



Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

**THE UNITED NATIONS IN PAKISTAN EXPRESSES SYMPATHIES
AND OFFERS SUPPORT FOLLOWING EARTHQUAKE**

(Islamabad, 17 April 2013): The United Nations in Pakistan expresses condolences and sincere sympathies to the people and the Government of Pakistan following the earthquake that struck the border region of Iran and Pakistan on Tuesday, 16 April.

"We extend our deep condolences to the people of Pakistan for the devastation that resulted from the earthquake and its aftershocks, particularly to those whose loved ones were injured or lost their lives," said Humanitarian Coordinator Timo Pakkala.

Reports indicate at least 40 people were killed and over 180 others injured in border towns and villages of Pakistan following the earthquake recorded at 7.9 on the Richter scale in south-east Iran with a depth of 76 kilometres. Strong tremors were also felt across Pakistan, India and the Gulf States.

In Pakistan, reports indicate hundreds of houses collapsed, rendering thousands of people homeless in the town of Mashkel and nearby villages in Washuk district, Balochistan province. The area's communications system was destroyed.

Government authorities have dispatched medical supplies, shelter items and other relief items to the affected areas in Balochistan.

The UN and its humanitarian partners stand ready to support the government's ongoing relief effort for the people affected by the earthquake and mobilize any international support, if requested.

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