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*Translated from Arabic*

Beirut, 20 June 2011

Sir,

I write to you with regard to the exclusive economic zone of Lebanon. On 9 July 2010 and 11 October 2010, Lebanon deposited with the United Nations the geographical coordinates of, respectively, the southern and south-western maritime borders of that zone. The southern maritime border extends from point B1 on the shore at Ra's Naqurah, the first point on the 1949 Israeli-Lebanese General Armistice Agreement table of coordinates, to point 23, that is equidistant between the three countries concerned, and on the coordinates of which all must agree. The geographical coordinates of point 23 are latitude 33° 31' 51.17", longitude 33° 46' 08.78". Point 1 does not therefore represent the southern end of the median between the Lebanese Republic and the Republic of Cyprus that separates the exclusive economic zones of each country, and can only be viewed as a point that is shared by Lebanon and Cyprus. It is not a terminal point and therefore may not be taken as a starting point between Cyprus and any other country, particularly given the fact that it is just one point like any of the others on this line.

On 17 December 2010, the Republic of Cyprus and Israel, the occupying Power, signed an agreement in which they delimited their respective exclusive economic zones, using point 1 as a shared dividing point between Lebanon and Israel. Those zones are thus completely incompatible with the geographical points that Lebanon had deposited with the United Nations, and absorb part of the exclusive economic zone of Lebanon, which constitutes a flagrant attack on Lebanon's sovereign rights over that zone.

That agreement, which violates the sovereign and economic rights of Lebanon, could imperil international peace and security, particularly if one of those States should decide unilaterally to exercise sovereign authority over the region that Lebanon considers an inalienable part of its exclusive economic zone.

The State of Lebanon objects to the agreement between Cyprus and Israel in which they delimited their respective exclusive economic zones because the agreement affects points falling north of the line constituting the southern border of the exclusive economic zone of Lebanon, which is demarcated as being between points B1 and 23. Lebanon requests that the Secretary-General of the United Nations take all measures that he deems appropriate, with a view to avoiding conflict and safeguarding international peace and security.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

*(Signed)* Adnan **Mansour**

Minister for Foreign Affairs and Emigrants

His Excellency Mr. BAN Ki-moon

the Secretary-General of the United Nations

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