## <u>Press Releases: United States Breaks</u> <u>Ground on the New U.S. Embassy in</u> Beirut, Lebanon

Media Note Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC April 20, 2017

In a demonstration of our enduring friendship and important bilateral partnership, U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon Elizabeth Richard broke ground today on the new U.S. Embassy compound in Beirut, Lebanon.

The multi-building compound will be located in the suburb of Awkar on a 43-acre site. The compound will provide a safe, secure, sustainable, and modern platform that supports U.S. Embassy staff in representing the U.S. Government to Lebanon and in conducting day-to-day diplomacy.

Professionals from the United States, Lebanon, and other countries will work side-by-side to complete this new diplomatic facility. Morphosis Architects of Culver City, California, is the architect for the project. B.L. Harbert International of Birmingham, Alabama is the construction contractor.

Since 1999, as part of the Department's Capital Security Construction Program, the Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations (OBO) has completed 135 new diplomatic facilities with an additional 50 projects now in design or under construction.

OBO's mission is to provide safe, secure, and functional facilities that represent the U.S. Government to the host nation and support our staff in the achievement of U.S. foreign policy objectives. These facilities represent American values and the best in American architecture, engineering, technology, sustainability, art, culture, and construction execution.

For additional information, please contact Christine Foushee at <a href="FousheeCT@state.gov">FousheeCT@state.gov</a> or (703) 875-4131, or visit <a href="https://www.state.gov/obo">www.state.gov/obo</a>.

The Office of Website Management, Bureau of Public Affairs, manages this site

as a portal for information from the U.S. State Department. External links to other Internet sites should not be construed as an endorsement of the views or privacy policies contained therein.