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The situation in the Middle East

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Seventy-fifth year

Identical letters dated 9 September 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I should like to inform you of the following:

- On 25 August 2020 at 2255 hours, on the outskirts of the towns of Mays al-Jabal and Hula, between points B70 and B71, the Israeli army fired approximately 60 phosphorus shells from inside occupied territory. The shells landed inside Lebanese territory, causing fires to break out among brush and trees in the forest. Eight of the shells landed in a goat farm belonging to a Lebanese civilian, resulting in injury to several goats. Six of the shells landed near a Lebanese Army post, one of them hitting the post's berm without causing any injuries. Israeli shelling caused a fire to break out near post 32A-8, which is manned by the Nepalese contingent of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL); Civil Defence units worked to put the fire out. At the same time, the Israeli army launched some 34 flares from its Shaykh al-Abbad position opposite the town of Mays al-Jabal and point B67 (1), six of which landed inside Lebanese territory. Later, a Lebanese Army patrol came across an unexploded shell.
- From 25 August 2020 at 2300 hours to 26 August 2020 at 0040 hours, the Israeli army fired some 62 flares over the town of Hula and the Ruwaysah area inside Lebanese territory.
- On 25 August 2020 at 2345 hours, the Israeli army fired six phosphorus shells at the Ruwaysah area between the towns of Hula and Mays al-Jabal, causing fires to break out among brush and trees in the forest.
- From 25 August 2020 at 2350 hours to 26 August 2020 at 0045 hours, on the outskirts of the town of Kafr Shuba, the Israeli army launched some 22 flares. Four were launched over a Lebanese Army post and one over the OP4 post manned by the Indian UNIFIL contingent. Some 45 explosions were heard inside the occupied Shab'a Farms.



- On 26 August 2020 at 0005 hours, on the outskirts of the town of Aytarun opposite points B52 (1) and BP23, the Israeli army fired some 18 phosphorus shells, all of which landed inside Lebanese territory. Some of the shells landed in a forest between the towns of Marun al-Ra's and Aytarun, causing a fire to break out; Civil Defence units worked to put out the fire. Two of the shells landed on the house of a Lebanese civilian, causing material damage without injuring anyone. The Israeli army also launched 18 flares that landed inside Lebanese territory.
- On the same date between 0100 and 0200 hours, an Israeli army helicopter fired three missiles from above the Israeli position north-west of Abu Dajaj inside occupied Palestinian territory. The missiles targeted the Green Without Borders association opposite point BP10 on the outskirts of the town of Ramiya. In addition, a phosphorous shell was fired from inside the Zar'it barracks over that association's preserve. Eight missiles were fired from a helicopter above the Israeli army's Tall al-Rahib position and two missiles were fired from inside that position at one of the association's buildings opposite point BP13 on the outskirts of the town of Ayta al Sha'b without causing injury. A helicopter also combed the area in the direction of the building.

These Israeli violations put the lives of civilians and the integrity of Lebanese territory at risk. They are acts of aggression, threats to international peace and security, and violations of Lebanese sovereignty.

I should like to reiterate that my Government honours its commitments under international resolutions. On behalf of my Government, I call upon the Security Council to condemn this act in the strongest possible terms and compel Israel to bring an end to its violations of Lebanese sovereignty by air, sea and land, and fulfil all of its obligations under Security Council resolution [1701 \(2006\)](#).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter issued as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 34, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Amal **Mudallali**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative