REPUBLIC OF LEBANON
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT

Beirut, 10-3-2010
Our Ref: 338/B

THE MINISTER

Mr. Yvo de Boer
Executive Secretary
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
P.O.Box 260124
D-53123 Bonn, Germany

Dear Mr. de Boer,

<u>**Subject**</u>: Communication of information relating to the Copenhagen Accord

The Ministry of Environment would like to present its compliments to the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and extends its appreciation on the initiative of the secretariat to follow-up on the outcomes of the COP15 in Copenhagen.

In this regard, the Ministry of Environment would like to express its disappointment to the outcomes of the COP 15 in Copenhagen where no binding agreement has been reached, but also its support as the world witnessed a historical high level interaction between Parties from both developed and developing countries. As for the Copenhagen Accord, Lebanon considers it to be a good starting point to push further the negotiations feeding into the two track negotiations, and to reach a fair, ambitious, and legally binding agreement in Mexico. Consequently, the Ministry of Environment is looking forward to the COP16 in Mexico and dedicates itself to working constructively with its partner countries to work towards a comprehensive legally binding instrument.

In addition, the Ministry of Environment would like to reiterate that the UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol are and will continue to be the main international and intergovernmental forum for negotiating all climate change actions. Therefore, the Ministry emphasizes the provisions of the Convention itself, in particular its principles of equity, and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities.

The Ministry would also like to re-confirm Lebanon's support to have a two track negotiation process under AWG-LCA and AWG-KP, with the continuation of the Kyoto Protocol for legally binding mitigation efforts of developed countries and further commitments of Annex I parties for the second and subsequent periods on the one hand, and on the other hand, an agreed outcome under the Convention aimed at the sustained and full implementation of its' provisions.

Finally, the Ministry of Environment avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat the assurances of its highest consideration.

Mohammad Rahal
Minister of Environment

cc: - *Ms. Rola El-Sheikh, Acting Head, Department of Air Quality, MoE*
     - *Mrs. Nancy Khoury, Acting Head, Department of Public Relations & External Affairs, MoE*