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Office of the Special Coordinator
for Lebanon

Bureau du Coordinateur Spécial
pour le Liban

**Statement of United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon Derek Plumbly
On the Latest Developments in Lebanon**

Beirut, Lebanon

Monday, 21 May 2012

I have been very concerned at the incidents of violence in recent days, which have led to loss of life in Lebanon, including in Tripoli last week and over the weekend that in Akkar which led to the deaths of Sheikh Ahmad Abdel-Wahid and Sheikh Mohammad Hussein Merheb and those subsequently here in Beirut. I would like to extend my condolences to the families of those who died in these incidents. It is important that there be no further repetition of such violence and that the incidents that have occurred be fully and thoroughly investigated.

Since I arrived in Lebanon, I have been impressed by the efforts of the security authorities and political leaders to safeguard Lebanon's calm and stability, at a time of upheaval and uncertainty in the region. It is imperative now that all parties in Lebanon continue to put the interests of the country above other considerations. Differences must be addressed through dialogue, not resort to violence.
