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# MEMO

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## Lebanon and a U.N. Force Must Now Disarm Hizballah

Last week, the U.N. Security Council approved Resolution 1701, calling for a cessation of the hostilities in Lebanon sparked by Hizballah's unprovoked attack on Israel. The measure also reaffirms earlier U.N. resolutions requiring that Hizballah be disarmed and dismantled. If enforced, the resolution could reduce Hizballah's threat to Israel and increase the stability of Lebanon. The U.S. has a vital role to play in ensuring that the resolutions' critical elements—including deployment of the Lebanese army in southern Lebanon and the disarming and dismantlement of Hizballah—are fulfilled.

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### **If implemented, U.N. Security Council Resolution 1701 could reduce the threat Hizballah poses to Israel and increase the stability of Lebanon.**

- U.N. Security Council Resolution 1701 expands UNIFIL, a U.N. force already present in Lebanon, from 2,000 to as many as 15,000 troops and authorizes it to take "all necessary action" in cooperation with Lebanon's army to stop Hizballah attacks on Israel.
- Resolution 1701 requires UNIFIL and the Lebanese army to deploy in southern Lebanon and on the Syria-Lebanon border to prevent Hizballah from reoccupying positions from which it attacked Israel and to block the smuggling of weapons to the terrorist army.
- The U.N.'s latest resolution also establishes an arms embargo which would prohibit Iran and Syria—the main sources of Hizballah's arsenal—from re-supplying the group and enabling it to continue to operate as a terrorist state within a state.
- Resolution 1701 reiterates the Security Council's calls for full implementation of Resolution 1559, which requires the disarming of Hizballah.

### **U.S. leadership is needed to bring about the full implementation of U.N. Resolution 1701.**

- U.S. efforts will be needed to counterbalance the erosion of Lebanon's obligation to disarm Hizballah under Resolutions 1701 and 1559.
- Already, the two members of Lebanon's cabinet affiliated with Hizballah have denied that the group would comply with the requirement to disarm the group.
- Any political arrangement allowing Hizballah to continue to hold arms—including some reportedly embraced by Lebanese Prime Minister Fouad Siniora—would violate the clear meaning of Resolutions 1701 and 1559.

### **Hizballah's ability to strike Israel has been degraded by recent Israeli military actions.**

- Israel's air force has destroyed an estimated 70-80 percent of the long-range rockets supplied to Hizballah by Iran, as well as 309 of its short-range rocket-launchers.
- The Israeli military has confirmed that it killed more than 530 Hizballah terrorists—about 35 to 40 percent of the group's active force.
- Israel has destroyed key components of Hizballah's infrastructure, including numerous buildings used by the group, weapons caches, rocket-launching sites and rocket-launchers and radars that facilitated Hizballah attacks on Israeli naval vessels.

