



Security Council

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Identical letters dated 3 September 2019 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On 1 September, at around 4 p.m. (GMT+3), Hizbullah, an internationally designated terrorist organization, fired several anti-tank missiles from southern Lebanon, targeting and hitting an Israel Defence Forces (IDF) military outpost and an IDF vehicle in northern Israel. Hizbullah arrogantly claimed responsibility for the attack in an official statement and even named the unit that launched it after Hasan Zbeeb and Yasser Daher, two Lebanese terrorists killed on 24 August in an airstrike in Syria.

This flagrant violation of Israel's sovereignty marks yet another stage in Hizbullah's ongoing efforts to attack Israel and to destabilize the whole region with the active support of Iran. Hizbullah, the Iranian proxy in Lebanon, is advancing an Iranian agenda to turn Lebanon into a launching pad for attacks that threaten the lives of innocent Israelis, while endangering Lebanon and its citizens.

Israel has warned the international community time and again against Iran and Hizbullah's ongoing efforts to expand Hizbullah's military build-up in violation of Security Council resolutions, including resolutions [1559 \(2004\)](#) and [1701 \(2006\)](#). Hizbullah's precision-guided missile programme is the most alarming expression of these efforts. Over the past few months, Iran and Hizbullah have redoubled their efforts to convert and produce precision-guided missiles in Lebanon by attempting to build manufacturing and conversion facilities in a number of locations in Lebanon.

The Lebanese Government is fully aware of the existence of Hizbullah's precision-guided missile programme. Unfortunately, it has never taken any steps to shut down the programme. In some instances, it has even aided and abetted Hizbullah, concealing the missile programme from the eyes of the world.

The Security Council must call on Lebanon to abide by its international commitments and fully implement the aforementioned Security Council resolutions, especially regarding the disbanding and disarmament of all Lebanese and non-Lebanese militias and the establishment of an area free of any armed personnel, assets and weapons other than those of the Government of Lebanon and of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) between the Blue Line and the Litani River.

It is also imperative that the Security Council make unequivocally clear to the Lebanese Government that it must exercise its sovereignty, prevent attacks and threats from its territory against Israel and restrain Hizbullah. Hizbullah's attacks and the unacceptable backing and support that this terrorist organization receives from the



Lebanese authorities and their Iranian partners could have disastrous consequences for Lebanon.

The very fact that Hizbullah has launched an attack against Israel from the UNIFIL areas of operations less than one week after the adoption of Security Council resolution [2485 \(2019\)](#), which renewed its mandate, is a disturbing reminder that UNIFIL must be granted the necessary tools to discharge its mandate. This attack also publicly ridiculed the provisions of Security Council resolution [1701 \(2006\)](#), which calls to prevent the sale or supply to any entity in Lebanon of arms and technical training or assistance related to the provision, manufacture, maintenance or use of such arms.

I call on the Security Council to condemn Hizbullah and Iran in the harshest terms for conducting this heinous attack and to hold the Government of Lebanon accountable for not exercising its sovereignty in the south.

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

(Signed) **Danny Danon**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
