

s 33(a)(iii) – this page, together with the following pages 2-3 are exempt and have been removed.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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**From:** s 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 17 March 2026 9:47 AM  
**To:** s 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Cc:** Matthew Wise; James Buttigieg; s 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Subject:** RE: FS Cooper Statement on Lebanon - [SEC=OFFICIAL]

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

**OFFICIAL**

Hi again

As promised, please find at the link some contingency TPs for FMO to draw upon, as required.  
Cleared by Matt W.

 [DFAT Talking Points Lebanon Crisis.docx](#)

Please also note the following statement just released by leaders of Canada, France, Germany, Italy and UK. See here: [Joint statement on the conflict between Israel and Hezbollah | Prime Minister of Canada](#)

Hope this helps

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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s 22(1)(a)(ii)



**DFAT Talking Points Lebanon Crisis****Talking Points****Headline Statements**

- I (FM Wong) am deeply concerned by the expanding conflict in Lebanon and the humanitarian impacts
  - already nearly a million people have been displaced and hundreds killed
  - we call on all parties to uphold international humanitarian law and protect civilian life.
- This is a moment of profound distress for the Lebanese people who have already endured years of hardship.
- I condemn Hizballah's strikes against Israel; its actions once again have brought war to Lebanon at the bidding of others.
- Hizballah must immediately cease strikes against Israel and adhere to its obligations under the 2024 ceasefire
  - this includes cooperating with the Lebanese government to disarm.
- We applaud the Lebanese government's ban on Hizballah's military and security activities.
- We have raised with Israel our grave concern about Israeli military action in southern Beirut.
  - with particular concern for impact on civilians and displacement.

s 33(a)(iii)

- Any targeting of UN personnel, healthcare workers, or associated facilities in Lebanon is unacceptable and must cease
  - we reiterate our strong support for the UN Interim Force in Lebanon's role in upholding regional peace.
- s 33(a)(iii)
- We continue to advise Australians in Lebanon to leave immediately.

**Lebanon Travel Advice**

- We continue to advise to not travel to Lebanon and much of the Middle East
  - Australians should leave immediately whilst commercial flights are still available.
- Many airlines have cancelled or reduced flights and further disruption may occur with little notice
  - if the security situation continues to deteriorate, Beirut airport may close and the Australian government may be unable to assist in such circumstances.
- DFAT keeps all Smartraveller travel advisories under close review, including regularly and carefully assessing the risks to Australians overseas to ensure that we provide accurate and up-to-date information.

## Background

Since late 2024 despite the ceasefire Israel and Hizbollah have engaged in calibrated tit-for-tat attacks which Hizbollah declared would continue until a ceasefire in Gaza was reached.

The rhetoric and engagement between Hizbollah and Israel have escalated throughout late 2025 to what Hizbollah Deputy Chief Kassem reported on 20 September 2025 to be a 'new phase' of open-ended combat with the escalating use of drones, missiles and air strikes. This included strikes on Beirut, mass evacuation warnings, and extensive air strikes with significant casualties.

After the breakout of conflict between Iran and Israel, on 2 March Hizballah launched rocket attacks against northern Israel in support of Iran. Israel has responded with air strikes across Lebanon, including Beirut, and a ground incursion in southern Lebanon. Israeli operations have currently killed over 800 people and displaced approximately 1,000,000 civilians (IOM figures)..

Israel has currently established 8 additional outposts in southern Lebanon on top of the original 5 from the 2024 ceasefire for defensive purposes. s 33(a)(iii)

On 13 March, media reporting indicated Israel planned to significantly expand its ground operation in Lebanon, aiming to seize the entire area south of the Litani River and dismantle Hizballah's military infrastructure.



## MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL CONFLICT: DFAT SITREP V6 AS AT 01400 2 MARCH 2026

### KEY UPDATES

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

4. Hezbollah has claimed responsibility for strikes in northern Israel and Israel has responded with strikes in southern Beirut, the Beqaa Valley and southern Lebanon.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

### MIDDLE EAST RESPONSE

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- *Hezbollah has claimed responsibility for strikes in northern Israel in retaliation for the killing of Supreme Leader Khamanei*
- *Israel has responded with strikes in southern suburbs of Beirut, the Beqaa Valley (east), and southern Lebanon.*

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii) – this section, together with the following pages (10-11) are irrelevant and have been removed.



## MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL CONFLICT: DFAT SITREP V8 AS AT 0600 3 MARCH 2026

### KEY UPDATES

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

2. *Israel struck Hizballah in Lebanon, including in Beirut, leading to civilian population displacement throughout the country.*

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

## MIDDLE EAST RESPONSE

- *The Lebanese Government condemned Hizballah's attacks against Israel.*

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

## MILITARY UPDATES

- *The Israel Defense Force (IDF) said it was attacking Lebanon and Iran "simultaneously", having established aerial superiority over Iranian airspace and Israel continued with strikes in southern Lebanon, killing at least 31 people.*

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii) – this section, together with the following pages (14-15) are irrelevant and have been removed.



## MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL CONFLICT: DFAT SITREP V10 AS AT 0530 4 MARCH 2026

### KEY UPDATES

1. The US and Israel continue to strike targets across Iran. Israel has expanded its campaign against Hizballah in Lebanon to include ground incursions.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

## MILITARY UPDATES

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- At around 2200 3 March, the IDF said it had executed a “wave of strikes” on Hizballah command centres, weapons storage facilities and intelligence sites in Beirut.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii) – this section, together with the following pages (19-20) are irrelevant and have been removed.



## MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL CONFLICT: DFAT SITREP V12

AS AT 0530 5 MARCH 2026

### KEY UPDATES

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

5. Israel orders evacuation of Southern Lebanon.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

### MILITARY UPDATES

On the morning of 5 March:

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- Lebanon's state news agency reported Israeli forces had entered the southern Lebanese town of Khiyam.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

MIDDLE EAST RESPONSE

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- The Syrian land and seaports authority said it had closed its border crossing with Lebanon for departures after a warning from Israel that it may target the crossing.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)



## MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL CONFLICT: DFAT SITREP V14

AS AT 0600 6 MARCH 2026

### KEY UPDATES

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

**6. The Israeli military has issued an evacuation order for all of the southern suburbs of Beirut, an area it claims to be a Hezbollah stronghold.**

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii) – this section, together with the following pages (27-29) are irrelevant and have been removed.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

### US/ISRAEL RESPONSE

- The Israeli military has issued an evacuation order for all the southern suburbs of Beirut; an area it claims is a Hezbollah stronghold. Israel Defence Minister Katz said that any leader appointed to replace Khamenei would be an 'unequivocal target for elimination.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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**From:** Sitrep Officer  
**Sent:** Saturday, 7 March 2026 5:50 PM  
**To:** s 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Cc:** Crisis Centre  
**Subject:** Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 SitRep V17 - s 22(1)(a)(ii)  
[SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 Sitrep 17 1400 07 March 2026.docx

**OFFICIAL**

Colleagues

Please find below and attached, the 1400hrs, 7 March, SitRep, s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Best,

Crisis Centre

MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL CONFLICT: DFAT SITREP V17  
AS AT 1400 7 MARCH 2026

s 22(1)(a)(ii)



## MILITARY UPDATES

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- Israeli military has carried out over 200 strikes across Lebanon since the 2 March drone and missile strikes on Tel Avi; Hezbollah's naval force, executive council, and financial division HQ all hit; hundreds of thousands of civilians displaced.
- Israeli military hits Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps in Lebanon air force HQ.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

## AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- On Lebanon, Assistant Minister Thistlethwaite said 'our Foreign Minister has spoken to the Foreign Minister of Israel to express our concern regarding the attacks on southern Lebanon by the Israeli Defence Force'.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii) – this section, together with the following pages (35-36) are irrelevant and have been removed.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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**From:** Sitrep Officer  
**Sent:** Sunday, 8 March 2026 5:55 AM  
**To:** s 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Subject:** Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 SitRep V18 - 0530 8 March 2026  
[SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 Sitrep 18 500 08 March 2026.docx

**OFFICIAL**

Dear colleagues,

Please find below the latest SitRep V17 on the Middle East Regional Crisis as at 0530 8 March 2026.

**MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL CONFLICT: DFAT SITREP V18**

**AS AT 0530 8 MARCH 2026**

s 22(1)(a)(ii)



## MILITARY UPDATES

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- The death toll continues to rise as the war enters its ninth day, at least 1,330 people have been killed in Iran, 290 in Lebanon, eleven in Israel and six US troops.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- Israel continues to launch significant aerial raids against Lebanon, including overnight attacks in the Bekka Valley which reportedly killed 41 people.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

## US/ISRAEL RESPONSE

- In a post on X, Israeli military has issued a renewed evacuation warning for residents of Beirut's southern suburbs, urging those who have not yet left to evacuate immediately.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

### MIDDLE EAST RESPONSE

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- Lebanon's Ministry of Foreign Affairs has condemned the shelling of a UN peacekeeping position in southern Lebanon.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii) – this section/page, together with the following pages (41-44) are irrelevant and have been removed.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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**From:** Sitrep Officer  
**Sent:** Sunday, 8 March 2026 3:32 PM  
**To:** s 22(1)(a)  
**Subject:** Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 Sitrep 19, 1400 8 March [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 Sitrep 19 1400 08 March 2026.docx

**OFFICIAL**

Good afternoon Colleagues,

Please find below the latest SitRep V19 on the Middle East Regional Crisis as at 1400 8 March 2026.

**MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL CONFLICT: DFAT SITREP V18**

AS AT 1400 8 MARCH 2026

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**KEY UPDATES**

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

**4. Death toll from Israeli military strikes on Lebanon rose to 339; 117 wounded.**

s 22(1)(a)(ii)



## MILITARY UPDATES

- Death toll from Israeli military strikes on Lebanon rises to 339; further 117 wounded.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

## US/ISRAEL RESPONSE

- Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu tells Lebanon to enforce 2024 ceasefire agreement; disarm Hezbollah or "pay the price".
- Israeli military says IRGC's Quds Force central air defence command centre targeted; 16 aircraft destroyed; over 170 sites in Lebanon struck in 48 hours.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

"s 22(1)(a)(ii) – this section, together with the following pages (48-51) are irrelevant and have been removed.

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**From:** Sitrep Officer  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 10 March 2026 5:37 AM  
**To:** s 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Cc:** Crisis Ses.Manager; Crisis Centre  
**Subject:** RE: Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 Sitrep v22, 0530 10 March [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 Sitrep 22 0530 10 March 2026.docx

**OFFICIAL**

Good Morning,

Please find attached the Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 Sitrep v22 as at 0530 10 March 2026.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL CONFLICT: DFAT SITREP V22  
AS AT 0530 10 MARCH 2026

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

### MILITARY UPDATES

- An Israeli air strike on a hotel in Beirut killed 4 people.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii) – this section, together with the following pages (55-60) are irrelevant and have been removed.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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**From:** Sitrep Officer  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 10 March 2026 2:01 PM  
**To:** s 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Subject:** Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 SitRep V23 - 1400 10 March 2026 [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 Sitrep 23 1400 10 March 2026.docx

**OFFICIAL**

Dear colleagues,

Please find below the latest SitRep V23 on the Middle East Regional Crisis as at 1400 10 March 2026.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL CONFLICT: DFAT SITREP V23

AS AT 1400 10 MARCH 2026

s 22(1)(a)(ii)



## MIDDLE EAST RESPONSE

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- Lebanon reported Israeli strikes on Lebanon have killed 486 people, with estimates of 600,000 people being displaced in Lebanon since 2 March.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii) – this section, together with the following pages (64-69) are irrelevant and have been removed.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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**From:** Sitrep Officer  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 11 March 2026 5:32 AM  
**To:** s 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Cc:** Crisis Ses.Manager; Crisis Centre  
**Subject:** Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 SitRep V24 - 0530 11 March 2026  
[SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 Sitrep 24 0530 11 March 2026.docx

**OFFICIAL**

Dear colleagues,

Please find below the latest SitRep V24 on the Middle East Regional Crisis as at 0530 11 March 2026.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL CONFLICT: DFAT SITREP V24

AS AT 0530 11 MARCH 2026

s 22(1)(a)(ii)



