

News Release

Department of
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SITUATION IN LEBANON

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, expressed today grave concern over the rupture of the ceasefire in Beirut. He strongly urged all the parties concerned - Lebanese and foreign - to agree to, and respect, a comprehensive ceasefire. He deplored the disregard for civilian lives and welfare which had been so evident during the recent shelling of Beirut.

Mr. Clark noted that Canada had participated in the Security Council meeting of March 31 concerning Lebanon and fully supports the Security Council statement issued at that time. He reiterated his full support for the Arab League Ministerial Committee which is working to find a political solution to the Lebanese crisis.

Canada, he emphasized, supports the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Lebanon, and looks forward to the withdrawal of all foreign forces from its soil. He called on all parties to commit themselves fully to the peaceful search for national reconciliation.

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Secretary of State
for
External Affairs

Secrétaire d'État
aux
Affaires extérieures

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