



**Date: 12/04/2021**

Caretaker Finance Minister Dr. Ghazi Wazni, met with the Director General of the National Social Security Fund (NSSF), Dr. Mohammad Karaki, and the Head of the General Confederation of Lebanese Workers, Dr. Bechara Asmar.

At the beginning of the meeting, Karaki and Asmar thanked Minister Wazni for the efforts deployed in the past few months and that led to the payment of around LBP 300 billion to the NSSF allocated from 2020 Budget, in an initiative that was the first in the history of the NSSF, especially during the worst financial situation witnessed by the country.

The meeting also focused on 2021 Draft Budget and its articles relevant to the NSSF. Minister Wazni was handed the observations of both the NSSF and the Confederation and he expressed his understanding, promising to follow up on the matter.

Karaki and Asmar asked the Finance Minister to pay the amounts due to the NSSF allocated from 2021 Budget according to the “provisional twelfth” rule, until the Budget is passed and to pay one of the installments of the previous debts. Minister Wazni assured he held the best interests of the NSSF and its beneficiaries at heart and promised to give this matter proper consideration.

Dr. Karaki and Dr. Asmar stressed that Minister Wazni was very responsive, showing concern for national and social matters and great care for the NSSF and its beneficiaries.