Communiqué

The ministers of Foreign affairs for Egypt, Saudi Arabia , France and the Secretary general of the Arab league have met on the 26th of September 2007 in New York to discuss the situation in Lebanon which requires special attention due to the threats represented by the development in this country both to its own future as well as to regional security.

The participants stressed the utmost importance for all the Lebanese as well as regional actors and the wider international community to firmly stand in the face of the ongoing targeted acts of assassination Members of Parliament.

They welcomed the meeting yesterday of Lebanese members of Parliament in the seat of the House and the contacts between majority, opposition and spiritual leaders in the quest for the required understandings around Lebanese dissensions. They welcomed the decision to convene the next session of Parliament on 23rd October 2007.

They have addressed an urgent appeal to political forces in Lebanon, to restart their national dialogue with the specific aim of reaching an agreement on the election of a new President of Lebanon who should work to safeguard the sovereignty and political independence of Lebanon.

The participants have stressed the absolute necessity of respecting the timeframe determined by the Lebanese constitution for holding the presidential elections, which shall be conducted without any outside interference or pressures with the aim of preserving the stability of Lebanon.

The participants have also stressed that the contribution of different regional and international actors in helping Lebanon conclude the presidential elections peacefully may help usher a new chapter in regional relations. The participants have expressed their disposition to consider any Lebanese request for assistance in realizing the objectives called for in this appeal.