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DEATH OF THE LEBANESE PRESIDENT, RENÉ MUAWAD

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, today expressed his dismay at the assassination of the new-elected President of Lebanon, René Muawad.

"This is a tragic and despicable act of terrorism", Mr. Clark stated. "It is tragic not only because of the death of President Muawad, but also because of what it means for all the recent efforts to solve the crisis which has plagued Lebanon for so long."

Mr. Clark added his condolences to those expressed by Prime Minister Mulroney to the Muawad family and to the people of Lebanon.

"Mr. Muawad was a man of dialogue and his election at the head of the Lebanese State had been welcomed by Canadians as a sign that peace and national reconciliation were possible in Lebanon after more than 14 years of conflict", Mr. Clark said.

He called upon all parties with influence in Lebanon to show restraint and continue to work towards finding a political solution to the Lebanese conflict. The further use of violence would only add to the suffering of the Lebanese people.

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Secretary of State
for
External Affairs

Secrétaire d'État
aux
Affaires extérieures

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