



EUROPEAN UNION

Delegation of the European Union to
the Republic of Lebanon

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PRESS RELEASE

Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on Lebanon's decision to pay its contribution to the 2011 budget of the Special Tribunal for Lebanon

Catherine Ashton, the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission, made the following statement today:

"Today, Prime Minister Nagib Mikati announced that Lebanon has paid its contribution to the 2011 budget of the Special Tribunal for Lebanon. I welcome this positive step, in line with previous commitments by the Lebanese authorities that Lebanon would continue to respect its international obligations. The Special Tribunal plays an important role in the fight against impunity in Lebanon and in the search for justice. I encourage the Lebanese authorities to continue their cooperation with the Tribunal.

The Prime Minister's decision should enable Lebanon to preserve the stability of its Government and advance towards implementing its important reform agenda. The European Union is committed to continue to working closely with Lebanon in the context of the renewed European Neighbourhood Policy".