

New York, 20 June 2012 - Statement attributable to the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General on National Dialogue in Lebanon

The Secretary-General welcomes the resumption of the National Dialogue between political leaders in Lebanon, and the Declaration issued following the Dialogue meeting on 11 June. The Secretary-General commends President Sleiman's initiative in re-launching the National Dialogue. He encourages political leaders in Lebanon to continue their work in this important process and looks forward to the next meeting planned for 25 June.

The United Nations continues to believe that the National Dialogue can play a crucial part in promoting stability and the authority of the state in Lebanon. The commitment of political leaders in Lebanon to safeguarding the country from the impact of regional tensions at this difficult time is particularly important