, decisive, and firm in condemning all forms of violence against civilians and attacks on their livelihoods. It has categorically denounced any and all attacks that result in the loss of innocent lives. In its statement on 27 July 2024, the Government of Lebanon expressed in unequivocal terms that "targeting civilians is considered a blatant violation of International Humanitarian Law and contravenes principles of humanity."

Israel's claim to seek to protect the very population it occupies in the occupied Syrian Golan is a baseless display of political hypocrisy. Moreover, Israel's claim of self-defense does not hold under international law, as it pertains to an occupied territory.

Israel's true intentions are to prolong and escalate hostilities. This is particularly appalling considering that, after targeting and killing tens of thousands of Palestinian children in Gaza, Israel now seeks to instrumentalize a yet unclear incident in the occupied Syrian Golan, to mount more attacks on Lebanon, where its continuous aggression, since October 8th, has claimed the lives of more than 107 civilians so far, including 25 women, 12 children, 23 rescue workers and 3 journalists, and displaced around 100,000 civilians from their homes. In addition, Israel continues to bomb Lebanon with white phosphorus, including in populated areas. Moreover, it is deliberately targeting the Lebanese environment and has burned so far 17 million square meters of land. This daily aggression on Lebanon is accompanied by persistent inflammatory rhetoric and frequent Israeli threats, including threats to send Lebanon back to the "stone age".

It is very clear that the narrative put forth by Israel seeks to divert attention from its own longstanding violations of international law to obscure the reality of its prolonged occupation and the daily suffering inflicted upon the Palestinian people and the Syrian population of the occupied Syrian Golan. Israel attempts to mislead the international community about its illegal occupation of Arab territories and to abort genuine efforts aimed toward achieving peace and justice in the region. Instead the prolonged occupation and continued aggression under the pretext of self-defense ought to be condemned outright by the international community. Sustainable security and stability in the region can only be achieved through a just and comprehensive peace that addresses the root causes of the conflict, and leads to the withdrawal of the Israeli occupying forces from all occupied Lebanese territories, the occupied Palestinian territory and the occupied Syrian Golan as per relevant United Nations resolutions, including Security Council resolutions.

The current situation is highly volatile, and any misstep or miscalculation would engulf the whole region in a widespread war with devastating consequences for all. Achieving a durable ceasefire on all fronts is the only viable way to prevent further civilian casualties and to avert further escalations or miscalculations.

Lebanon reiterates its commitment to the implementation of Resolution 1701 (2006) in its entirety, as a cornerstone of the stability along the Blue Line, and calls on the Security Council to compel Israel to abide by it and cease its daily violations and hostilities against Lebanon.

Lebanon emphasizes that cessation of hostilities on all fronts and the full implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1701(2006) are the only viable paths forward. These measures are crucial to sparing civilians and innocent lives from the horrors of war.

The Security Council must live up to its responsibility in the maintenance of international peace and security, and compel Israel to implement its resolutions pertaining to the aggression on Gaza, the latest of which is Resolution 2735 (2024), in order to reach a ceasefire that would lead to a wider stability in the region.

Beirut, July 29, 2024

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants