



Office of the Special Coordinator
for Lebanon

Bureau du Coordinateur Spécial
pour le Liban

**United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon Derek Plumbly
Statement following Meeting with leader of the Kataeb Party, former President
Amine Gemayel**

(Delivered in Arabic)

Beirut, Lebanon

Wednesday, 24 October 2012

I just had a very good meeting with former President Amine Gemayel. We discussed the tragic incident last Friday and the assassination of Gen. Wissam El-Hassan and the killing of two others and the injury of tens more.

I had the opportunity yesterday to visit Hotel Dieu Hospital in Ashrafieh and to see the effects of that incident on people, on the residents of the area as a whole. This is deeply regrettable and unacceptable.

In the statement we issued after the meeting the P5 Ambassadors and myself held with President Sleiman, we reiterated our condemnation of this incident and the determination of the Security Council on the importance of bringing those responsible for this crime, and their sponsors, to justice. This was one point of focus of our discussion.

We also discussed the political situation and the steps President Sleiman has taken to consult Lebanon's political leaders with regards to the way ahead. I believe we all agree on the importance of the consultations leading to an outcome that satisfies all sides.

QUESTION: Would you prefer a national unity government for Lebanon?

SCL DEREK PLUMBLY: I believe this is a Lebanese political process and the outcome of the consultations will, I hope, be a Lebanese one that satisfies all sides. At the same time, the second part of our statement was on the importance of continuity of Lebanese constitutional and governmental institutions during this period because Lebanon is subjected at this time to dangers that are not only internal but also regional.

It is important that there should be stability to the highest extent possible. For us in the United Nations, this is our first concern in Lebanon.
