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The situation in the Middle East

Security Council  
Seventy-ninth year

## Identical letters dated 5 November 2024 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from the Government of Lebanon, I draw to your kind attention the present letter regarding ongoing Israeli aggression against Lebanon:

Israel is continuing its attacks on the Lebanon and its people. Since our identical letters dated 28 October 2024 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council ([A/79/561-S/2024/783](#)), Israeli forces have perpetrated more massacres and systematically destroyed border villages. Israel has deliberately attacked civilian facilities all over Lebanon on the pretext that they are weapons depots or military headquarters, in a flagrant violation of international laws.

Israeli is also continuing its ground incursions into Lebanese territory with the goal of reimposing its occupation, in flagrant violation of the 2000 line of withdrawal known as the Blue Line and in blatant disregard for the essence of Security Council resolution [1701 \(2006\)](#), in which the Council reiterated its strong support for the territorial integrity, sovereignty and political independence of Lebanon within its internationally recognized borders, as contemplated by the Israeli-Lebanese General Armistice Agreement of 23 March 1949.

The following are some of the attacks and violations committed by Israeli forces between 25 October 2024 and 2 November 2024:

- Israel has violated Lebanese sovereignty and indiscriminately bombed civilians. From 8 October 2023 through 2 November 2024, there have been a total of 11,876 strikes, killing 2,968 and injuring 13,319, including women, children, journalists and aid workers. Over 1.4 million civilians have been displaced from areas under attack, especially from south of the Litani, the Bekaa and the southern suburbs of Beirut.
- On 26 October 2024, Israel launched a massive bombardment of a neighbourhood in the southern town of Udaysah, using some 400 tons of explosives. There were warnings from geologists that the explosions could trigger earthquakes. That



came after a series of similar attacks over the preceding few days that completely or partially destroyed border villages. These attacks have been documented by social media posts from Israeli army personnel celebrating the destruction, and also by satellite imagery. The border villages in question are as follows: Kafr Kila, Hula, Mays al-Jabal, Muhaybib, Blida, Aytarun, Ayn Ibil, Hanin, Ayta al-Sha'b, Quzah, Ramiyah, Umm al-Tut, and Marwahin. Given the systematic nature of the destruction, Lebanon warns that the Israeli army is trying to turn the border strip into an uninhabitable buffer zone.

- On 27 and 29 October 2024, Israel attacked residential buildings in Harat Sayda in southern Lebanon. That was the first time that that densely populated area had been targeted, causing numerous casualties and exacerbating the displacement crisis.
- On 28 October 2024, a Lebanese army bulldozer was attacked as it was trying to open the Qaluwiyah-Kafr Dunin road in southern Lebanon, injuring a soldier.
- On 27 October 2024, an emergency clinic in the town of Ayn Ba'al in southern Lebanon was attacked, killing three paramedics.
- On 28 October 2024, civil defence personnel in the town of Burj al-Muluk in southern Lebanon were attacked as they were fighting a fire, forcing them to withdraw.
- On 29 October 2024, Israel destroyed the Umm al-Tut mosque in southern Lebanon. That attack was not the first of its kind. Israel has attacked numerous places of worship and religious shrines, including the shrine of the Prophet Muhaybib and seven other mosques whose destruction has been documented. It has also damaged a number of churches. Such attacks are a flagrant violation of international conventions that criminalize attacks on religious and cultural sites. The 1977 Protocol I Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 clearly states that places of worship are among the civilian objects that must be protected. Security Council resolution [2347 \(2017\)](#) affirms that directing attacks against sites dedicated to religion may constitute a war crime, and that perpetrators of such attacks must be brought to justice.
- On 31 October 2024, Israel attacked an ambulance in the town of Zifta, killing one paramedic and injuring two.
- Israel continues to shell the cities of Tyre and Baalbek, posing a threat to archaeological sites that are on the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage List. This was after Israel ordered residents of those two cities to evacuate, further exacerbating the internal displacement crisis.
- Israel continues to use internationally banned white phosphorus bombs, which do severe damage to agricultural fields and civilian facilities, threaten the livelihoods of farmers and herders, and cause long-term damage to the environment and infrastructure.

Lebanon calls on the members of the Security Council to condemn these hostile acts, take firm action to stop these violations, hold Israel fully responsible for the heavy loss of life and property, and demand that Israel immediately and unconditionally withdraw from Lebanese territory and fully and comprehensively implement Security Council resolution [1701 \(2006\)](#), with a view to ensuring the security and stability of the region.

Lebanon continues to rely on the crucial and effective role played by the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), in accordance with its mandate and in close cooperation with the Lebanese army, with a view to helping extend the authority of the State over all Lebanese territory within its internationally recognized borders.

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

(*Signed*) Hadi **Hachem**  
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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