THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

18 October 2011

Excellency,

I wish to refer to your letter dated 3 September 2011, conveying the position of Lebanon in relation to the "*List of Geographical Coordinates for the Delimitation of the Northern Limit of the Territorial Sea and Exclusive Economic Zone of the State of Israel*", transmitted to the Secretariat of the United Nations by Israel in a communication dated 12 July 2011.

Due note has been taken of your Government's position on the matter. As requested, your letter has been posted on the United Nations website. It will also be published in the next issue of the *Law of the Sea Bulletin.*

In your letter, you suggest that measures to avoid conflict between Lebanon and Israel "should include the delineation by the proper party, in the same manner used with the Blue Line, of a line that accords with the maritime borders of Lebanon that have been deposited with [the Secretary-General]. Furthermore, you suggest that the "United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) should then be mandated to monitor that line with a view to maintaining international peace and security, in accordance with Security Council resolution 1701 (2006)." In this regard, I would like to reiterate that pursuant to Security Council resolution 1701 (2006) neither I nor UNIFIL have the mandate to carry out the requested measures. An agreement of the Parties concerned and/or proper mandate from the Security Council would be required.

His Excellency
Mr. Adnan Mansour
Minister for Foreign Affairs and Emigrants
of the Republic of Lebanon
Beirut

RECEIVED
OCT 19 2011
FOSG / CENTRAL

11-10026

LEG/05/001

As suggested in my letter of 30 August 2011, I wish to encourage your Government to explore the possibility of provisional arrangements of a practical nature, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and international law, without prejudice to the position of the Parties regarding the delimitation of maritime boundaries.

I would also like to take this opportunity to reiterate that disagreements over the delimitation of maritime boundaries between concerned Parties should not prevent them, including Lebanon, from exercising their right to explore and exploit marine resources in vast areas of their respective maritime zones which are not contested.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

BAN Ki-moon

UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

POSTAL ADDRESS — ADRESSE POSTALE : UNITED NATIONS, NY 10017
CABLE ADDRESS — ADRESSE TELEGRAPHIQUE : UNATIONS NEWYORK

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

REFERENCE:

18 October 2011

Excellency,

The Secretary-General would be grateful if you could kindly forward the enclosed letter to His Excellency Mr. Adnan Mansour, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Emigrants of the Republic of Lebanon.

A copy of the letter is attached for your information.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Vijay Nambiar
Chef de Cabinet

His Excellency
Mr. Nawaf Salam
Permanent Representative of Lebanon
to the United Nations
New York

United Nations Nations Unies

Executive Office of the Secretary-General
Cabinet du Secrétaire géneral

To: Mr. Nambiar,

Please find attached for your approval and SG's signature a letter addressed to the FM of Lebanon, in reply to his letter of 3 September 2011 regarding the maritime zones and maritime boundaries in the Eastern Mediterranean.

Nicholas Haysom
18 October 2011

Cc: KWS

11-10026

United Nations Nations Unies

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM MEMORANDUM INTERIEUR

RECEIVED
OCT 14 2011
11-10026
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

TO: Mr. Vijay Nambiar
A: Chef de Cabinet

DATE: 13 October 2011

REFERENCE:

THROUGH:
S/C DE:

FROM: Stephen Mathias,
DE: Assistant Secretary-General
in charge of the Office of Legal Affairs

ACTION NH
COPY UN

SUBJECT: **Response by the Secretary-General to Lebanon regarding maritime zones**
OBJET: **and maritime boundaries in the Eastern Mediterranean**

1. Please find attached a letter addressed to Mr. Adnan Mansour, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Emigrants of Lebanon, responding to the latter's communication to the Secretary-General, dated 3 September 2011, on the above-captioned subject matter. (English translation attached for ease of reference).

#11-10026

2. The proposed response has been prepared in coordination with DPA, DPKO and UNSCOL.

3. It would be appreciated if the letter could be signed by the Secretary-General.

LEG/05/001

Central

United Nations Nations Unies

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM MEMORANDUM INTERIEUR

RECEIVED
orig. S
OCT 14 2011
11-10026
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

TO: Mr. Vijay Nambiar
A: Chef de Cabinet

DATE: 13 October 2011

REFERENCE:

THROUGH:
S/C DE:

FROM: Stephen Mathias,
DE: Assistant Secretary-General
in charge of the Office of Legal Affairs

SUBJECT: **Response by the Secretary-General to Lebanon regarding maritime zones**
OBJET: **and maritime boundaries in the Eastern Mediterranean**

1. Please find attached a letter addressed to Mr. Adnan Mansour, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Emigrants of Lebanon, responding to the latter's communication to the Secretary-General, dated 3 September 2011, on the above-captioned subject matter. (English translation attached for ease of reference).