### MIDDLE EAST RESPONSE

- Lebanese president Aoun discussed developments in the region with interim Syrian President Ahmed al-Sharaa. The two leaders stressed the 'delicate situation' in the region required closer coordination and consultation between the two neighbours, including the need to control the border and prevent any security breaches 'regardless of their source'. The Syrian presidency said al-Sharaa expressed support for Aoun's efforts to disarm Hizballah.
- Lebanon reported Israeli strikes on Lebanon have killed around 500 people, with estimates of almost 700,000 people being displaced since 2 March.
- Lebanese Foreign Minister Raji asked the Vatican to intervene to help protect Christian villages along Lebanon's southern border amid ongoing attacks from Israel.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii) – page, together with the following pages (74-77) are irrelevant and have been removed.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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**From:** Sitrep Officer  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 11 March 2026 1:52 PM  
**To:** s 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Subject:** Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 SitRep V25 - 1400 11 March 2026 [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 Sitrep 25 1400 11 March 2026.docx

**OFFICIAL**

Dear colleagues,

Please find below the latest SitRep V25 on the Middle East Regional Crisis as at 1400 11 March 2026.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

**MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL CONFLICT: DFAT SITREP V25  
AS AT 1400 11 MARCH 2026**

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

MILITARY UPDATES

- Israel has launched further air strikes on southern Beirut.
- Lebanon is reporting 570 deaths from Israeli strikes.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii) – this section, together with the following pages (81-85) are irrelevant and have been removed.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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**From:** Sitrep Officer  
**Sent:** Thursday, 12 March 2026 5:31 AM  
**To:** s 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Subject:** Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 SitRep V26 - 0530 12 March 2026 [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 Sitrep 26 0530 12 March 2026.docx

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

**OFFICIAL**

Dear colleagues,

Please find below the latest SitRep V26 on the Middle East Regional Crisis as at 0530 12 March 2026.  
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL CONFLICT: DFAT SITREP V26



### MILITARY UPDATES

- Israel has intensified its attacks on Lebanon; according to the Lebanese government more than 20 people were killed on 11 March with at least 570 people killed, 1,444 injured and over 750,000 displaced since Israeli attacks on the country [2 March].

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii) – this section, together with the following pages (89-94) are irrelevant and have been removed.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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**From:** Sitrep Officer  
**Sent:** Thursday, 12 March 2026 1:51 PM  
**To:** s 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Subject:** Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 SitRep V27 - 1400 12 March 2026 [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 Sitrep 27 1400 12 March 2026.docx

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

**OFFICIAL**

Dear colleagues,

Please find below the latest SitRep V27 on the Middle East Regional Crisis as at 1400 12 March 2026.

MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL CONFLICT: DFAT SITREP V27

AS AT 1400 12 MARCH 2026

s 22(1)(a)(ii)



### US/ISRAEL RESPONSE

- Israel announced a 'large-scale wave of strikes' on the southern suburbs of Beirut.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

### MIDDLE EAST RESPONSE

- Lebanon said 634 people had died and more than 800,000 have been displaced following Israeli attacks over the past 10 days.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii) – this section, together with the following pages (98-101) are irrelevant and have been removed.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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**From:** Sitrep Officer  
**Sent:** Friday, 13 March 2026 5:29 AM  
**To:** s 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Subject:** Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 SitRep V28 - 0530 13 March 2026 [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 Sitrep 28 0530 13 March 2026.docx

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

**OFFICIAL**

Dear colleagues,

Please find below the latest SitRep V28 on the Middle East Regional Crisis as at 0530 13 March 2026

**MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL CONFLICT: DFAT SITREP V28**

AS AT 0530 13 MARCH 2026

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**KEY UPDATES**

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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**5. Israel undertook significant airstrikes on Beirut’s southern suburbs and southern Lebanon after Hizballah launched drones and rockets at northern Israel.**

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s 22(1)(a)(ii)



### MILITARY UPDATES

- Israel undertook significant airstrikes on Beirut's southern suburbs and southern Lebanon after Hizballah launched drones and rockets at northern Israel.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

