Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 7190th meeting of the Security Council, held on 29 May 2014, in connection with the Council’s consideration of the item entitled “The situation in the Middle East”, the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

“The Security Council recalls all its previous resolutions and the statements of its president on the situation in Lebanon.

“The Security Council pays tribute to the work of outgoing Lebanese President Sleiman and expresses its disappointment and concern that the election for a new president of the Republic of Lebanon has not taken place within the constitutional timeframe. The Council urges the Parliament to uphold Lebanon’s long standing democratic tradition and to work to ensure that Presidential elections take place as soon as possible and without external interference.

“The Security Council reiterates its full support for the Government of Lebanon to discharge its duties during this interim period in accordance with the constitution, until the election of the new president.

“The Security Council looks forward to the continued engagement of the Lebanese authorities with the international community, in particular the International Support Group, to mobilize support for Lebanon. The Council reiterates the need for sustained international support to Lebanon in addressing the economic, security and humanitarian challenges facing the country and in meeting Lebanon’s international obligations.

“Recalling the Presidential Statement of July 10, 2013, the Security Council appeals to all Lebanese parties to preserve national unity in the face of attempts to undermine the country’s stability, consistent with their commitment in the Baabda Declaration, and stressed the importance for all Lebanese parties to respect Lebanon’s policy of disassociation and to refrain from any involvement in the Syrian crisis.

“The Security Council also stresses that effective implementation of Security Council resolution 1701 (2006) and all other relevant Security Council resolutions remains crucial to ensuring stability in Lebanon and full respect for Lebanon’s sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity, and political independence.”