

European Baptist Federation Council Meeting
Lyon, France
28-30 September 2006

Resolution on the Current Situation in the Middle East

The European Baptist Fellowship, EBF meeting in Lyon, France, September 28th-October 1st 2006,

Recognizes the severe suffering caused by recent hostilities involving Israel, Lebanon and Palestine.

Affirms the words of Jesus Christ who said: Blessed are the merciful for they will be shown mercy (Matthew 5:7),

Assures our brothers and sisters in the Baptist communities and other Christians of Lebanon, Israel and Palestine, of our prayerful concern for them all and the situation of suffering which now find themselves and supports them in the efforts they are making to assist those made homeless and refugees by the recent experience of serious hostility.

Expresses concern at the death of so many innocent civilians in the countries involved as a result of the violent action by all sides. In particular it confesses deep disappointment at the disproportionate use of force by the Israeli military in their pursuit of Hezbollah which has caused serious loss of life amongst the innocent Lebanese civilian population and the degradation of the basic infrastructure of the Lebanese state.

Joins the call of the United Nations Secretary General, the European Union and others for a resolution of causes of conflict in the Middle East, praying for a just and lasting peace and appeals to the European Union and others to fully assist Lebanon in the repair of basic infrastructure.