

March 24, 1998

Mr. Koffi Annan
Secretary General United Nations

Dear Mr. Annan:

The Four Mothers Movement, the only grassroots organization in Israel which has advocated Israel's withdrawal from Southern Lebanon, salutes your efforts to bring about this goal.

In good part, through our efforts to bring the question of Lebanon to the national agenda and through our lobbying of government officials, we have seen a change in official policy in the country. The Prime Minister and Defense Minister have now acknowledged Israel's willingness to accept UN resolution 425.

However, we recognize that there are still many obstacles remaining. We will continue our efforts here to pressure our government to act quickly in order to avert any more loss of life on either side of the conflict. We ask you to use your good offices to get UN involvement, which will hasten the withdrawal process.

You say you are a magician without tricks, but we believe in the question of Lebanon, you do have "tricks": you have the power of UNIFIL already in place. Were they to take a more decisive role, Israel would not need to wait any longer to withdraw. Israel could allow the UN forces to immediately take up positions which they evacuate, in the interim before the Lebanese redeploy in the South.

Please remember that every week that goes by, while politicians talk, more soldiers and civilians die. The Four Mothers Movement says ENOUGH TO DEATH. Please help us to end the bloodshed.

We wish you success in your mission in the region.

The Four Mothers Movement