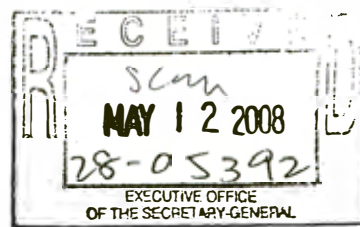


ACTION
COPY

MR. YUSUF

(13 pages) P.001

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Egypt
Middle East Q.PERMANENT MISSION OF THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT
TO THE UNITED NATIONS304 East 44th Street
New York, NY 10017
Tel (212) 503-0300 Fax (212) 949-5999original: Central
Copy: "Lebanon"
File

May 10, 2008

CHAN/2008
ConfidentialURGENT

Excellency,

I have the pleasure to attach herewith a verbal message addressed to H.E Mr. Ban Ki-Moon, the Secretary General of the United Nations, from H.E Mr. Ahmed Aboul Gheit, the Foreign Minister of Egypt, related to the latest developments in Lebanon. I shall be grateful if you could transmit this message to its high destination at your earliest possible convenience.

With my highest considerations.

Yours Sincerely,

Maged Abdel Aziz
Ambassador & Permanent RepresentativeH.E. Mr. Vijay K. Nambiar
Chef de Cabinet
Under Secretary-General
The United Nations

CdC	SG
For SG's approval <input type="checkbox"/>	Approved <input type="checkbox"/>
For SG's attention <input type="checkbox"/>	Noted <input type="checkbox"/>
For SG's information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Seen <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
For SG's signature <input type="checkbox"/>	Signed <input type="checkbox"/>
Date <u>14.05.2008</u>	Date _____
Comment (if applicable):	

RECEIVED TIME MAY. 10. 4:

(28-05392)

*confidential*VERBAL MESSAGE

- The latest developments in Lebanon have resulted in an alarming and unacceptable situation as a result of the decision of Hezbollah and its allies in the opposition to illegally takeover parts of the capital Beirut by military force, target and damage media outlets of the majority, as well as initiate violent confrontations with supporters of the majority in other parts of the country.
- These developments not only jeopardize the rule of law but they undermine the foundations of the Lebanese State and its stability and they threaten the delicate political balance of Lebanon in ways that are reminiscent of the civil war.
- It is in this context that Egypt decided to call for an immediate Arab Foreign Ministers meeting that will convene Sunday May 11, with the aim of halting this sudden and deplorable deterioration in the situation. We believe that no party should be allowed to achieve political gains as a result of its use of violence. We believe the meeting should also reiterate the necessity of a prompt implementation of the Arab initiative.
- It is unfortunate that the Lebanese situation is developing into such an acute crisis with potential regional ramifications thus requiring the attention and dedication of the international community. I welcome your views on the various developments related to the crisis and I will apprise you of the outcome of our meeting.