

**Security Council**

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**Letter dated 11 February 2025 from the Chair of the Military Staff Committee addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I have the honour to inform you that the members of the Military Staff Committee have agreed to undertake a one-week assessment mission to the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon in March 2025.

The provisional terms of reference are provided in the annex to the present letter.

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council and issued as a document of the Council.

(Signed) Carl **Harris**  
Colonel (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)  
Chair, Military Staff Committee



## **Annex to the letter dated 11 February 2025 from the Chair of the Military Staff Committee addressed to the President of the Security Council**

### **Military Staff Committee mission to Lebanon**

#### **Terms of reference**

#### **I. Introduction**

1. At the direction of the permanent members of the Security Council, the members of the Military Staff Committee will undertake a one-week assessment mission to the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), tentatively during the period from 24 to 28 March 2025 (exact dates to be confirmed).

#### **II. Objectives of the mission**

2. The primary objectives of the field mission to UNIFIL are as follows:

- To understand better the changes undertaken in the approach of UNIFIL to mandate implementation given the changed operating context
- To conduct a review of the force structure against the lines of operations
- To better understand the current threats against peacekeepers
- To assess limitations on the mission's freedom of movement
- To explore the opportunities for increased technological solutions to the mission's challenges
- To review progress towards establishing precise benchmarks and timelines for the effective and durable deployment of the Lebanese Armed Forces, as specified in the most recent Security Council resolution concerning UNIFIL
- To review the mission's efforts to counter misinformation and disinformation (and any assistance from the Lebanese Armed Forces/Authorities in that endeavour)
- To review the mission's wider relationship with the Lebanese Armed Forces
- To understand better the current and future structure and employment of the Maritime Task Force

#### **III. Methodology and output of the visit**

3. The Committee requests that copies of the concept of operations and standard operating procedures and any other documents relevant to UNIFIL be made available to the Committee at least two weeks prior to the start of the visit.

4. The Committee requests that a briefing from the mission be given via videoconference, which will address the security situation and a finalized itinerary.

5. The Committee will conduct the field visit over a period of approximately six days before travelling to visit the United Nations Mission in South Sudan during the first week of April.

#### **IV. Visit programme and coordination of meetings in the mission area**

6. A detailed visit programme to support the Committee's visit shall be developed jointly by UNIFIL, the Department of Peace Operations and the Committee. The programme will cover all in-mission meetings and briefings, as well as visits to selected operating bases. It is proposed that the visit programme commence with meetings with the mission's leadership and accommodate meetings with key stakeholders in the mission area.

#### **V. Reporting and follow-up**

7. Before leaving the mission, the Committee will provide an initial out-brief with the mission's leaders to share observations and recommendations. The Committee will also submit, no later than 30 days after its return to New York, a report on its observations and recommendations for consideration by the Security Council.

#### **VI. Logistical and administrative support**

8. UNIFIL is requested to provide logistical and administrative support for the Committee's visit, including the development of a visit programme. All costs will be met by the respective offices or members of the Security Council. In line with the procedure of Security Council visits, it is expected that the UNIFIL budget will fund the travel and expenses of the Military Staff Committee liaison officer.

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