

**THE NATIONAL DIALOGUE PARTY POLITICAL PROGRAM**

**AN OUTLINE**

## **The Letter**

My fellow citizen:

It is my great pleasure to write to you this letter on behalf of the National Dialogue Party with the knowledge that from the first moment you read the words "National Dialogue Party", two questions will be asked:

- The first question, "why do we need another political party given Lebanon's history with the various political parties and groups and given their ideological and sectarian disputes among themselves, leading to a long and devastating civil war?"

The second question "why is "National" the fundamental claim and practice of every Lebanese political party, whether it is true or not? And why "Dialogue" is more relevant to the means and methods we believe in?"

My fellow citizen:

Comparing nature and the environment, economic and political issues, war and peace situations and others, we find that the only common denominator to all is dialogue whether this dialogue is constructive or destructive, it is always there...

If we go back in our history, the ancient and recent, we will find that Lebanon used to be regressed whenever the dialogue among the citizens did not work, while on the contrary, whenever the dialogue involved more groups and parties the country as well as patriotism would bloom.

Based on this, the "National Dialogue Party" was born, and we had insisted from the beginning not only to be named the "National Dialogue Party", and include the word "dialogue", but to apply it in to the issues of identity, mission, vision, beliefs, and, most importantly, our deeds.

All the previous Lebanese governments and nongovernmental organizations, since the Al-Taif Accord, have not been seriously dedicated to eliminating the obstacles hindering the initiation of a Lebanese dialogue. Such a dialogue needs to be honest and truthful in order to achieve most if not all its purposes, mainly to reform the current political system and ideas, and to form a healthy relationship with other countries based on the Taif Accord.

In order to achieve this agreement, certain steps and plans need to be implemented, some are immediate, and others are to be achieved in the medium and long range.

1. Now, and since all issues arising from the civil war have been closed, starting with the amnesty for key political figures, the demolishing of all the obstacles before citizens who had to work and respect the Lebanese law and regulations, the return of the displaced to their villages and cities should be completed and their file closed once and for all.

2. Implementation of equality: fair and just treatment and justice should be established among all through effective ways and procedures that will demolish and prevent the abuse of power and position.

3. Sectarianism and confessionalism, in the political sense, had proved to be a tool for corruption that will lead to more political influences of sectarian leaders. We believe in multi confessions and religious sects, for it is one of the vital signs for a coherent nation, but at the same time political sectarianism had mislead the true definition of multi confessionalism, which had reflected inappropriately upon the religious sects. To this, we, at the National Dialogue Party, aim to abolish political sectarianism and its implications as per Al-Taif Accord in order to unify the Lebanese citizens and find a clear definition nationalism, hence, demolishing the traditional misuse of power and leadership through religious affiliation.

4. Fighting corruption in all its manifestations, especially governmental employment, bribery and abuse of power that affect the economic situation.

5. Implementation of a new modern and just parliamentary electoral law that would guarantee the right and just representation of the people, which would eventually lead to a proper and serious dialogue in the nation. In this respect, the National Dialogue Party aims at and supports a new law of proportional representation, that would ensure the equal and just representation for both the Muslim and Christian sects, as per Al-Taif Accord, with the possibility of dividing Lebanon to fourteen electoral zones, nearly equal in the number of voters irrespective of the number of regions and the governorates. With the priority of running the parliamentary elections on two intervals only, or based on the electoral district (or Qadaa) to ensure proper representation.

The National Dialogue Party's recommendation of the above-mentioned electoral law is based on its belief that this will lead to a proper and coherent parliament that is chosen by the people, hence it will be eligible to establish and lay down the bases for proper, just and working institutions that we all the Lebanese aim at and whereby all the citizens are respected and equally treated. But this dream and ambition cannot be achieved with the current institutions, due to the fact that the country is lead by a group of leaders who have not been fairly elected.

My fellow citizen:

The National Dialogue Party, aims at achieving its objectives, and would spare no effort to achieve them. Here, we bring to your attention the outline of our program hoping that we find in your thoughts acceptance of our goal to reach a true and just Lebanon.

Best regards,

Fouad Makhzoumi

Chairman and Secretary- General of the National Dialogue Party

## **The Vision**

The vision of the National Dialogue Party is to achieve real reform and true democracy, and not to craft a self-serving revolving method to the continuing development changes on the political scene. The party sees that all the Lebanese parties, which have been tainted by Lebanese blood during the civil war, have failed to rise above their past. Those parties should rehabilitate and transform themselves into political parties in order to have a positive impact on the Lebanese society as a whole, and more importantly, should transform themselves into proper democratic parties.