2. The proposed response has been prepared in coordination with DPA, DPKO and UNSCOL.

3. It would be appreciated if the letter could be signed by the Secretary-General.

186/05/001

Translated from Arabic

Republic of Lebanon

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants

Beirut, 3 September 2011

Sir,

I am writing to you with regard to the claims deposited on 12 July 2011 by the Israeli mission concerning the geographical coordinates of the northern part of the territorial waters and exclusive economic zone that it asserts belong to Israel, and would remind you once again of the following letters:

- The two letters dated 9 July 2010 and 11 October 2010 in which Lebanon set forth the geographical coordinates of, respectively, the southern and south-western borders of its exclusive economic zone.
- The letter dated 20 June 2011 in which Lebanon made an official objection to the agreement signed by the Republic of Cyprus and Israel, in which they delimited their respective exclusive economic zones. Given that Lebanon considers Israel to be an occupying Power, the legal provisions and regulations must be applied, together with the international resolutions that regard as illegal any measure taken by an occupying Power with a view to seizing, administering or annexing part of the territory that it occupies.

Israel has adopted point 1 as the point that separates the exclusive economic zones of Cyprus, Israel and Lebanon, while it is point 23, which is equidistant between those three countries, the coordinates of which are given in the attachment, that is the proper point.

It is clear from the coordinates deposited by Israel that point 31 flagrantly violates the principles and rules of international law and constitutes an assault on Lebanese sovereignty. That point is north of the internationally recognized land borders of Lebanon that are set forth in the Paulet-Newcombe agreement and the 1949 armistice agreements, according to which the southern border of Lebanon is delimited from Ra's Naqurah at point 1B, the coordinates of which are given in the attachment.

On the basis of the foregoing, it is clear that the geographical coordinates that were deposited with you by Israel violate the sovereign and economic rights of Lebanon over its territorial waters and exclusive economic zone, the coordinates of which are given in the attachment, and cut from those waters and that zone some 860 square kilometres. International peace and security could thus be imperilled, particularly if Israel, the occupying Power, should decide to pursue any economic activity in the aforementioned maritime area, which Lebanon considers to be an integral part of its territorial waters and exclusive economic zone.

Mr. BAN Ki-moon

United Nations Secretary-General

Lebanon therefore rejects the coordinates deposited on 12 July 2011 by the Israeli mission to the United Nations and requests the Secretary-General to take all measures that he deems appropriate, with a view to avoiding conflict. Such measures should include the delineation by the proper party, in the same manner used with the Blue Line, of a line that accords with the maritime borders of Lebanon that have been deposited with you. The United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon should then be mandated to monitor that line with a view to maintaining international peace and security, in accordance with Security Council resolution 1701 (2006). It is clear that what Israel has done violates the rules of international law and exacerbates the conflict in the region, as would any attempt by Israel to exploit resources in the disputed maritime area.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(*Signed*) Adnan **Mansour**

Minister for Foreign Affairs and Emigrants

Republic of Lebanon

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants

I. The point shared by Lebanon, Cyprus and Occupied Palestine:

(a) Point 1, which is considered by Israel to be the point shared by Lebanon and Cyprus. The coordinates are set forth below:

1	Degree	Minute	Second
Latitude	33	38	40
Longitude	33	53	40

(b) The correct point, namely, point 23, the coordinates of which are as set forth below:

23	Degree	Minute	Second
Latitude	33	31	51.17
Longitude	33	46	8.78

II. The initial point, delimited from Ra's Naqurah

(a) Initial point 31, delimited from the southern borders of Lebanon, the coordinates of which are, according to the Israeli side, as set forth below:

31	Degree	Minute	Second
Latitude	33	5	39.5
Longitude	35	6	13

(b) The correct point, namely, point B1, at Ra's Naqurah, the coordinates of which are as set forth below:

B1	Degree	Minute	Second
Latitude	33	5	38.801
Longitude	35	6	14.137

Memo from Mr. Stephen Mathias (ASG, OIC of OLA) on the Response by the SG to Lebanon regarding maritime zones and maritime boundaries in the Eastern Mediterranean

Marie Antonette Salcedo to: Vijay Nambiar 14/10/2011 11:24 AM

Cc: Stephen Mathias, Serguei Tarassenko, Hariharan Pakshi Rajan, Vladimir Jares, Frank Smyth, Luigi Santosuosso, Markus Pallek, Michelle Dore, SGCentral, Janice Willingston, Leslyn Raphael,

---

Dear Mr. Nambiar,

Please find attached a Memo from Mr. Mathias regarding the above-mentioned subject. The original Memo and attachments will be forwarded to your office in due course.

2011-OLC-000017 - Memo from Mr. Mathias to Mr. Nambiar dated 13 Oct 2011.pdf

2011-OLC-000017 - Draft Letter to MFA Lebanon - October 2011.doc

For ease of reference, please also find attached the English translation of the Lebanese letter of 3 September.

2011-OLC-000017 - Lebanon 3 September 2011_1149826E.doc

Best regards,

Marinette

Marinette Salcedo
Personal Assistant to the Assistant Secretary-General
for Legal Affairs
United Nations
380 Madison Avenue (between 46th & 47th Streets)
New York, NY 10017
Room: M-13041E, 13th Floor
Tel.: (212) 963-5377
Fax: (212) 963-6430
Email: salcedo@un.org

NOTICE OF CONFIDENTIALITY

This email transmission contains United Nations proprietary information that is strictly confidential and/or legally privileged, and is intended solely for the use of Officials of the United Nations and/or the named recipient hereof. ANY UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE, COPYING, DISTRIBUTION, OR OTHER USE OF THE INFORMATION HEREIN IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. If you have erroneously received this email transmission, please notify the United Nations immediately. Thank you.