

UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL



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CONSENSUS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The President of the Security Council has held consultations with the members of the Council following the request of the Permanent Representative of Lebanon that the Security Council take necessary action to station additional United Nations observers in the Israel-Lebanon sector, as conveyed to the President of the Security Council and contained in annex 1 of his memorandum of 31 March 1972 to the Secretary-General, and in paragraph 1 of the annexed memorandum dated 4 April 1972 from the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council. The President of the Security Council also informed and consulted the Secretary-General. Exceptionally, a formal meeting of the Security Council was not considered necessary in this instance.

In the course of these consultations, the members of the Security Council reached without objection a consensus on the action to be taken in response to the request of the Lebanese Government and invited the Secretary-General to proceed in the manner outlined in his above-mentioned memorandum. They further invited the Secretary-General to consult with the Lebanese authorities on the implementation of these arrangements.

They also invited the Secretary-General to report periodically to the Security Council and in doing so to give his views on the need for the continuance of the above measures and on their scale.

ANNEX

Memorandum dated 4 April 1972 from the Secretary-General to the President
of the Security Council

1. On 29 March 1972 the President of the Security Council received the following request from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon:

"The Lebanese Government, because of repeated Israeli aggression against Lebanon and because the work of the Lebanon-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission has been paralysed since 1967, wishes that the Security Council take necessary action to strengthen the United Nations machinery in the Lebanese-Israeli sector by increasing the number of observers, on the basis of the Armistice Agreement of 1949."

2. Following consultations with members of the Security Council, the President orally informed the Secretary-General on 31 March that the members of the Council had reached the view that the Lebanese request should be met. Pending the final decision of the Council on this matter, the President, on behalf of the Council, asked the Secretary-General to clarify the measures to be taken for the implementation of the Lebanese request and to determine the number of additional observers required for the Israel-Lebanon sector. It was understood that the increase of observers, taking also into consideration the wish of the Lebanese Government, should not exceed 25-30. The Secretary-General was also asked to inform the Council of the financial implications resulting from that increase.

3. The Secretary-General immediately instructed the Chief of Staff of UNTSO, Major-General Ensio Siilasvuo, to initiate informal consultations with the authorities concerned and to submit to him his recommendations on the necessary arrangements to be made, the number of additional observers required for the sector, and the manpower and equipment which could be made available from existing UNTSO resources. The Secretary-General made it clear that the action requested of the Chief of Staff was of a preliminary nature for the sole purpose of providing information to the Security Council and that the Council had not taken a final decision on this matter as yet.

4. On 3 April, General Siilasvuo informed the Secretary-General that the Lebanese authorities had indicated their strong preference for the establishment of three static observation posts only, to be located at Naqoura, in the close vicinity of Bent Jbail, and at Marjayoun. For the implementation of this plan General Siilasvuo considered that the following arrangements by UNTSO would be necessary:

(a) The number of observers assigned to the Israel-Lebanon Mixed Armistice Commission in Lebanon would have to be increased from the existing 7 to 21. In the initial stages, all 14 additional observers required could be provided from

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the existing UNTSO manpower. However, if the operation were to last for an extended period, it might prove necessary to recruit up to 8 additional observers.

(b) Five additional Field Service Officers (security officers and radio technicians) and 8 local employees would have to be provided.

(c) Some of the equipment, such as vehicles, caravans and radio equipment, would have to be additionally provided, although General Siilasvuo would draw from the existing UNTSO stock to the extent possible.

5. The approximate financial implications of the above arrangements, for a period of eight months, assuming that no additional recruitment of observers is immediately required, would be as follows:

Local staff	\$ 17,600
Field Service staff	42,000
Vehicles	40,000
Caravans	13,500
Communications	55,000
Generators	23,000
Maintenance and construction	55,000
Freight and utilities	18,500
Miscellaneous	<u>8,000</u>
Total	<u>\$272,600</u>

6. General Siilasvuo has indicated that it would be possible to set up the proposed OPs at short notice by providing all the required personnel and equipment from existing UNTSO resources for the initial period. It would also be necessary to reach firm agreement with the Lebanese authorities on various arrangements concerning the effective functioning and security of the United Nations personnel concerned in this operation.

7. General Siilasvuo has pointed out that the establishment of three OPs, as proposed by the Lebanese authorities, cannot provide comprehensive coverage of the Armistice demarcation line (ADL). The proposed OPs must be considered rather as a limited United Nations presence on one side of the line which would provide only a measure of observation and a somewhat more rapid supply of information from UNTSO sources than exists at present. As two of the three OPs would be relatively far from the ADL, with limited areas of observation and large territorial gaps between them, it would be impossible for them to observe most activities along the ADL or to verify complaints relating to them.

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8. In a conversation with the Permanent Representative of Israel on the evening of 3 April, the Secretary-General had the opportunity to speak with him on this matter and to hear the objections of the Permanent Representative concerning the request of Lebanon for the strengthening of the United Nations machinery in the Lebanese-Israeli sector by increasing the number of observers on the basis of the Armistice Agreement of 1949. The Chief of Staff has also met with the Israel Defence Forces Liaison Officer in Jerusalem on this question.
