

**Memorandum: Proposal for Extending and Stabilizing the November 2024 Lebanon Israel  
Announcement of a Cessation of Hostilities to Promote a Permanent and Comprehensive Solution**

This memorandum outlines a detailed proposal to extend and stabilize the Lebanon-Israel cessation of hostilities originally brokered in November 2024 to promote a permanent and comprehensive solution to the escalation of hostilities and fully implement UNSCR 1701 and predecessor UNSC resolutions. The urgency of this proposal is underscored by the increasing number of complaints regarding Israeli violations of the current ceasefire including airstrikes and cross-border operations, which risk triggering a collapse of the fragile status quo. To avoid an impasse or uncontrolled escalation, it is imperative that all parties commit to a monitored framework with clear compliance benchmarks. The memorandum further addresses additional proposals to promote a comprehensive solution to other regional and trilateral differences that have hindered stability.

**Objectives**

1. Lebanon implements the National Accord Document known as the Taif Agreement, the Lebanese Constitution, and UNSC resolutions, foremost among them UNSCR 1701 (2006), and takes the necessary steps to fully extend its sovereignty over all Lebanese territory, with the aim of strengthening the role of legitimate institutions, consolidating the exclusive authority of the state to make decisions of war and peace, and ensuring that the possession of weapons is solely in the hands of the state throughout all Lebanese territory.
- 2- Ensure the sustainability of the cessation of hostilities including all land, air, and sea violations through structured steps leading to a guaranteed, permanent, and comprehensive solution.
- 3- Phase out the armed presence of all non-state actors, including Hizballah, across all of Lebanon, including south and north of the Litani River with appropriate support to the Lebanese Army (LAF) and the Internal Security Forces (ISF).
- 4- Deploy LAF forces to border regions and key internal zones with appropriate support to the LAF and the ISF.
- 5- Israel withdrawal from the "Five Points," as well as the resolution of border and prisoners' issues diplomatically, through indirect negotiations.
- 6- The return of the civilians of border villages and towns to their homes and properties.
- 7- Ensure Israeli withdrawal from Lebanese territory and cease all hostilities including land, air and sea violations.
- 8- Permanent visible demarcation of the international border between Lebanon and Israel.
- 9- Permanent delineation and demarcation of border between Lebanon and Syria.

10- Hold an economic conference in which the United States, France, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and other friends of Lebanon participate in support of the Lebanese economy reconstruction, and to implement President Trump's vision for the return of Lebanon as a prosperous and viable country.

11- Additional international support for the Lebanese security agencies, namely LAF, with the proper military means to implement the terms of the proposal in order to ensure Lebanon's protection.

## **CHAPTER 1: Extending and Stabilizing the November 2024 Lebanon Israel Announcement of a Cessation of Hostilities**

### **Implementation Plan:**

#### **Phase I: Days 0-15-Stabilization & Monitoring Reset**

- Obtain Council of Ministers' Approval - The Council of Ministers should commit to and approve the objectives of this memorandum in accordance with constitutional mechanisms, with a decree that includes a commitment to fully disarm Hizballah and other non-state actors by December 31, 2025. One outcome of the commitments would be the further cooperation with the International Monetary Fund, promoting contributions to reconstruction, and the provision of investment incentives that support the Lebanese economy, with the friends of Lebanon working to assist and support.
- Cessation of Israeli ground, air, and sea military operations.
- Cessation of Hizballah movement of arms and accessing above/below ground military infrastructure, military equipment, operational sites, and weapons caches throughout the country.
- Public reaffirmation of cessation of hostilities and recommitment to it by all parties
- The US and France press for Israel's commitment to the full implementation of this memorandum.
- Reconvene bi-weekly pentilateral meetings of the Mechanism including at military level and civilian level, chaired by the United States, hosted by UNIFIL, and with the participation of France, Israel, and Lebanon. The Mechanism will work to deploy (ISR) alternatives and provide LAF with all available information.
- Submission of initial military positioning reports to the Mechanism (by IDF and LAF).
- LAF to establish 15 initial border posts south of Litani. (According to a deployment map prepared by the Lebanese Army Command, which is to be appended to this memorandum).
- The Lebanese side is to be informed of the number, names, and conditions of the Lebanese prisoners in Israel via the International Committee of the Red Cross, with the aim of securing their release.
- Begin negotiations, facilitated by the United States, France, and UN to resolve the issue of disputed areas and points and to visibly demarcate the international border between Lebanon and Israel.

