Identical letter dated 15 March 2022 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, I refer to paragraph 11 of Security Council resolution 2591 (2021), in which the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) is authorized to provide the Lebanese Army with additional non-lethal support to maintain vital operational capacity in the framework of joint activities. A memorandum of understanding was signed between UNIFIL and the Lebanese Government on 10 December 2021 setting out a mechanism to ensure oversight over the end-use of that support. In the six months since the adoption of Security Council resolution 2591 (2021), the support has borne fruit: the proportion of UNIFIL operations conducted in close coordination with the Lebanese Army in its area of operations has increased from 13.8 per cent to an average of 15.3 per cent.

Lebanon is grateful to the Security Council for the adoption last year of resolution 2591 (2021), including paragraph 11 thereof, and for the support given to the Lebanese Armed Forces during this difficult time for Lebanon. It hopes that the Security Council will renew such support by extending the application of paragraph 11. Lebanon appreciates the long-term capacity-building support granted to the Lebanese Army and other security agencies by their partners. Extending the emergency support granted to Lebanon under paragraph 11 of Security Council resolution 2591 (2021) is vital in order to ensure the implementation of Security Council resolution 1701 (2006) and strengthen the capacity of UNIFIL to implement its mandated activities. The Lebanese Government therefore requests that the application of the provisions of paragraph 11 of Security Council resolution 2591 (2021) be extended for an additional year with a view to strengthening the capacity of the Lebanese Army in the framework of joint activities with UNIFIL forces.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter issued as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Amal Mudallali
Ambassador
Permanent Representative