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Finance Minister Dr. Ghazi Wazni met with a delegation from the Association of Banks in Lebanon (ABL), headed by Dr. Salim Sfeir, and they discussed the banking and monetary situation, as well as the role of Lebanese banks in promoting economic stability.

Minister Wazni stressed that bank deposits shall not be touched and urged the ABL to work on reducing interest rates during the coming stage in order to push the economy forward and relieve the burdens of public finance.

After the meeting Dr. Sfeir made the following statement:

“Our meeting with the Minister was very positive; we exchanged information and did not take any decision.”

Q: Yesterday, you stated that the measures taken by banks are temporary and that things will improve after the government wins the vote of confidence, do you confirm this>

A: I reiterate that things are positive.

Q: Will the banks get merged to avoid bankruptcy?

A: No decision has been taken and we simply discussed ideas.

Q: What is the fate of the citizens' deposits, especially lower ones?

A: No deposits are withheld; they are in the banks and shall remain as such.