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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**

Tuesday, 22 February 2011

Good afternoon,

I am very grateful to Prime Minister-designate Najib Miqati for seeing me again today.

He briefed me on his continuing efforts concerning the formation of a new government. I reiterated to Najib Miqati my belief and hope that whatever government he forms will meet the aspirations of all Lebanese.

As events in the Arab world have shown, dialogue among all sides in the country is the only way to resolve differences but also to move forward with any country's political, social and economic needs.

The Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, had an extensive conversation yesterday with the Libyan leader, Col. Muammar al-Qadhafi, on the deteriorating situation in that country. The Secretary-General expressed deep concern at the escalating scale of violence in Libya and emphasized that it must stop immediately. He reiterated his call for basic freedoms and human rights, including peaceful assembly.

I also briefed Mr. Miqati on the Security Council Resolution 1701 and the next report that is due with the Council by next Monday, February 28. In this regard, I reiterated the expectation of the United Nations that the Lebanese Government will continue to abide by the requirements of 1701 and all of Lebanon's international obligations.

Earlier today, I also had a very fruitful discussion with MP Fuad Siniora to also discuss the latest developments in Lebanon and in the region.

Thank you very much.

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