### US/ISRAEL RESPONSE

- Israel's Defence Minister Katz issued an ultimatum to Lebanon to stop Hezbollah from carrying out attacks in northern Israel or Israel's military will invade Lebanese territory.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii) – this section, together with the following pages (105-109) are irrelevant and have been removed.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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**From:** Sitrep Officer  
**Sent:** Sunday, 15 March 2026 5:33 AM  
**To:** s 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Cc:** Crisis Centre  
**Subject:** SitRep v32 - Middle East Regional Crisis as at 0530 14 March 2026. [SEC=OFFICIAL]

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

**OFFICIAL**

Dear colleagues,

Please find below the latest SitRep V32 on the Middle East Regional Crisis as at 0530 14 March 2026.

**MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL CONFLICT: DFAT SITREP V32**

AS AT 0530 15 MARCH 2026



## MILITARY UPDATES

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- The Israeli Defence Force has claimed to have struck more than 100 Hizbollah command centres since February 28.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

## US/ISRAEL RESPONSE

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- Israel’s military has warned that “every truck travelling near the [Lebanese] coast may be putting itself at risk”, threatening to disrupt a major transport artery.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii) – this section/page, together with the following pages (113-116) are irrelevant and have been removed.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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**From:** Sitrep Officer  
**Sent:** Sunday, 15 March 2026 2:15 PM  
**To:** s 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Cc:** Crisis Centre; EL2 Manager; Crisis Ses.Manager  
**Subject:** SitRep v33 - Middle East Regional Crisis as at 1400 15 March 2026 [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 - Sitrep 33 1400 15 March 2026.pdf

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

**OFFICIAL**

Dear colleagues,

Please find below the latest SitRep V33 on the Middle East Regional Crisis as at 1400 15 March 2026.

**MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL CONFLICT: DFAT SITREP V33**

s 22(1)(a)(ii)



## INTERNATIONAL REACTIONS

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- *At least 26 medics and first responders have been killed in Israeli strikes since 2 March according to the Lebanese Health Ministry. The WHO confirmed 14 healthcare workers were killed in Southern Lebanon in the past 24 hours.*

*a*

*n*

s 22(1)(a)(ii) – this page, together with the following pages (121-124) are irrelevant and have been removed.

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**From:** Sitrep Officer  
**Sent:** Monday, 16 March 2026 1:50 PM  
**To:** s 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Subject:** Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 SitRep V35 - 1400 16 March 2026 [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 - Sitrep 35 1400 16 March 2026.docx

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

**6. The IDF said military operations in Lebanon could continue beyond US and Israeli strikes against Iran and reissued evacuation orders for southern Beirut.**

**OFFICIAL**

Dear colleagues,

Please find attached the latest SitRep V35 on the Middle East Regional Crisis as at 1400 16 March 2026.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)



## MILITARY UPDATES

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- Israel issued new evacuation orders for southern Beirut.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

## US/ISRAEL RESPONSE

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Saar said Israel and the US see ‘eye-to-eye’ on the object to ‘remove the existential threats from Iran for the long term.’ The Israeli Foreign Minister relected a French offer to mediate between Israel and Lebanon.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

## MIDDLE EAST RESPONSE

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- Lebanon said 850 people have died and more than 830,000 have been displaced by Israeli strikes since 2 March.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii) – this section, together with the following pages (128-130) are irrelevant and have been removed.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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**From:** Sitrep Officer  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 17 March 2026 5:30 AM  
**To:** s 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Subject:** Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 SitRep V36 - 0530 17 March 2026. [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 - Sitrep 36 0530 17 March 2026.docx

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

**OFFICIAL**

Dear colleagues,

Please find attached the latest SitRep V36 on the Middle East Regional Crisis as at 0530 17 March 2026.

**MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL CONFLICT: DFAT SITREP V36**

AS AT 0530 17 MARCH 2026

**KEY UPDATES**

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

**5. Israel launched limited, targeted ground operations against Hizbollah in southern Lebanon.**

s 22(1)(a)(ii)



- Israel launched limited, targeted ground operations against Hezbollah in Southern Lebanon.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

## MIDDLE EAST RESPONSE

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- Lebanon's Foreign Ministry condemned targeting of the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) on 16 March.
- Lebanon reported 900 people had been killed and more than 830,000 displaced by Israeli strikes since 2 March.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

"s 22(1)(a)(ii) – this section, together with the following pages (134-137) are irrelevant and have been removed.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

**From:** Sitrep Officer  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 17 March 2026 2:10 PM  
**To:** s 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Subject:** Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 SitRep V37 - 1400 17 March 2026 [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 - Sitrep 37 1400 17 March 2026.docx

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

**KEY UPDATES**

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

**4. Lebanon said over one million people have been displaced since the start of the conflict.**

**OFFICIAL**

Dear colleagues,

Please find attached the latest SitRep V37 on the Middle East Regional Crisis as at 1400 17 March 2026.

MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL CONFLICT: DFAT SITREP V37  
AS AT 1400 17 MARCH 2026

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

US/ISRAEL RESPONSE

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- The IDF announced the beginning of a 'limited, targeted' ground operation in Lebanon.
- The IDF said Lebanon's displaced population would not be able to return to southern Lebanon until Israel's north was secured.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii) – this section, together with the following pages (141-143) are irrelevant and have been removed.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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**From:** Sitrep Officer  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 18 March 2026 5:35 AM  
**To:** s 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Subject:** Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 SitRep v38 - 0530 18 March [SEC=OFFICIAL]

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Dear colleagues,

Please find attached v38 of the Middle East Regional Crisis Sitrep, as at 0530hrs 18 March 2026.

**MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL CONFLICT: DFAT SITREP V38**

AS AT 0530 18 MARCH 2026

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

## US/ISRAEL RESPONSE

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- The IDF claims it has observed “increased preparations” by Hizbollah to fire rocket salvos towards its territory “in the coming hours”.

- Israel launched more airstrikes on Beirut and told residents of southern Lebanon to evacuate. The IDF said its operations aimed to stop the Iran-backed group Hizbollah, which has launched hundreds of missile and drone attacks into Israel.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii) – this section/page, together with the following pages (147-151) are irrelevant and have been removed.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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**From:** Sitrep Officer  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 18 March 2026 2:38 PM  
**To:** s 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Subject:** Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 SitRep v39 - 1400 18 March [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 - Sitrep 39 1400 18 March 2026.docx

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

**OFFICIAL**

Dear colleagues,

Please find attached v39 of the Middle East Regional Crisis Sitrep, as at 1400hrs 18 March 2026.

**MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL CONFLICT: DFAT SITREP V39**

AS AT 1400 18 MARCH 2026

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

## US/ISRAEL RESPONSE

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- Israeli airstrikes have been reported in Beirut.
- Israeli strikes have reportedly killed three people in the Nabatiyeh district of Lebanon.

- The Israeli military issued an alert telling residents in Tyre, Lebanon, including in three Palestinian refugee camps, to evacuate.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

“s 22(1)(a)(ii) – this page, together with the following pages (155-159) are irrelevant and have been removed.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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**From:** Sitrep Officer  
**Sent:** Thursday, 19 March 2026 6:09 AM  
**To:** s 22(1)(a)(ii)  
**Subject:** s 22(1)(a)(ii) \*\* Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 SitRep v40 - 0530 19 March [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** Middle East Regional Conflict 2026 - Sitrep 40 0530 19 March 2026.docx

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

## MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL CONFLICT: DFAT SITREP V40

AS AT 0530 19 MARCH 2026

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

US/ISRAEL RESPONSE

- The New York Times reported the IDF carried out multiple strikes on the al-Basta and Zuqaq al-Blat neighbourhoods of Beirut on 18 March, killing 10 people and injuring 27.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- The IDF conducted attacks on petrol stations in southern Lebanon owned by the Al Amana company, saying Al Amana funded Hizballah.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- The IDF confirmed one of its tanks fired on a UN position in southern Lebanon earlier this month, wounding three Ghanaian peacekeepers.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

## MIDDLE EAST RESPONSE

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- Lebanese Interior Minister, Ahmad al-Hajjar, condemned Israel's ongoing deadly attacks across Lebanon, including alleged strikes on civil defence workers, which he said were a violation of international law.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii) – this section, together with the following pages (164-169) are irrelevant and have been removed.