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Bureau du Coordinateur Spécial
pour le Liban

**United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon Michael Williams
Statement Following Meeting with caretaker Minister of Interior Ziad Baroud
Beirut, Lebanon**

Friday, 04 March 2011

Good afternoon,

I just had an excellent meeting with Minister Ziad Baroud. We discussed many issues, both the domestic situation in Lebanon and the dramatic developments in the wider Arab world in recent days.

Our talks also touched on the process of the formation of a new government formation. I expressed my belief as the UN Special Coordinator that any new Government should try to meet the aspirations of all the Lebanese people and that it should respect Lebanon's international obligations.

I also expressed the hope to Minister Baroud that the process of government formation would not overshadow the issues that affect the daily lives of Lebanese people, especially in the field of security. In this regard, I commended the Minister and the Ministry for their efforts to promote a secure environment for all Lebanese.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my condolences to the family of General (Wafik) Jizzini, who I believe sadly passed away this morning.

Shoukran. Thank you.

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