



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

5 August 2015

Dear Madam President,

Further to my latest report to the Security Council (S/2015/475) concerning the implementation of resolution 1701 (2006), I have the honour to hereby request that the Council consider the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), which is due to expire on 31 August 2015. In a letter dated 14 July 2015 addressed to me, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Emigrants of the Lebanese Republic requested that the Council extend the mandate of UNIFIL for a further period of one year, without amendment.

UNIFIL continues to play a crucial role in ensuring peace and stability in southern Lebanon, as well as full respect for the Blue Line by both Lebanon and Israel. Following the serious breach of the cessation of hostilities that took place on 28 January 2015, calm and stability have been maintained in the UNIFIL area of operations and along the Blue Line. Yet, the bellicose rhetoric in Israel and in Lebanon has contributed to maintaining a state of tension and to heightening the risk of miscalculation.

In that context, and in accordance with its mandate, UNIFIL continues to monitor the cessation of hostilities and to assist the Lebanese Armed Forces in taking steps towards the establishment between the Blue Line and the Litani River of an area free of any unauthorized armed personnel, assets and weapons. UNIFIL remains engaged with the parties on the outstanding issue of northern Ghajar and continues to monitor and report on ground and air violations of resolution 1701 (2006). UNIFIL also takes all necessary action within its capabilities to ensure that its area of operations is not utilized for hostile activities of any kind.

Her Excellency
Mrs. U. Joy Ogwu
President of the Security Council
New York

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15-06808 / 15-06625

PKG / 01 / 002

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The UNIFIL Maritime Task Force continues to carry out its dual mandate of conducting maritime interdiction operations in the area of maritime operations and training Lebanese navy personnel.

Efforts are ongoing to ensure a comprehensive approach to the implementation of resolution 1701 (2006) that integrates the endeavours of UNIFIL, the Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon and the United Nations Country Team, to further involve the Government of Lebanon in the implementation of resolution 1701 (2006) and to increase the capacity of the Lebanese Armed Forces. The latter is intended to facilitate the gradual assumption by the Lebanese Armed Forces of effective and sustainable security control of the UNIFIL area of operations and Lebanese territorial waters, as a key element to support moves towards a permanent ceasefire.

Cooperation between UNIFIL and the Lebanese Armed Forces on land and at sea continues to be essential for the implementation of the mandate of UNIFIL. Despite the temporary redeployment of some units of the Lebanese Armed Forces from the South Litani Sector to elsewhere in the country, UNIFIL and the Lebanese Armed Forces continue to conduct many coordinated operational activities.

I underline the call for increased international support for the Lebanese Armed Forces, in response to the latter's capabilities development plan, as well as in the framework of the International Support Group for Lebanon, including in the context of the Strategic Dialogue between the Lebanese Armed Forces and UNIFIL.

The well-established liaison and coordination arrangements of UNIFIL with the parties, including the tripartite mechanism, have facilitated a number of constructive and pragmatic measures. UNIFIL continues to build on its efforts to promote practical arrangements on the ground and understandings between the Lebanese Armed Forces and Israel Defense Forces in order to further stabilize the situation along the Blue Line and build trust.

The process of visibly marking the Blue Line is continuing with the marking of non-contentious points. The Mission has continued to ensure that the tripartite mechanism is as flexible as possible and enables the parties to discuss a wider range of issues.

The overall attitude of the local population towards UNIFIL remains positive. The freedom of movement of UNIFIL and the security and safety of its personnel are integral to the effective execution of its tasks. The primary responsibility for ensuring freedom of movement of UNIFIL personnel in the area of operations lies with the Lebanese authorities.

The total number of military personnel, as of 15 July 2015, is 10,501. The UNIFIL civilian component numbers 260 international and 585 national staff.

I am grateful to the 39 troop-contributing countries for their ongoing commitment. This commitment, coupled with the development of a strategic partnership with the Lebanese Armed Forces, has enabled the successful implementation of several key aspects of resolution 1701 (2006). However, as the UNIFIL mandate approaches its expiration date, it is clear that more work remains to be done.

I would like to express my appreciation to the Head of Mission and Force Commander of UNIFIL, Major General Luciano Portolano, and to all the military and civilian personnel of UNIFIL, for the work they are carrying out in southern Lebanon in the service of peace.

Regarding the financial aspects of UNIFIL, the General Assembly, in resolution 68/302 of 25 June 2015, appropriated to the Special Account for UNIFIL the total amount of US \$506.3 million (gross) for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016. Should the Security Council decide to extend the mandate of the Mission beyond 31 August 2015, the cost of maintaining UNIFIL will be limited to the amounts approved by the General Assembly.

As of 24 July 2015, unpaid assessed contributions to the Special Account for UNIFIL amounted to US \$97.1 million. Total outstanding assessed contributions for all peacekeeping operations on the same date amounted to US \$3,231.4 million. As of 24 July 2015, amounts owed to the Member States that contribute troops to UNIFIL totalled US \$26.9 million. Reimbursement of troops and contingent-owned equipment costs have been made for the period up to 30 April 2015 and 31 March 2015, respectively, in accordance with the quarterly payment schedule.

