FORUM: Advisory Panel

QUESTION OF: Measures to Address Humanitarian Displacement and Refugee Strain in Lebanon

MAIN-SUBMITTER: United States

CO-SUBMITTERS: United Kingdom, France, Russian Federation, Israel, China, Germany, Kenya, South Africa, Brazil, India

Deeply concerned by continuous Hezbollah border hostilities, repeated cross-border strikes, civilian casualties and mass internal displacement across Lebanon,

Alarmed by Lebanon's severe liquidity crisis, sovereign debt distress and hyperinflation, which weakens state capacity to deliver public services and humanitarian assistance,

Recognizing that security de-escalation and economic recovery in Lebanon are mutually interdependent; lasting economic stabilization cannot be achieved under ongoing armed conflict,

Noting with concern that unilateral coercive economic measures aggravate Lebanon's fiscal fragility,

Taking into account that durable security arrangements cannot be externally imposed without inclusive Lebanese national dialogue,

Fully aware of UNIFIL's critical monitoring and civilian protection role along the Blue Line amid upcoming mandate expiry concerns,

Acknowledging the vulnerability of IDPs, Palestinian and Syrian refugees in Lebanon and the practical value of refugee led local humanitarian organizations,

Expressing deep concerns about the growing tensions between Hezbollah and Lebanon and the consequences displaced refugees will face as a result,

Main Submitter: Russian Federation

1. Invites the United Nations (UN) to facilitate dual track diplomatic efforts for Lebanon, including but not limited to:
    a. Supporting inclusive Lebanese internal dialogue:
        i. Convening major Lebanese political factions for national security consultations,
        ii. Pushing for a domestic reconciliation roadmap within six-month period,
    b. Hosting UN-backed indirect talks between the Government of Lebanon and the regional stakeholders:
        i. Discussing border confidence-building measures and the Shebba Farms dispute,

ii. Developing a realistic timeline for full implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1701;

Main Submitter: United States

2. Requests United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) to sustain its monitoring, liaison and humanitarian protection functions along the Blue Line, including but not limited to:
    a. Strengthening on-site observation through ways such as but not limited to:
        i. Increasing patrols in high-risk border communities,
        ii. Documenting cross-border ceasefire-violation incidents and devising strategic countermeasures,
    b. Recommending the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) to formally extend and renew UNIFIL's mandate while respecting the position of the Government of Lebanon,
    c. Strongly urging Hezbollah parties along the Blue Line to exercise maximum restraint and implement an immediate mutually agreed ceasefire, including but not limited to:
        i. Halting cross border military activities by ways such as minimalizing rocket, drone and artillery fire across the Blue Line; banning attacks targeting civilian residential zones, hospitals and schools,
        ii. Setting up practical risk avoidance mechanisms by setting up designated contact points for information exchange and sharing casualty information to prevent unintended military escalation;

Main Submitter: United Kingdom

3. Calls upon member states and international financial bodies such as the World Bank Group (WBG) to assist the ease Lebanon's economic pressure, through ways such as but not limited to:
    a. Removing harmful regulations that block the provision of necessary resources through ways such as:
        i. Lifting sanction barriers blocking imports of fuel, medicine and staple food,
        ii. Exempting humanitarian supplies from relevant sanction restrictions,
    b. Supporting neutral repay of debt through ways such as:
        i. Rejecting excessive political preconditions for financing packages,
        ii. Setting the priority of financial recovery plans on protecting and supporting struggling families;

Main Submitter: United Kingdom

4. Suggests donor states and humanitarian agencies such as the Lebanese Red Cross (LRC) to enhance mechanisms of delivering assistance to displaced civilians and refugees in Lebanon through ways such as but not limited to:
    a. Adjusting funding allocation:
        i. Assigning a fixed portion of funds directly to local civil-society and refugee-led organizations,
        ii. Simplifying administrative procedures to minimize delay in providing emergency-aid delivery,
    b. Requesting the Advisory Panel to produce a concise combined Action Plan covering security de-escalation and economic stabilization recommendations for the Security Council;

Main Submitter: United States

5. Urges member states to collaborate with related organizations such as the United Nations (UN) and the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNFIL) to provide humanitarian aid towards displaced civilians and refugees through ways such as but not limited to:
    a. Providing financial aid to related organizations such as Refugee-led Organization (RLO) for purposes such as but not limited to:
        i. Further advanced and safer transportations utilized to reach those in need,
        ii. Availability to provide sufficient amounts of resources such as food and water needed for humanitarian aid,
    b. Building safety shelters specifically directed at displaced civilians and refugees with itinerary including:
        i. Sufficient amounts of food and water,
        ii. Medical devices and medication such as bandages, medical kits, and CPR machines,
        iii. Daily necessities such as clothes and cleaning tools,
        iv. Safety tools such as bullet-proof vests,
    c. Encourages governments to establish recovery programs by collaborating with organizations such as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to prevent formation of “Lost Generations” through ways such as but not limited to:
        i. Providing education to displaced civilians and refugees by working with public schools,

ii. Supporting families in need with financial aid and the distribution of supplies needed for education;

Main Submitter: France

6. Encourages the Government of Lebanon, together with local civil society organizations:
    a. To launch inclusive national dialogue platforms:
        i. Ensuring representation from diverse religious and ethnic groups,
        ii. Scheduling regular, predictable sessions free from intimidation or political exclusion,
    b. To leverage such platforms:
        i. To reduce and ease domestic social tensions,
        ii. To promote meaningful progress toward national reconciliation;

Main Submitter: France

7. Recommends the development of a regional conflict early-warning system through ways such as but not limited to:
    a. Tacking signs and indicators of conflict escalation,
        i. To classify threat levels by severity,
        ii. To document root causes of rising tensions,
    b. Enabling rapid, timely diplomatic mediation to share real-time warning information among regional states with the core objective of preventing hostilities from spilling over into neighboring states;

Main Submitter: Russian Federation

8. Emphasizes raising international awareness on the realities and severe situations of displaced civilians and refugees of Lebanon in order to strengthen global commitment through ways such as but not limited to:
    a. Cooperating with United Nations High Comissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to promote international awareness campagins by:
        i. Disseminating verified information, reports, and interview materials highlighting the seeverity of the situation displaced civilians face,
        ii. Encouraging the spread of verified information through using international media platforms and public campaigns to strengthen global support,
    b. Spreading visual presentations of the situations for more effective delivery by presenting recent data trends on workers requiring financial aid and posters on media including but not limited to:
        i. Government-affiliated social media accounts,

ii. Physical magazines, newspapers, banners, flyers,

c. Holding physical campaigns and events to explain the current economic and environmental situation regarding Lebanese refugees and displaced civilians and encourage citizens to participate in enhancing the situation by presenting information such as but not limited to:
   i. Causes of the displacement of Lebanese civilians,
   ii. The severe conditions Lebanese refugees face in displacement.