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COMMUNIQUE DE PRESSE – PRESS RELEASE

## **Dassault Aviation and Nawraj for Lebanon**

**Saint-Cloud (France) – Beirut (Lebanon), December 23, 2020** - Yesterday, the company Dassault Aviation and the Lebanese NGO Nawraj handed over medical equipment worth €150,000 to the Soeurs du Rosaire hospital in Beirut to help the local population after the tragic explosion of August 4, 2020. This equipment was purchased in France by Dassault Aviation under the support agreement signed by the company with Nawraj last September. The shipment was carried out by the French Air Force, with the assistance and active support of the Lebanese Embassy in Paris.

The Soeurs du Rosaire hospital is located in the Gemmayze neighborhood, which was heavily damaged by the explosion. Its staff has been and is still very mobilized to rescue and care for the many injured people.

The medical equipment was handed over to the director of the hospital, Sister Nicolas Akiki, during a small ceremony attended by Mr. Bruno Giorgianni, Chief of Staff to the Chairman & CEO of Dassault Aviation, Dr. Fouad Abou Nader, President of Nawraj, Mr. Gwendal Rouillard, Member of the National Assembly, a representative of the French Embassy, and many hospital staff.

On this occasion, Mr. Eric Trappier, Chairman & CEO of Dassault Aviation, recalled that *"Dassault Aviation has a longstanding friendship with Lebanon, whose air force has been equipped with Mirage III aircraft and many of whose nationals are loyal Falcon customers. We responded immediately to the solidarity movement launched by the President of the French Republic, Mr. Emmanuel Macron. Three months later, as planned, we made our contribution by supporting the nursing staff of the Soeurs du Rosaire hospital, whose daily commitment in the midst of the tragedy is to be admired"*.

Dr. Fouad Abou Nader said: *"After the terrific Beirut port blast, the Nawraj association has decided to concentrate its efforts to assist the civil population in the affected areas, focusing on repairing houses and helping the damaged schools and hospitals to resume their activities as soon as possible. Our NGO has started a relief campaign in reconstruction of demolished homes along with providing food for the needy people, medicines for chronic patients and educational material and stationery for the schools.*

*Within this scheme, Dassault Aviation has decided to donate 150,000 euros to replace damaged equipment at the Soeurs du Rosaire Hospital in the demolished area of Gemmayzé in Beirut. Nawraj delivered the medical equipment to the hospital on December 22.*

*In the name of the hospital and myself, we would like to extend our deepest thanks to Mr. Eric Trappier, Chairman & CEO of Dassault Aviation, here represented by Mr. Bruno Giorgianni, for their very generous donation which will help the hospital to recover from this tragedy and resume its core mission in healing patients. I would like, as well, to thank MP Gwendal Rouillard for his presence between us."*

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