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LETTER DATED 16 JUNE 1980 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF  
ITALY TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to inform you that the heads of State and Government and the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the European Community, meeting as the European Council, issued in Venice on 13 June 1980 the following declaration on the situation in Lebanon:

"The Nine reiterate once again their total solidarity with Lebanon, a friendly country whose equilibrium is seriously jeopardized by the clashes in the region and renews its urgent appeal to all the countries and parties concerned to put an end to all acts liable to affect Lebanon's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity as well as the authority of its Government. The Nine will support any action or initiative likely to guarantee the return of peace and stability in Lebanon, a factor which constitutes an essential element in the equilibrium of the region.

"The Nine stress the importance of the role which should be played by the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) in Southern Lebanon. The Nine recall the declaration which they made in Luxembourg on 22 April 1980 and stress that it is essential for all the parties concerned to allow UNIFIL to implement to the full the mandate assigned to it, including that of taking control of the territory up to the internationally recognized boundaries."

I should be very grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Umberto LA ROCCA  
Ambassador

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\* Reissued for technical reasons.