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From: Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>
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Subject: Fw: Israel: Decision expected soon on FM indictment (AP)

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Sent: Fri Jan 21 06:58:17 2011
Subject: Israel: Decision expected soon on FM indictment (AP)

JERUSALEM (AP) - Israeli media are reporting authorities will decide by the end of February whether to indict the country's foreign minister on corruption charges. A decision to prosecute Avigdor Lieberman would shake up Israeli politics. Lieberman said he will resign if indicted. His departure could mean a steep drop in support for his hard-line party, built largely on his personal popularity. The Israeli papers Haaretz and Maariv reported an assistant to the attorney general sent a letter to the good-governance group Ometz saying a decision would be made by the end of next month. The decision follows a decade-old investigation into Lieberman's business dealings, involving suspicions of bribery, breach of trust and other allegations.

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