

**Nations unies - Moyen-Orient -
Remarques à la presse du
représentant permanent de la
France auprès des Nations unies -
Conseil de sécurité**
(New York, 24 juillet 2017)

(En anglais et en français)

As you know, this meeting has been convened at the request of Sweden, Egypt and France. We are indeed extremely worried by the new cycle of violence in Jerusalem and the Palestinian Territories. Against this backdrop, the purpose of the meeting is threefold:

- Number one, it's important that we get a briefing by Nikolay Mladenov on the latest developments in Jerusalem and the West Bank so that all Council members get the up-to-date details of the situation;
- Second, this meeting will also allow us to have a discussion on the different actions taken by regional and international stakeholders to de-escalate the situation;
- And third, we believe it's important that we get a convergence of views within the Security Council on the different messages that each of us can pass on to the parties in the region.

So that's about the three key objectives that we have.

On our side, with respect to France, beyond the condemnation of every violence by the French authorities, our message is clear and I will mention two of them.

First, we are calling on all parties to refrain from any act or statement that could exacerbate tensions and to work toward easing the situation. We are very preoccupied and we are determined to help, with our partners, towards the appeasement of the situation. We all know that tensions around the Haram al-Sharif can result in violences in Israel and the Palestine Territories, in the region, and beyond. And we cannot let this happen.

Secondly, any attempt at calling into question the historic status quo on the Haram al-Sharif could further destabilize the situation. Therefore, addressing the security issues around the Haram al-Sharif compound implies a concertation between Israel, Jordan and the Palestinian Authority. So that's France's position and again we are very preoccupied by the situation in Jerusalem and the West bank.

Q - Why not wait until tomorrow, there is a meeting on Middle-East and the Palestinian question.

A - Precisely, there is a public meeting tomorrow, which is very useful. But it was important in our view, given the very tensed situation in Jerusalem in particular, to have private consultations before that, in order for the Security Council to try to achieve the three key objectives I just mentioned. So, it is complementary.

Q - Is anyone mopping on a press statemen,t anything larger in response to this?

A - Again, what I told you, what I thought would be a good and useful consultation, it remains to be seen whether or not it should be an outcome. But the three important things are those I have just mentioned to you. It will be very helpful to have a convergence of assessments and a convergence of messages that we all could pass on to the parties in order to deescalate the situation. Deescalation and concertation, these are the key words.

Q - Any pushback from any of your colleagues against having a meeting today?

A - Not to my knowledge.

Q - Est-ce que le gouvernement français appelle par exemple Israël à retirer ses portiques qui ont généré cette crise ?

R - I believe what is important for the Council with respect to the metal detectors is to get its members bring a message of de-escalation and of concertation so that the parties find appropriate measures to ease the tensions. Again, any measure must be coordinated between the main stakeholders.

Un mot en Français pour vous dire que ces consultations d'urgence, dont nous avons pris l'initiative avec la Suède et l'Égypte, sont à nos yeux indispensables compte tenu du nouveau cycle de violences dans lequel sont entrés Jérusalem et les Territoires palestiniens.

Ces consultations visent à nos yeux trois objectifs : d'abord permettre à Nikolay Mladenov, le coordinateur spécial des Nations unies, de nous donner un point de situation aussi précis que possible, pour que nous ayons tous la même base de réflexion et d'action.

Le deuxième objectif, c'est d'engager des consultations avec nos partenaires du conseil de sécurité sur les différentes actions prises au niveau régional et international pour essayer de promouvoir la désescalade, c'est vraiment le mot-clé, la désescalade des tensions.

Le troisième objectif c'est, à partir de là, d'obtenir parmi les membres du conseil du sécurité une convergence de vue et d'action, s'agissant notamment des messages à passer aux différentes parties.

Dans ce contexte l'autre mot-clé pour nous, c'est la concertation, c'est de promouvoir la concertation entre les différentes parties-prenantes afin de promouvoir la désescalade de la situation. Nous pensons que c'est vraiment la coordination entre les acteurs-clés du dossier, à commencer par Israël, la Jordanie et l'Autorité palestinienne, qui doit permettre de déterminer le meilleur chemin vers la désescalade, dans le cadre que j'ai rappelé à l'instant, c'est-à-dire notre attachement au statu quo historique autour du site concerné. Merci beaucoup./.