United Nations



 $A_{75/732}-S_{2021/104}$

Distr.: General 2 February 2021 English Original: Arabic

General Assembly Seventy-fifth session Agenda item 37 **The situation in the Middle East** Security Council Seventy-sixth year

Identical letters dated 29 January 2021 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 the Lebanese Government, we transmit below a reply to the letters dated 2 October 2020 (S/2020/968) and 16 November 2020 (S/2020/1120) from the Permanent Representative of Israel addressed to the President of the Security Council.

The media visit organized on 29 September 2020 to the warehouses in the residential neighbourhood of Janah disproved the Israeli claims that those sites contained weapons belonging to Hizbullah. The constant claims made by Israel that there are weapon warehouses in residential areas are alarming, because their purpose is to justify any future Israeli act of aggression against Lebanese territory or civilians in Lebanon.

There is no truth to the Israeli claims that Hizbullah attacked from north of the Blue Line on 27 July and 25 August 2020. In point of fact, in paragraph 2 of the forty-fourth report of the Secretary-General concerning implementation of Security Council resolution 1701 (2006) (S/2020/1110) it is stated that, on 27 July, the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) observed approximately 50 shells fired from south to north across the Blue Line. UNIFIL did not, however, observe any movement, attack or attempted crossing from north of the Blue Line. In paragraph 3 of the report, it is stated that members of UNIFIL heard two gunshots in the vicinity of Hula. Yet it was not confirmed that the shots came from north of the Blue Line, and no movement or attack was observed from the north to the south across the Blue Line. The claim made by Israel that it responded to an attack from the Lebanese side is uncorroborated and based on incorrect and unconfirmed information.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 37, and of the Security Council.

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



21-01354 (E) 050221 050221

Please recycle