- Secure Commitment and ability to Implement by Lebanon- President Joseph Aoun, and Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri should engage all Lebanese political factions, including Hizballah's leadership, to secure Lebanon's ability to make a formal commitment to carry out the objectives of this memorandum and to a disarmament plan and timetable, with a focus on immediate execution of the phased handover to the LAF of heavy weapons (e.g. Missiles, drones) from both south and north of the Litani River in accordance with the November 2024 announcement.

## **Phase II: Days 15-60: Government of Lebanon Plans and Begins Execution of Disarmament Plan**

- A declaration of intent from friendly and supportive states to organize in Fall 2025 an economic conference in which the United States, France, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and other friends of Lebanon participate in support of the Lebanese economy, reconstruction, and to implement President Trump's vision for the return of Lebanon as a prosperous and viable country.
- Working to bring support to raise the monthly salaries of all Lebanese security agencies personnel.
- Develop and Approve LAF Deployment Plan - The Council of Ministers will approve a detailed LAF deployment plan to support the plan to bring all arms under the authority of the state. This plan is to be developed with U.S. military technical assistance and Mechanism input, as appropriate. The plan will specify geographic phases beyond the southern Litani area (e.g., Phase I up to Awali River, Phase II greater Beirut, Phase III Bekaa), LAF troop deployments (e.g., 1500 troops in Phase I, scaling to 4500 by Phase III), checkpoint locations (e.g., 10 in Nabatieh and Baalbek-Hermel), and disarmament targets (A e.g. mortars, rocket/grenade launchers, missiles (air-to-ground, surface-to-surface), explosives, incendiary devices, mass casualty producing weapons, biological/chemical weapons, unmanned aerial vehicles (drones). Lebanon will welcome U.S. and MTC partners support to enhance the Lebanese security agencies' capacity through training and equipment. LAF will maintain possession of all armaments.
- Begin Implementation with Monitoring- LAF deployment and Hizballah disarmament plans will be monitored by the Mechanism. The Mechanism will oversee weekly compliance reports, ISR surveillance, and LAF patrols to verify Hizballah's military infrastructure dismantlement and handover of heavy weapons to the LAF and LAF's checkpoint operations. Public reporting will build domestic and international trust.
- Israel Begins Withdrawing from Five Points. Withdrawal from three points will facilitate the success of Phase III, with LAF to be deployed in the vacated points and civilians to return to their villages and properties.
- Clear mines from areas south of the Litani River by UNMAS (United Nations Mine Action Service) and the LAF.
- Lebanon completes the damage assessment in affected areas and updates the master reconstruction plan.
- The US, France, and the UN should facilitate the demarcation of the borders in the area of Shebaa Farms, with the aim of finishing the demarcation in Phase IV.

Release all Lebanese prisoners held by Israel in coordination with the ICRC to facilitate repatriation.

