

Population:

Estimated at 3 million

Major cities:

Beirut (capital), Tripoli, Saida

Head of State:

His Excellency Amin Gemayel

Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs:

His Excellency Rashid

Karami

Canada/Lebanon Relations: Relations between the two countries are strengthened by the presence of a large Lebanese community in Canada. The Canadian government has repeatedly stated its support for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Lebanon, and Canada encourages efforts toward a true and lasting reconciliation among the Lebanese. In an attempt to help Lebanese citizens caught in the fighting, Canada has been providing emergency humanitarian assistance for several years through such agencies as the International Committee of the Red Cross and the World Council of Churches. CIDA also funds numerous development projects of nongovernmental organizations in such fields as health, agriculture and community development.

His Excellency Amin Gemayel: Born in 1942 in Bikfaya near Beirut. Lawyer, Maronite Christian. Elected to the National Assembly in 1970. Elected as the seventh President of the Republic of Lebanon on September 23, 1982.