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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-seventh year

Letter dated 16 July 1982 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of the official communiqué issued at the end of the meeting of the Council of Ministers at Baabda on 14 July 1982.

I would be most grateful if this statement were issued as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 34 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ghassan TUENI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* Reissued for technical reasons.

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ANNEX

COMMUNIQUE BY THE LEBANESE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

July 14, 1982

At the beginning of the meeting, President Sarkis presented the Council with an exposé of the various discussions and initiatives that are jointly being taken with the Prime Minister and the Minister for Foreign Affairs, in order to solve the present crisis in the country.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Shafik al-Wazzan, then informed the Council of Ministers of the results of his contacts and of the negotiations now being pursued with the various parties concerned to save the capital city of Beirut, and to ensure an Israeli withdrawal from all of Lebanon's territory, in accordance with Security Council Resolutions 508 and 509. The negotiations are also aimed at obtaining the withdrawal of all non-Lebanese armed forces from Lebanon, and at seeking the assistance of a multinational force to render the Palestinian withdrawal from Beirut possible.

The Prime Minister emphasized Lebanon's determination to maintain the unity of its people and its institutions, and to restore Lebanon's sovereignty over all of its territory by deploying the Lebanese Army and Security Forces.

After hearing the opinions of all the Ministers, the Council expressed its support for the attitudes taken by the President of the Republic, the Prime Minister, and the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and for their ideas and initiatives in handling the crisis caused by the Israeli occupation.

The Council of Ministers also supported the principles adopted to secure the withdrawal of all non-Lebanese armed forces from Lebanese territory.