### **Phase III: Days 60-90: Operational Transition**

- Confirmation of full withdrawal of all Hizballah armed presence from the southern Litani area. This includes all unauthorized facilities involved in the production of arms and related materiel, infrastructure, military positions, and unauthorized heavy weapons. - e.g. mortars, rocket/grenade launchers, missiles (air-to-ground surface-to-surface), explosives, incendiary devices, mass casualty producing weapons, biological/chemical weapons, unmanned aerial vehicles (drones).
- Israel withdraws from final two points of the Five Points with the LAF to be deployed in the vacated points and civilians to return to their villages and properties.
- LAF expands its presence to 33 border positions and 15 additional checkpoints in northern regions (e.g., Bekaa Valley, Hermel-Qusayr axis).
- Strengthen LAF and IS with infrastructure and the necessary equipment to complete the mission, for example: rehabilitation of barracks, prefabricated housing units, and clinics.
- Secure funding, based on World Bank estimates, to initiate rubble removal and infrastructure rehabilitation in preparation for reconstruction.

### **Phase IV: Days 90-120 - Consolidation & Diplomacy Track**

- Complete dismantling of remaining heavy weapons mortars, rocket/grenade launchers, missiles (air-to-ground, surface-to-surface), explosives, incendiary devices, mass casualty producing weapons, unmanned aerial vehicles (drones) and military infrastructure (e.g., observation posts, tunnels, missile storage) of Hizballah and all non-state actors across Lebanon, verified by the Mechanism.
- Affirmation of the withdrawal of the IDF from all Lebanese territory.
- Lebanese Security Agencies assume full security control countrywide (south and north of the Litani).
- Complete the facilitated negotiations and the process of visible international border demarcation between Lebanon and Israel.
- The LAF, through ISR, will assume aerial monitoring following the cessation of Israeli overflights.
- Friendly and supportive states provide assistance for the Lebanese Air Force.
- Rehabilitate damaged agricultural lands and compensate for the crops with international support.
- US, France, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and Lebanon's friends organize an economic conference in support of the Lebanese economy, reconstruction, and to implement President Trump's vision for the return of Lebanon as a prosperous and viable country.

### **Verification and Enforcement Mechanisms**

- Weekly compliance briefings by the Mechanism.
- Satellite and drone surveillance by U.S./French ISR assets.
- Public reports from LAF and ISF.

### **Breach Consequences:**

- Israel: UNSC censure, military deconfliction reviews.
- Lebanon: Conditional military aid freezes, economic sanctions.

### **Diplomatic Incentives:**

- LAF: seek continuation of approximately \$150 million in annual U.S. military aid. And seek to secure an additional amount of \$1 billion to be paid annually by donor countries to fund the equipment of LAF and the IS for a period of ten years.
- Lebanon: Strategic security assurances from U.S./France.
- Lebanon: U.S. support for IFI assistance and private investment.
- Israel: Strategic security assurances from U.S./France.
- Lebanese civilian Sector: Reconstruction funds and private investments through friends of Lebanon.
- Syria-Lebanon Track: Conditional sanctions relief and economic incentives tied to successful demarcation.

## **CHAPTER 2: Initiative for the demarcation and delineation of the Syria-Lebanon land and maritime borders and the Exclusive Economic Zones of the States**

### **Background:**

The Lebanese-Syrian border remains undefined in several strategic areas, particularly the northern Bekaa Valley, Wadi Khaled, and parts of the Anti-Lebanon mountains. This ambiguity has allowed the border to function as a covert corridor for arms transfers personnel, and contraband by all parties. This lack of delineation hinders effective LAF deployment, creating zones of diminished sovereignty.

**Key Issues:**

- 1- Absence of an agreement on international border.
- 2- Ambiguous property and administrative boundaries in border villages.
- 3- Syrian reluctance to engage in demarcation without regional concessions.

**Recommended border Line:**

The demarcation of the Lebanese-Syrian border line involves renewed discussions:

- Hermel-Qusayr Axis: Demarcation should reflect Lebanese administrative control as defined pre-1975, particularly in areas west of the Orontes River. Syrian control of Qusayr should be delinked from cross-border influence in Hermel.
- Arsal-Qalamoun border: Restoration of historical Lebanese cadastral lines around Arsal, with verification from 1933 French mandate maps and post- independence land deeds.
- Wadi Khaled Sector: A firm border should be established using 1950s Lebanese-Syrian joint topographic surveys, with provisions for shared water basin management.
- Anti-Lebanon Range: Mountain ridge lines should serve as demarcation feature, with UN technical survey teams confirming the principal ridgeline sovereignty.

