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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 4 February 1991 from the Permanent Representative of
Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement issued by the Council of Ministers of Lebanon at its meeting on 2 February 1991.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the forty-sixth session of the General Assembly, under the agenda item entitled "The situation in the Middle East", and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Khalil MAKKAWI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* Reissued for technical reasons.

ANNEX

Statement by the Lebanese Government, dated 2 February 1991

In accordance with the decision by the Lebanese Government to extend the authority and sovereignty of the State throughout the territory of Lebanon in order to maintain the security of the citizens and residents in southern Lebanon and the western Bekaa, who are eagerly awaiting the arrival of the army; reaffirming the position of the Lebanese State and its determination to implement Security Council resolution 425 (1978), calling for the withdrawal of Israeli occupation forces beyond the internationally recognized borders of Lebanon; referring to the latest Security Council resolution renewing the mandate of the international forces and ensuring the success of the efforts of the Lebanese State to extend its sovereignty throughout Lebanese territory; bearing in mind the fact that the various Lebanese parties have fully committed themselves to withdraw from their positions and their centres for the benefit of the Lebanese army and refrain from any armed intervention so that the situation in southern Lebanon does not constitute a pretext for occupation and looting in the context of local disputes which do not promote the cause of liberating the territory,

The Council of Ministers has decided to send the army into southern Lebanon and the western Bekaa so that it may complete its deployment there by 7 February 1991 in order to maintain order and security and extend the authority of the State.

