

UN chief arrives in Beirut Friday night

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BEIRUT, Jan. 16 (Xinhua) -- UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon arrives in Beirut Friday night from turkey on an official visit.

The secretary general will meet Lebanese President Michel Suleiman, Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri and Prime Minister Fouad Seniora on Saturday.

Ban Ki-moon is expected to give a speech at the Lebanese Parliament, and inspect UN Interim Forces in Lebanon (UNIFIL) deployed in south Lebanon.

He will hold a press conference at the end of his visit before heading to Syria, then to Kuwait, where he will participate in the Arab economic, development and social summit.

The UN chief started this week a regional tour to Egypt, Jordan, Israel and the Palestinian territories.

He held several meetings with leaders of the region in an attempt to reach a cease fire in Gaza strip.

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