Regarding the land border: These demarcated sectors would be verified jointly by Lebanese and Syrian teams with support from the United States, France, Saudi Arabia and the UN.

The maritime border and the Exclusive Economic Zone should be delineated with the requested facilitation and support of the United States, France, Saudi Arabia, and the UN.

**Recommendations:**

- Negotiations to demarcate the Lebanese-Syrian land and maritime boundaries are to begin concurrently with the implementation of the first phase of Chapter 1 of this memorandum and shall end upon the completion of phase IV.
- Initiate a Tripartite Commission (Lebanon, Syria, UN cartographers) to demarcate the land and maritime boundaries and the Exclusive Economic Zone with the facilitation of the United States, France, Saudi Arabia and the UN.
- Use historical cadastral records and satellite GIS mapping to define borders.
- Deploy LAF presence according to a plan prepared by its Command.
- Link demarcation milestones to phased economic normalization between Beirut and Damascus.

- Fund the construction of observation towers along the land borders and border centers for General Security and Customs.
- Repatriate Syrian displaced persons to Syria.
- Assist in accelerating the repatriation of Syrian prisoners from Lebanon to Syria and resolving the file of missing Lebanese persons in Syria.

The US and France and Saudi Arabia press for Syria's commitment to the full implementation of this memorandum.

### **Diplomatic Incentives:**

Conditional further easing of U.S. sanctions on Syria if border demarcation is achieved. The international donor parties and Arab funds should pledge to support rural economic development and other economic projects in demarcated zones based on comprehensive recovery study prepared by the Lebanese government.

## **CHAPTER 3: Joint Action Against Narcotrafficking**

### **Background:**

Narcotrafficking represents a major challenge to Lebanon's stability, economic recovery, and regional credibility. Smuggling routes across the Syrian and Israeli borders, as well as through coastal ports and unregulated land crossings in the Bekaa Valley, have become key sources of income for illicit networks, local clans, and transnational syndicates. Captagon production and export in particular have attracted Gulf and Western condemnation.

### **Objectives:**

- 1- Identify and disrupt narcotrafficking supply chains across Lebanese territory.
- 2- Strengthen LAF and Internal Security Forces (ISF) capacity for interdiction operations.
- 3- Enhance cross-border coordination with Syrian authorities under international monitoring.
- 4- Establish a multilateral narcotics control framework with U.S., EU, Gulf, and UN support.

### **Proposed Measures:**

- Deploy specialized LAF and IS anti-narcotics units to high-risk zones (Hermel, Baalbek, Qaa).
- Launch Lebanese-Syrian joint mechanism-supervises operations targeting smuggling corridors.

- Introduce mandatory cargo scanning and export tracking at Lebanese Ports and land crossings.
- Fund technical training and equipment through the U.S. INL program and EU border control assistance.
- Include anti-narcotics benchmarks in IMF and donor conditionality frameworks.

**Incentives and Enforcement:**

- Sanctions relief and encouraging commercial exchange with Lebanon in return for its efforts against Captagon trafficking.
- Public reporting by UNODC on seizure statistics and prosecution rates.
- Expanded intelligence sharing among U.S., France, Gulf states, and Lebanese agencies.
- Fund alternative crops and industries.

**Note:**

The implementation of this proposal is to begin by August 1 upon its approval from the Lebanese, Israeli and Syrian sides each in the aspect pertaining to the commitments of the state (Chapter 1 for Lebanon and Israel. Chapters 2-3 for Lebanon and Syria). The participants have requested the continued support and the facilitation of the USA and France to ensure a permanent and sustainable security and stability following the full implementation of this memorandum.