

Ambassador Hossam Zaki's address at the Extraordinary Session of the Council of the League of Arab States at the Level of Permanent Representatives on solidarity with Lebanon and providing urgent assistance in response to Israeli aggression

3 October 2024



Mr. President,

Your Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We convene today in the shadow of circumstances that we all recognise are perilous for the entire region. The League of Arab States, both collectively and through its member states, has been warning for months of the imminent threat of a regional war—one whose devastating consequences will spare no party. Yet, here we stand, on the brink of such a war, driven by the arrogance and recklessness of the leaders of the Israeli occupation, who persist in fanning the flames across the region. Not sufficing with the atrocities they continue to perpetrate in Gaza, they now seek to extend this brutal scenario to Lebanon, emboldened by the global community's inability to curb their criminal defiance of all legal, humanitarian, and moral norms.

We state unequivocally that the aggression against Lebanon and its people, and the merciless displays of brutality fuelled by the intoxication of power, will not bring security to any party. Instead, they will plant the seeds of enduring conflict and inflame ever-deepening hatred.

A diplomatic path has long existed—one that could have fulfilled the objectives of all parties while preserving peace along the Lebanese-Israeli front, in line with Resolution 1701. However, the occupying power has chosen the road of bloodshed and violence over rational solutions, rejecting the immediate ceasefire in Gaza and actively escalating tensions in Lebanon and the region.

We stand in solidarity with Lebanon—its government and its people, without exception—during these perilous times. Together, we stand against the attempts to undermine the Lebanese state, weaken its capabilities, and sow the seeds of



instability.

The occupation's schemes are evident, its objectives clear. It is imperative that we remain vigilant, collectively assisting the people of Lebanon in thwarting these plans. Civil peace must be our utmost priority, and it is incumbent upon everyone to uphold it, regardless of the circumstances. The resilience of Lebanese society, the unity of its communities, and the strengthening of its institutions are the pillars through which this crisis will be overcome.

For years, the Lebanese people have endured unrelenting crises, and today they face yet another grave challenge. With over a million displaced persons, the humanitarian toll of this aggression is devastating. Now, more than ever, the world must extend its hand to Lebanon—offering aid to help its people endure, to ensure that this resilient nation emerges from this ordeal stronger.

Thank you, Mr. President.