It is crucial that, regardless of the number of parties present, Lebanon should have a workable parliamentary party system. Only such a system would assure that any political difference or disagreement would be based solely on political ideology and not on any sectarian or religious bias, which disrupts the practice of democracy. The party sees that to create a future of prosperity for the Lebanese people, the development of a program providing political, economic, social, scientific, and healthcare platform for the Lebanese people is a must.

For such purposes the National Dialogue Party was born; a party that aims at social equality and social justice for all the Lebanese people, a party that works for serious cooperation between all Lebanese parties through a serious national dialogue involving all of the Lebanese.

## **The Mission**

It is necessary today to have a political institution that deals with the social and economic problems facing the Lebanese citizens. Consequently, the National Dialogue Party has developed a political program to address such pressing issues and offer practical solutions. The Party's vision does not stem from any narrow-minded ideology, but rather from a liberal democratic perspective that celebrates all different beliefs and ideas in Lebanese society.

One of our party's main goals is to promote a national dialogue in order to create an extensive reform of all aspects of society, hence, ensuring social equality and justice. Previous Lebanese governments, since Al-Taif Accord, have not been seriously dedicated to eliminating the obstacles hindering the development of a truly Lebanese dialogue. Such a dialogue needs to be honest and truthful in order to achieve its purposes, mainly to reform the current political system and thought and form a healthy relationship with other countries.

The party views such a development as a fundamental step in liberating the Lebanese citizens from the unfair prison they had been jailed into and to create a free and just Lebanon. A country we had all been dreaming of, free from political corruption, bribery, insecurity, sectarianism and favoritism. Such a free country, we believe, could be achieved through a political, economic, judicial, educational and healthcare program. Such a program will ease up all the problems of the Lebanese citizens and assist in uniting all the Lebanese from all the regions in order to serve their country through a united vision based on national dialogue.

## POLITICS

- Elaborating a new balanced and just electoral law, that the Lebanese would consider the best means to achieve their representation in political life
- Creating the National Council for the Elimination of Confessionalism, and starting to work progressively for the elimination of political confessionalism from the texts, as well as from judicial, political and religious establishments.
- Reforming public education and reducing the cost of education.
- Supporting the independence of the judiciary for the sake of protecting the people's civil, political and legal rights; and this is done by respecting the laws pertaining to the legal authority, ensuring total transparency and permanent supervision including civil and media supervision if necessary in the first phase.
- Activating the National Economic and Social Council in order to deal with the economic crisis.
- Exercising the authority of the state on all Lebanese territories by the use of its own forces and taking into consideration regional factors and obligations due to the conflict with Israel.
- Adopting an expanded administrative decentralization.
- Putting an end to the issue of the displaced.
- Adopting a comprehensive and unified development plan capable of developing economically and socially the provinces.
- Providing education for all; it shall be made obligatory for the elementary stage at least.
- Elaborating laws concerning political parties as well as general principles that organize such parties. It is possible to establish a bi-party or a multi-party system based on alliances among parties.
- Calling on all Lebanese parties to take part in a national dialogue, in order to rectify the imbalance prevailing at all levels.
- Emphasizing the importance of the principle separation of powers among the executive, legislative and judiciary and the balance and cooperation among powers.
- Consolidating relations with the Lebanese Diaspora in order to support the just and right Lebanese cause, and to strengthen the social and economic ties with the Lebanese homeland.
- Fighting corruption by struggling against the corrupt political culture and showing concern for the general interest.
- Elaborating laws for the sake of general interests, to control illicit enrichment, activating special laws, and increasing the prerogatives of the financial control services, especially the Government Accounting Office.

## PARLIAMENT

- Canceling or reducing the amount of the financial guarantee that should be submitted by candidates.
- Allowing the voter to cast his vote in polling stations in districts of residence through electoral cards.
- Adopting one Election Day for all electoral districts.
- Making the political age similar to the civil legal age, thus, all citizens who are 18 years old have the right to vote.
- Ensuring equality in the use of media and electoral campaigns.
- Providing a ceiling for electoral spending.
- **Rejecting the plurality principle in official posts**: a person **should** not hold both positions of MP **and** Minister **at** the same time; he has to **choose** one **or** the other.
- Charging the mission of monitoring the elections **either** to a neutral government formed by retired figures, known for their honesty and expertise, or to a neutral government formed by politicians known **for their** transparency and objectiveness. However, in either **case**, the members **should** not be candidates for **elections**.

## THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

- Elaborating an appropriate internal regulation that would define the legal status of the **Deputy** Prime Minister, and the prerogatives he enjoys.
- Granting the right to hold session to **a** number of ministers (majority of one third for example).
- **Granting the** Minister **the** right to include certain subjects **related** to his Ministry in the agenda of the Council of Ministers, leaving the task of discussing them to the Council of Ministers.
- Giving a dateline for signing decrees and decisions **by ministers and the Prime minister**.

## THE JUDICIARY

- Supporting the autonomy of the **j**udicial authority and stopping harmful acts or influences or interference from the executive and legislative authorities.
- **Preventing the creation of** special courts outside the framework of the judiciary. Issuing retroactive laws means a sequestration of rights and liberties, or promulgating laws the aim of which is to annul a court verdict.

- **Amending** Article 19 in order not to limit the **right of appeal** to those who do not have interest from appealing. The right of **appeal** should include citizens, associations, syndicates, and unions.
- **Extending the** choice of the Constitutional Council's member.
- Amending the law that forbids **dissenting** members to the decision from monitoring violation or even hint at it in the proceedings. It only allows to orally report the **dissension**.
- **Granting** Citizens **the** right to **appeal** the monitoring of the constitutionality of the laws before the Constitutional Council
- **Empowering** Judicial courts **the right** to transfer the issue of unconstitutionality to the Constitutional Council to settle it; this would happen when it appears, while examining a certain case, that a text of law contradicts one of the rules of the constitution.
- **Empowering** the Constitutional Council **the** right to dispose of any law published in the official **magazine** without consulting any of the bodies delimited by the law.
- **Putting an end** to this new way of doing things, such as the tendency of the Chamber of Deputies to overpass the decisions made by the Constitutional Council.

## ADMINISTRATION

- Ensuring political, financial and popular support to implement the administrative reform and stop the interference of politicians in administrative affairs; they should be impeached and judged according to law.
- Reconsidering the administrative organization and implementing **Al-Taef** Accord in order to enhance the administrative decentralization and the deconcentration and expand **administrative** prerogatives.
- **Defining** the field of the administrative centralization through the central body of the state, in order to avoid any clash between the different prerogatives and tasks.
- **Reconsidering** the structure and the prerogatives of the Ministries in light of a scientific and comprehensive study aiming at **merging** Ministries having the same goals and tasks.
- Creating a ministry of development and planning. Otherwise, the Ministry of Public Planning should be rehabilitated after putting an end to the **multiple** Councils that implement projects for the state
- Activating the role of the Higher Council of Privatization by modernizing its structure. As for the privatization of the public administrations (electricity, water service, telephone), the option in the current situation is to privatize the management of these sectors while the state preserves the assets held by such administrations.
- Activating and supporting the role of monitoring institutions and putting an end to the influence of politicians. Dealing with the problem of vacancy by issuing decrees that designate the winners in **employment competitions**.

- Implementing the rules and the regulations enforced in the disciplinary regulations during the trials, specifically article 95 from the employees regulation and article 14 from the decree number 7236 issued in 1967 regarding the rules of prosecution in the Disciplinary Council.
- Thinking seriously about the issue of the parliamentary control, especially monitoring the texts of the administrative reform, via parliamentary commissions.
- Recommending optional incentives for early retirement within the abilities of the public treasury and rehabilitate the exceeding number of young civil servants and distributing them among ministries and public administration according to the vacancies.
- **Granting equal opportunities for all Lebanese aiming to obtain public positions; preventing any sect from monopolizing a specific high position.**
- **Achieving** equality between men and women as both genders should have the same right to be employed in different fields.
- **Abolishing** employment according to the sect in **top** posts and stressing the neutrality of the public post.
- **Defining** the educational qualifications of the employee. The qualifications required for the job the employee is applying for should be defined.
- Creating a training program and adopting a studied program in the civil education for all civil servants.
- **Resorting to the policy of sanctions.**
- **Adopting a reward** system and **implementing** it.
- **Adopting** an assessment system for the employees' performance.
- Renovating the **factors** of the salary scale through a fair and realistic policy based on functional ranking according to the kind of missions and the importance of the responsibility related to the job. Moreover, the scales in different ministries and the private sectors should be proportional.
- **Uniting** all the **administrative laws** in a **single** volume on the basis of the rules of organization. Some of these rules should be reconsidered and redefined.
- **Renovating** and **applying** the law **on** illegal enrichment. All first and second **level** employees should declare their wealth.
- Avoiding the administrative routine by reducing the applications and the procedures in order to save the time and money of the citizen.
- **Modernizing** the public administration by introducing computerization and electronic equipments that would simplify and speed up administrative procedures.
- Adopting the internet and **i**nformation technology; **or** the so-called "electronic government."

