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Mr. Robert Watkins
UNDP Resident Representative
Beirut, Lebanon

December 14, 2012

Dear Mr. Watkins,

At the end of Phase I of "Strengthening Disaster Risk Management Capacities" project implemented at the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, I would like to express my appreciation for UNDP's support and contribution to Lebanon's work in the establishment of a National Strategic Framework for Disaster Risk Management.

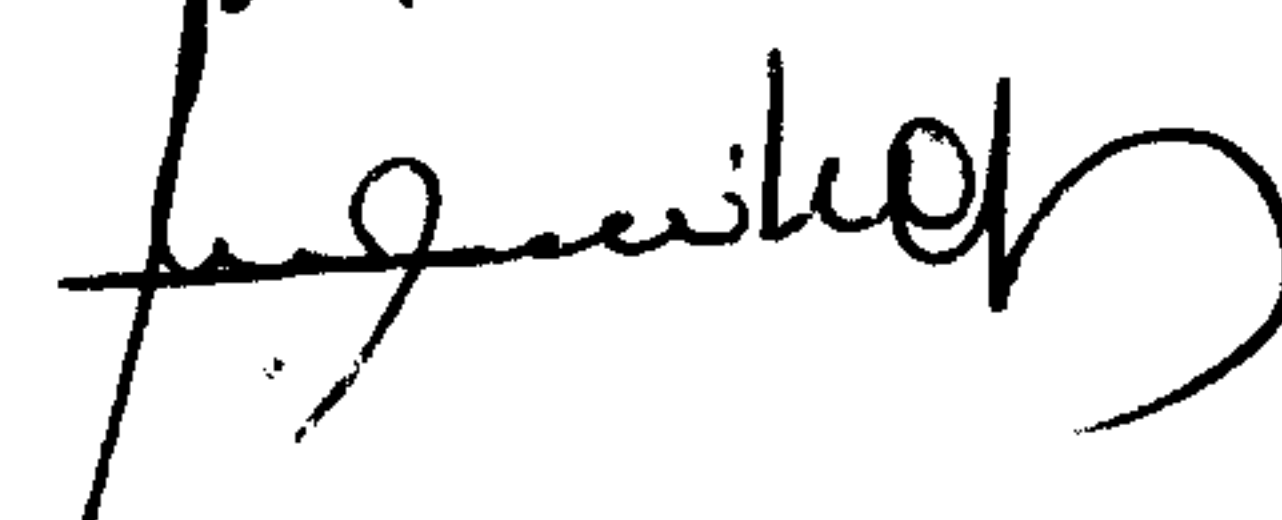
With the framework now initiated at the national level, I believe that mechanisms, to be effective, should also be developed at the local level, particularly in capacity building with a focus on highly vulnerable groups.

With a substantive work program still ahead of us, we agree to extend the timeframe of the Disaster Risk Management Project through end December 2015.

The Government shall spare no effort in supporting and promoting smooth project execution in line with its objectives including its second phase goals without disruption in the flow of funds which might hold back the implementation progress.

I greatly appreciate, and look forward to continuing, our mutual cooperation in the area of disaster risk reduction, and to a successful implementation of the second phase of this endeavor of great significance to the Lebanese Government.

Najib, Mikati



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