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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5704th meeting of the Security Council, held on 25 June 2007, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council condemns in the strongest terms the terrorist attack on 24 June near the town of Khiyam in South Lebanon, which targeted the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) and killed six United Nations peacekeepers of the Spanish contingent.

"The Security Council extends its deepest condolences to the families of those victims, who included Colombian nationals.

"The Security Council notes the condemnation of this attack by the Government of Lebanon and commends the determination and commitment of the Government of Lebanon to bring to justice the perpetrators of this attack.

"The Security Council reaffirms its full support to the Lebanese Government and army in their efforts to ensure security and stability throughout Lebanon.

"The Security Council appeals to all parties concerned to abide scrupulously by their obligation to respect the safety of the UNIFIL and other United Nations personnel, including by avoiding any course of action which endangers United Nations personnel and by ensuring UNIFIL is accorded full freedom of movement throughout its area of operations.

"The Security Council reaffirms its full support to the UNIFIL in carrying out its mandate to assist in the implementation of resolution 1701 (2006) and expresses its strong appreciation to Member States contributing troops."