## ECONOMY

- Reordering economic priorities and concentrating on the agricultural, industrial and export sectors in order to bring balance to the growth of the Lebanese economy.
- Decreasing cost of production by ending all **corruption, squandering** and monopolies in the public sector.
- Working for balanced growth of all sectors and in all areas through continued cooperation between the private sector and the public sector.
- Promoting investment in high-tech industries.
- Calling for complete cooperation between the private and public sectors to reorient students in high schools and universities towards new specializations needed in the Lebanese labor market.
- Putting an end to nepotism, bribery and corruption.
- Undertaking a new comprehensive dialogue among Lebanese that includes all groups and sectors of the country like labor unions, business associations, public officials, academicians, etc.... Such a dialogue is needed to reach a comprehensive national plan for growth and development. Such a plan could become an economic constitution and would be implemented in stages.
- Imposing levels on unproductive spending like high fringe benefits to public officials, too many bodyguards, subsidized gasoline consumption of public officials and military personnel. It is also necessary to impose levels on the spending of Services ministries.
- Distributing the exceeding number of civil servants among ministries and public administrations according to vacancies, such as the Consumer's Protection Service, the police, or the service for collecting electricity bills. It is also good to **reinforce** revenue collection of taxes and charges, like electricity charges. Public officials should put an end to their intervention in public sector institutions to allow effective revenue collection in such institutions. It is good to start implementing all laws that govern revenue collection and to impose fines on all illegal activities such as the ones related to construction.
- Implementing all laws governing illegal use and adjustments to seashores, riversides and municipalities.
- Imposing fines on many illegal practices of big **public utility** companies such as downtown, Beirut northern entry and Beirut southern entry companies.
- Calling for a new and modern tax system.
- Getting out of the vicious cycle of high interest rates and rising public debt. For this purpose Lebanon should concentrate on agriculture, industry and exports.
- In the long run privatizing public institutions such as electricity, water and telephone on the condition that it is transparent and the people informed
- **Increasing gradually** welfare payments given to low and middle-income groups maybe after we observe gradual improvements in public sector finances and public debt reduction. Establishing cooperation between public and private sectors in such payments.

- Elaborating comprehensive long-term labor policies. **Enhancing** the labor market by reducing the search period. **Activating** the public employment agency, **actually covering** the greater Beirut area only. Giving an information program to the Lebanese youth about potential job opportunities.
- Concluding bilateral treaties that are good for both Lebanon and Syria regarding the hiring of workers who could help us build agro-industrial complexes in export processing zones.
- Implementing tax laws on foreign workers in Lebanon.

## EDUCATIONAL AND SOCIAL REFORM

- **Developing civil society through Non Governmental Organizations.**
- Consolidating the leading role of social organizations in all fields.
- **Encouraging the** participation of social organizations in decision making.
- **Encouraging** women, **particularly those issued from the poor classes,** to join popular **organizations** having economic and social objectives.
- Ratifying a law on protecting women against violence.
- Permitting women to participate in political work.
- **Improving and strengthening the woman's condition on the educational and health levels so that they can face economic and social difficulties.**
- Abolishing the laws that discriminate between men and women.
- Protecting the children that are suffering difficult conditions, from entering the labor market at an early age, by withdrawing hundreds of children from the labor market, ensuring a lodging for them, and supporting the families of the child workers **by** granting them substitute sources of income.
- Finding openings for children through useful leisure activities, such as sports clubs, summer camps, scouting.
- Encouraging youth to enroll in social organizations.
- Thinking about the youth's future by finding job opportunities in all sectors, and activating the productive sectors not supported by the state, such as agriculture, industry, handicraft, computer science.
- Encouraging youth to take an interest in public affairs via sporting and cultural activities; as such activities constitute a prelude to political issues and develop democratic thought.
- Diffusing dialogue: people with different cultural backgrounds should acknowledge each other.
- Activation of the syndicates' role to confront poverty prevailing even among middle class people. It is also necessary to activate the organizations of civil society as well as workers' unions to defend the rights of employees and workers, take into consideration their interests not those of politicians.
- **Separating Unions' activities from political work.**
- **Putting forth a plan (elaborated by the public authorities)** to evaluate the social situation and overcome crises and this would be done by a partnership

between the private and public sectors and granting the workers' right to organize their social lives.

