



H.E. Mr. Michael Imran Kanu
President of the Security Council
United Nations
New York

August 25, 2024

Excellency,

I am writing again to express my deep concern about the ongoing escalation along the Blue Line, derived from the terrorist organization Hezbollah's violations of UNSCR 1701, its armed presence and activities in south Lebanon and its ongoing hostilities against Israel since October 8, 2023.

This morning, the IDF detected that Hezbollah was in the process of executing a major assault against Israel, including the firing of many hundreds of missiles, rockets, and drones. The IDF conducted precise strikes to thwart and neutralize the threat by targeting terrorist sites in south Lebanon, where Hezbollah was carrying out these attacks against Israeli civilians and other targets. The IDF destroyed rocket launchers which were aimed towards strategic sites and populated areas at the north and central parts of Israel shortly before they were launched.

Hezbollah subsequently launched hundreds of rockets and UAVs from southern Lebanon towards Israel this morning. This assault follows over 7,500 rockets and missiles, and more than 200 explosive UAVs fired by Hezbollah, also at Israeli citizens and communities since October 8th, when Hezbollah deliberately chose to join Hamas and attack Israel without any prior provocation by Israel, resulting in the death of civilians and extensive damage to property. Due to the ongoing attacks by Hezbollah, over 60,000 civilians had to evacuate from their homes in the north of Israel.

I want to make it clear: the State of Lebanon and the Hezbollah terrorist organization, which is operating under the guidance of Iran, bear responsibility for the deterioration of the security situation in the northern front. These actions have been carried out as part of a wider strategy by the Iranian axis aimed at the destruction of Israel through attacks from multiple fronts.

The Hezbollah attack against Israel planned for this morning unequivocally demonstrates the presence of illegal weapons in southern Lebanon, in flagrant violation of UNSCR 1701 (2006) and serves as a reminder of the threats Israelis have been facing on a daily basis for the past 11 months. This situation highlights the urgent need to demilitarize the area south of the Litani River and achieve the disarmament of Hezbollah and other armed militias operating in southern Lebanon.



I wish to recall once again that Israel has the right to take all necessary and lawful measures to protect itself and its citizens, as part of the ongoing armed conflict against Hezbollah and the terror organizations, and against any other hostile act carried out by the axis led by Iran. Israel is not interested in a full-scale war; however, it will take all necessary measures in accordance with international law to restore security to its northern border and to safely return our citizens to their homes and communities along the Blue Line.

I call upon the Security Council members to condemn in the strongest terms the ongoing hostilities conducted by Hezbollah and its Iranian patron and their relentless attempts to destabilize the region. This week, as UNIFIL's mandate is renewed, it is particularly important to address these issues and ensure that UNIFIL is effectively fulfilling its tasks and is adapted to meet current challenges. Therefore, UNSCR 1701 must be rigorously enforced.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter distributed as an official document of the Security Council. I would like to inform you that an identical letter has been sent to H.E. Mr. Antonio Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Danon', written over a horizontal line.

Ambassador Danny Danon
Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations

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