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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-sixth year

Letter dated 17 April 1981 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of
the Permanent Mission of Egypt to the United Nations addressed
to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to convey the position of the Arab Republic of Egypt regarding the recent tragic events in Lebanon.

The Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt views with utmost concern the present deteriorating situation in Lebanon due to the eruption of hostilities and the actual spread of a state of local war. The bloodshed, inhuman atrocities and widespread human and material destruction require urgent and effective measures. This situation inevitably has grave consequences, not only for the stability and integrity of Lebanon, but also for regional as well as world peace and security.

In this context Egypt fully supports the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon and earnestly hopes that all parties involved will act in a spirit of responsibility, wisdom and far-sightedness to safeguard the existence of Lebanon as a functioning member of the international community. Aware of the unpredictable repercussions this situation might lead to, Egypt joins with other peace-loving States in calling for an immediate cease-fire, for the termination of human ordeals and the consolidation of the legitimate authority of the Lebanese Government over all Lebanese territories.

Egypt, as an Arab State undertaking its national and regional responsibilities, cannot afford to overlook the spillover of this potentially explosive regional menace and calls for effective and prompt United Nations action to support the legitimate Government of Lebanon in order peacefully to resolve the causes of internecine conflict.

* A/36/50.

I would like to emphasize, once more, the importance my Government attaches to the pursuit of intensive United Nations endeavours towards a peaceful resolution of this conflict. The Government of Egypt will continue to follow the developments closely and will spare no effort in rendering support to the United Nations endeavours.

I kindly request you to circulate this letter as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 33 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nabil A. ELARABY
Ambassador
Deputy Permanent Representative
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