### **SOCIAL SECURITY**

- Reconsidering the **way** of spending **on** the social issue, and **adopting** a policy according to which expenditures are **related to** the framework of a well defined social plan.
- Contracting the squandering and the social expenditures stemming from political, family, and sectarian considerations.

### **EDUCATION AND TEACHING**

- Providing everyone with education **and** making it obligatory till the age of fifteen.
- Elaborating a plan for public school buildings.
- Developing the structure of public and private education as well as developing and encouraging **vocational** education.
- Reconsidering the educational programs.
- Hiring experienced and professional teachers in public schools.
- Reconsidering the quality of teaching in public schools and encourage the use of the computer and Internet.
- **Separating education from politics.**

### **LEBANESE UNIVERSITY**

- Abolishing nepotism and dealing with the university according to academic rules and institutional considerations.
- Building one campus for all specializations in a specific area.
- Linking the programs of the university with the markets.
- Focusing on foreign languages.
- Looking for new specializations imposed by the economic, political and social development.
- Encouraging research activity and the diffusion of knowledge at all levels.

## NATIONAL EDUCATION

- Unifying the Lebanese university and adopting a administrative decentralization in its branches.
- Encouraging sectarian, confessional, and regional integration and establishing mixed sporting clubs to establish an identity for the university.
- Writing a unique history school book that guides the students within the same national frame. **There must be an agreement upon such an issue in order to establish a state based on citizenship.**
- Resorting to political education on a clear and courageous basis.

## MEDIA

- **Carrying out** media planning by a National Council for Media Development.
- Developing the genuine atmosphere for communication between the citizen and the authorities and among citizens.
- **Admitting that** the problem with the media sector in Lebanon does not reside in the censorship or in the lack of freedom, but is due to the misinterpretation of freedom, where private benefit **supercedes** social responsibility.
- **Affirming that** the problem of censorship is no more the right gateway to the freedom of expression and the freedom of opinion. The right gateway is human rights, and in particular the citizen's right to communicate and this in turn enables him to improve his life conditionn and be conscious about the right **practice** of democracy.
- **Admitting that** freedom of expression cannot be applied unless there is plurality of opinions reflecting the positions of various groups. The problem of media resides in the fact that it does not **disseminate** information that is not in line with the orientations of its supervisors.
- **Putting forth limits** that would guarantee the right of expression for those who do not have **media outlets**. Freedom of the press becomes a legitimate right as long as this freedom guarantees the citizen's right and interest to receive correct information in public matters.
- **Admitting that media** should not demand the freedom of work if it exceeds general interest and the citizen's right to receive correct information; information which would help him in building a **culture of** rights and aware civil society. The general interest should supersede the private interest of the press and journalists.
- **Elaborating** laws and offer the moral and material facilities to mediaa that would be an example for private medias. To achieve democracy the press should be close to the citizen, as the main mission of the press is to serve the people in general, not influential political or financial leaders
- Developing its independent financial capacities, **and therefore**, its ability for endurance.

- **Imposing on the mass media the necessity to define their role in protecting the citizens' rights including the rights of those who have no media outlets. The moral right of freedom of expression of the press must be linked with its acceptance to undergo accountability. The press has a legal right for free expression as long as it accomplishes its moral duty towards its society.**

## PUBLIC HEALTH

- Reducing health cost which exceeds 11 percent of GNP and is considered one of the highest in the world.
- **Carrying out** continuous assessment for the need **for** doctors, according to a general survey of the labor market. Students should be oriented towards specialization that lacks of qualified personnel.
- **Elaborating** a genuine and complete health map that would fairly **account for** the needs in hospital and doctors in each region
- Resorting to preventive medicine and healthcare and first aid instead of resorting to therapeutic medicine.
- **Imposed constraints on** the import of advanced medical equipments so that they are not spread anarchically; their use should be limited so that no profit is made to the detriment of the citizen.
- Resorting to Generic medicines. The local production of medicines should be encouraged. **Forged** and trafficked medicines should be forbidden through a severe control by government. A public institution should be created to control the quality of products.
- Unifying social security funds in order to prevent squandering and implementing the compulsory health insurance policy
- **Promulgating** of a pension scheme law which would comprise a retirement plan and health insurance for aged people due to their rapid growth in Lebanon and as their chronic diseases necessitate continuous healthcare.
- Benefiting from the technology and multimedia revolution as they facilitate an information exchange in the various fields (exchange of data, experiences, health and medical services in a continuous manner, and grant the legal framework for such an exchange by respecting medical and hospitalization laws.