With the above information in mind, I recommend that the Council extend the mandate of UNIFIL for a further period of 12 months, until 31 August 2016.

I would be grateful if you could bring this letter to the attention of the members of the Council.

Please accept, Madam President, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ban Ki-moon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ban" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Ki-moon".

BAN/Ki-moon

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

NEW YORK

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

To: CDC (through ODSG),

Please find attached for your approval and SG's signature a letter addressed to the President of SC, recommending the renewal of the mandate of UNIFIL.

AK

Political Unit
4 August 2015

15-06808

Received in ODSG

4 August 2015

Seen by:

ER

RECEIVED

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15-06808
EOSG/CENTRAL

CONFIDENTIAL

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COPY

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DSG, CAC

Immediate

Note to Ms. Malcorra

Draft letter from the Secretary-General to the Security Council President recommending the renewal of the mandate of UNIFIL

1. In a letter dated 14 July 2015 addressed to the Secretary-General, the Lebanese Minister for Foreign Affairs and Emigrants commended the work of UNIFIL and requested that the Security Council adopt a resolution to extend the mandate of UNIFIL for a further period of one year, until 31 August 2016, without amendment.
2. Accordingly, please find attached a draft letter from the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council recommending the renewal of the mandate of UNIFIL, which expires on 31 August 2015. The letter follows the protocol and format of previous years.
3. I would be grateful if you could obtain the Secretary-General's approval and signature at his earliest convenience.

Hervé Ladsous

Hervé Ladsous
3 August 2015

cc: Mr. Feltman
Mr. Khare

for processing pls
no changes
Tn-P
AK

ACTION Mr. Lodsous (email)

COPY DSG/CdC
Mr. Feltman (email)
AG

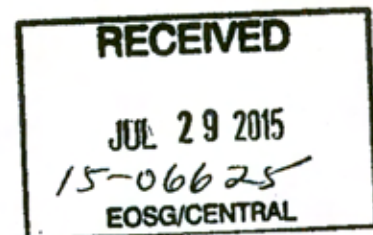
Job No.:	15-12817E	Original Language:	Arabic
Symbol:	TR-099	Job date:	29/07/15
		ETS Translator:	McAuley

DOCUMENT SUMMARY TRANSLATION

DOC. TYPE:	Letter	DOC. DATE:	14/07/15
SENDER:	Mr. Gebran Bassil, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Emigrants, Lebanon		
ADDR. TO:	Secretary-General		
TOPIC:	Renewal of the mandate of UNIFIL		
ATTACHMENT(S):			

SUMMARY OF CONTENT:

✓ The correspondent recalls that the mandate of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) is due to end on 31 August 2015. He commends the work of UNIFIL and calls on the Security Council to adopt a resolution extending its mandate, without amendment, until 31 August 2016.



PK6/01/002

TR-099

الجمهورية اللبنانية

وزارة الخارجية والمغتربين

الوزير

RECEIVED

JUL 28 2015

EOSG/CENTRAL

(Via Mission)

سعادة الأمين العام للأمم المتحدة السيد بان كي مون،

أكتب إليكم بشأن تمديد ولاية قوات الأمم المتحدة المؤقتة في لبنان (اليونيفيل)، التي من المقرر أن تنتهي بتاريخ ٣١ آب ٢٠١٥، وبالاستناد إلى قرار مجلس الأمن الدولي رقم ١٧٠١، ويهمني أن أعلمكم بموافقة لبنان على تمديد ولاية اليونيفيل سنة إضافية تنتهي بتاريخ ٣١ آب ٢٠١٦. يتطلع لبنان إلى استمرار اضطلاع اليونيفيل بمهامها من ضمن ولايتها الهادفة إلى المحافظة على السلم والاستقرار، وإلى مواصلة التعاون بين اليونيفيل والجيش اللبناني وتعزيزه حتى استكمال تنفيذ قرار مجلس الأمن الدولي رقم ١٧٠١.

إنني أدعو، باسم الحكومة اللبنانية، مجلس الأمن الدولي إلى اتخاذ قرار يقضي بتمديد ولاية اليونيفيل لغاية ٣١ آب ٢٠١٦، وفقاً لما نص عليه القرار رقم ١٧٠١، ودون تعديل في هذه الولاية.

وأغتنم هذه الفرصة لكي أعرب لكم عن تقدير لبنان، حكومة وشعباً، للدور الذي تقوم به اليونيفيل قيادة وضباطاً وجنوداً، وعن امتنانه لحكومات وشعوب الدول المشاركة فيها، ولكي أعرب لسعادتكم عن فائق تقديري واحترامي.

بيروت في ١٤ تموز ٢٠١٥.

وزير الخارجية والمغتربين

جبران باسيل

***Permanent Mission of Lebanon
to the United Nations***

Ref: 1214/15

The Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Office of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honor to forward a letter dated July 14, 2015 from H.E. Mr. Gebran Bassil, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants of Lebanon, to H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General, concerning the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

The Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the Secretary-General of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, July 28, 2015



H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon
The Secretary-General
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