

Dear Mr. MacDonald,

We have been informed that the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation intends to air a news story on Wednesday, 24 November 2010, concerning the United Nations International Independent Investigation Commission ("UNIIC") and the Special Tribunal for Lebanon. We also have been informed that you have possession of certain UNIIC documents. We do not have any information about what documents these are, nor whether you intend to make reference to, or to show the documents on air, in the course of the above news story.

I am writing to alert you to the fact that UNIIC documents are United Nations documents enjoying inviolability under Article II of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations. Inviolability entails that United Nations documents cannot be disclosed to a third party, copied or used without the consent of the United Nations.

We therefore request that you contact us with information regarding the documents that you have in your possession so that we can assess whether the United Nations can agree to their voluntary disclosure. We are also alerting the Canadian authorities to this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Mathias
Assistant Secretary-General for Legal Affairs
Office of Legal Affairs
United Nations