## ENVIRONMENT

- **Launching awareness campaign including the management of domestic wastes.**
- **Carrying out** awareness campaigns about solid waste and the danger of their haphazard disposal in nature.
- **Elaborating** a study about the economic **benefit of** fermentation and recycling.

- Offering technical and financial support for municipalities.
- Reconsidering the national plan currently adopted to manage the increasing number of sanitary landfills.
- Implementing an effective mechanism for environmental monitoring for the sorting facilities to make sure that the international standards are being followed in its establishment.
- Identifying and designating the jobs and the responsibilities in solid waste management at all levels.
- Finding a mechanism to implement the articles related to the hospitals and factories waste management.
- Supporting the Ministry of Environment in setting rules for industrial and hazardous waste management and to implement the “Chemical Safety National Plan” in order to improve and monitor the followed procedures during the importation, transportation, storage and treatment and final disposal of chemical waste.
- Finding a mechanism to implement the “National Guideline for Environmental monitoring in the plants” and the decrees promulgated by the Ministry of Environment for the establishment of plants and enhancing the capacities of the Ministry to further environmental monitoring **procedures.**
- Finding a mechanism to implement **the decree 8/1 promulgated in 2001** by the Ministry of environment that sets the environmental standards for stack emissions and wastewater and solid waste discharges and imposing sanctions on committed violations. However, these sanctions should not be influenced by political pressures.
- Getting a faster approval on the economic incentives proposed by the Ministry of environment for the plants that intend to improve their installations for the sake of **environmental safety.**
- Setting a mechanism to implement the **decree promulgated by the Ministry of Environment that defines** the basics for the management and the treatment of medical wastes in Lebanon.
- Offering financial and technical support for the Ministry of Environment in order to develop and apply the project of reforestation based on the public participation at all stages.
- Activating the role of the **Ministry of Environment** by providing it with sufficient human resources that would be entitled to monitor the economic and entertaining activities, as well as the natural disasters threatening the forests.
- Establishing a clear mechanism that defines the responsibilities of the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture as well as the related municipalities in the monitoring of the natural reserves.
- Activating the orientation plan of quarries.
- Activating the surveillance on the quarries and granting the necessary prerogatives to the Ministry of the Environment.
- Elaborating an efficient plan to find construction materials, by organizing imports or exempting some materials from taxes.
- Giving priority for the establishment of liquid waste stations.

- Conducting a study regarding the environmental effect for every station to make sure that it fulfills all the required environmental general conditions.
- Establishing a mechanism to implement an effective environmental monitoring during the establishment and the operation of these stations.
- Establishing an effective mechanism to implement the law that specifies the requirements that should be provided with the waste after treating it and before its disposal in the sea.
- Preparing awareness campaigns about the importance of refinery and its advantages.
- Putting legislations and strategies to organize the sector of transportation.
- Supporting the Ministry of Environment to implement all the articles of the Law that aim at reducing the air pollution caused by transportation and encouraging the use of less polluting fuel.
- Trying to find permanent solutions for taxi drivers.
- Trying to reduce the access of cars in some areas by transforming them into places for pedestrians and cyclists.
- Reorganizing the public transport by imposing **scheduled** departure times to encourage its use, encouraging the use of unpolluted gas, creating new installations for public transport such as railways and others, and strongly **implementing** control system (known as Mechanic) on public transport vehicles.
- Ensuring economic incentives to reduce polluted emissions of public transport.

## **SECURITY AND DEFENSE**

- **Reactivating** and **reviewing** the Arab **Joint Defense Policy (ratified but not put into practice)** and stress on the fact that the dangers threatening Lebanon are terrorism and Israel

### **Internal Security Forces:**

- Focusing on the importance of the intervention of the Internal Security Forces and not the Army in the casual and unexceptional issues of security in order to avoid the falling of victims on both sides.
- **Establishing** a Ministry of Security that would not be linked with the Ministry of Interior. Such a ministry would include the following institutions:
  - Internal Security Forces
  - General Security
  - **State** Security
  - Beirut International Airport Public Security.

### **Military Court:**

- **Reducing and reconsidering** the jurisdictions of the Military Courts. The authority of the Military Courts should be limited to the crimes and the violations that are strictly related to the military field and the military service, and not outside this framework.