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The situation in the Middle East

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Letter dated 13 May 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a table showing violations of Lebanese airspace and territorial waters committed by Israeli warplanes between 0700 hours on 12 May and 0325 hours on 13 May 2002.

As shown in the table, Israeli incursions deep inside Lebanese airspace extended to Beirut, many Lebanese towns and villages and Lebanese territorial waters. A violation by three Israeli gunboats just off the Lebanese coast was also reported.

These ongoing and persistent Israeli violations of Lebanese sovereignty and airspace confirm that Israel is still pursuing a provocative and bellicose policy towards Lebanon and thus threatening the safety and security of its citizens and spread alarm among the population. They are also in flagrant violation of Security Council resolution 425 (1978) and of Lebanon's sovereignty, and they may pose a threat to security and stability in the region.

Lebanon therefore requests you to endeavour to take the necessary measures to halt these provocative and unlawful Israeli violations and to ensure that they do not recur, given that they betray Israel's hostile intentions towards Lebanon.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 42 and 166, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Houssam Asaad **Diab** Chargé d'affaires a.i.