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Bureau du Coordinateur Spécial
pour le Liban

**United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon, Michael C. Williams
Statement following Meeting with Prime Minister-designate Najib Miqati**

Beirut, Lebanon

Thursday, 10 March 2011

Good morning,

I just had an excellent meeting with the Prime Minister-designate Najib Miqati. We talked both about the domestic situation and about the regional situation.

Mr. Miqati briefed me on his continuing efforts to form the new government. On behalf of the United Nations, I wished him well in his endeavors and expressed the hope that in the not too distant future he will be able to form a government, which will be able to meet the many challenges that Lebanon faces, social, economic, political and at the same time to meet its international obligations.

We also discussed the question of the National Dialogue, which I believe has been a very important mechanism in the past under the chairmanship of President (Michel) Sleiman. We hope that the President can continue in his endeavors in chairing a body like that. It could be an important forum for discussing many issues including that of a national defense strategy.

We also talked about resolution 1701 and the situation in the south, which we believe is stable. As you know, a Tripartite meeting took place in Naqoura three days ago on Monday and that went well and I will be going to New York in two weeks time to brief the Security Council on 1701 and the situation in Lebanon.

Thank you very much.
