



Office of the Special Coordinator
for Lebanon

Bureau du Coordinateur Spécial
pour le Liban

Special Coordinator Wronecka Statement on UN Day

24 October 2023

As the UN marks its 78th anniversary, UN Special Coordinator for Lebanon Joanna Wronecka today said the organization is strongly committed to supporting Lebanon safeguard its security and stability as the Middle East region faces one of the most critical times in decades.

The Special Coordinator recalled that the primary objective of the 193-member United Nations as enshrined in the UN Charter is to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war. “Sadly, the risks to peace and security are rising for Lebanon and the region, but we should never give up on the prospects of peace and of promoting a more sustainable future for the people of Lebanon,” the Special Coordinator said.

Noting with deep concern the continuing exchanges of fire across the Blue Line, the Special Coordinator appealed for de-escalation, a halt to the violence and restoration of calm in the area. “It is more urgent than ever for hostilities to cease and for Security Council Resolution 1701 to be implemented in its entirety,” she said.

The Special Coordinator said the United Nations, with its 26 different UN agencies, funds and programmes in the country, had increased its support to Lebanon during the past few years in response to mounting challenges. These efforts cover the whole spectrum of the UN’s political and peacekeeping work, development efforts, humanitarian support and respect for human rights, in an approach that is inclusive and focused on leaving no one behind.

While the UN is currently coordinating with Lebanon the emergency and preparedness plans, active efforts are also underway in coordination with international partners to help protect Lebanon from conflict and safeguard its security and stability.

The concerted international efforts notwithstanding, the Special Coordinator said sustainable peace can only come from within. “This is the time for strengthening national unity and collective solidarity to face these challenging times for Lebanon,” she said. “The best way to do so is by strengthening and fortifying the country’s state institutions, including with the election of a new President without further delay,” she said.

The Special Coordinator emphasized that the best way to mark the UN day in turbulent times is to translate the values of the Charter into action. She reiterated the recent call by Secretary-General Antonio Guterres for “action to build a future worthy of the dreams of the children of the region and our world”.

With a commitment to Lebanon’s sovereignty, territorial integrity, stability and development, the Special Coordinator reiterated the UN’s resolve to continue supporting Lebanon and the Lebanese people.
