



# General Assembly Security Council

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## Identical letters dated 26 December 2018 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 my Government, I should like to convey to you the following information:

Yesterday, Israeli warplanes violated Lebanese airspace to carry out air strikes against the territory of the Syrian Arab Republic. As made clear in the statement issued this morning by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants, this serious violation posed a threat to civilian aircraft traffic in Lebanese airspace and almost caused a major air catastrophe. The Ministry strongly condemned this new Israeli violation both of Lebanese sovereignty and of Security Council resolution [1701 \(2006\)](#). It also condemned the attacks against the Syrian Arab Republic and affirmed the legitimate right of Syria to defend its territory and sovereignty.

With this new violation, Israel has reverted to the dangerous practice of using Lebanese airspace to carry out air strikes against Syrian territory. Lebanon has condemned this practice in the past and alerted the Security Council to it in several letters in recent months, dated 30 October 2017, 8 February 2018 and 10 April 2018.

At the same time, Israel continues to make use of Lebanese airspace without restraint, in ongoing and blatant violation of both Lebanese sovereignty and resolution [1701 \(2006\)](#). According to a statement issued today by the Directorate of Orientation of the Lebanese Armed Forces, the following violations occurred just in the past two days: On 25 December 2018, at 1115 hours, an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the town of Rumaysh. It circled over various parts of Lebanon, before leaving at 1940 hours over the town of Alma al-Sha'b. At 1120 hours, another Israeli aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the town of Yarun. It circled over Ba'bda, Beirut and its suburbs, the South, Zahlah and the Western Bekaa, before leaving at 1750 hours over the town of Kafr Kila. At 1905 hours, another enemy aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the town of Rumaysh. It circled over the South and the Western Bekaa before leaving at 2230 hours over the aforementioned town. On 26 December 2018, at 0030 hours, an Israeli aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the town of Rumaysh. It circled over areas of the South, before leaving at 0610 hours over the aforementioned town.



Lebanon strongly condemns these new violations of its sovereignty and of the relevant Security Council resolutions. It calls on the Security Council to condemn these dangerous acts, which threaten the security and stability of the region, and to take all measures necessary to put an end to Israeli violations and ensure Israel's full compliance with the provisions of Security Council resolutions, and above all resolution [1701 \(2006\)](#).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 38, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Amal **Mudallali**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

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