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Bureau du Coordinateur Spécial
pour le Liban

**United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon, Michael C. Williams
Statement following Meeting with Caretaker Prime Minister Saad Hariri**

Beirut, Lebanon

Tuesday, 08 March 2011

Good afternoon,

I just had a very good meeting with the caretaker Prime Minister Saad Hariri. We discussed a wide range of issues, both about the domestic situation here in Lebanon as well as the dramatic developments in the broader Arab region.

The Prime Minister and I agreed that the situation in Lebanon was calm and should remain calm and stable while we await the formation of a new government. I told the Prime Minister that the United Nations expects the new Government, once it is formed, and irrespective of its composition, to meet the aspirations of all Lebanese people and to continue to respect Lebanon's international obligations. I also reiterated the position of the United Nations that dialogue remains a necessity between all Lebanese parties to resolve the difficulties and problems that divide them.

I informed the Prime Minister that later this month I will travel to New York for a Security Council briefing on Lebanon and the Security Council Resolution 1701.

On this issue I also met earlier this morning with Member of Parliament Michel Aoun likewise to discuss the regional and the domestic situation.

Lastly, on the occasion of International Women's Day, which is today, I would like to wish all the women of Lebanon all the best wishes and also to say that the UN supports all their endeavors to obtain greater women's rights in this country.

Thank you. Shoukran.
