
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 alleges belong to Israel, and would remind you once again of the following letters:

- The two letters dated 9 July 2010 and 11 October 2010 by which Lebanon deposited 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 Armistice Agreement signed on 23 March 1949, according to which the southern border of Lebanon is delimited from Ra's Naqurah at point B1, 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 requested 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

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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