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**MESSAGE FOR STAFF COMMEMORATION OF THE THIRD ANNIVERSARY
OF THE EARTHQUAKE IN HAITI**

Port-au-Prince, 11 January 2013

*Delivered by Mr. Herve Ladsous,
Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations*

I want to share my warmest greetings to all UN colleagues who have come together to mark the third anniversary of the earthquake in Haiti. I join you in honouring the memory of the more than 200,000 victims, including 102 United Nations personnel – dear colleagues, friends and family members who perished in that horrific and tragic disaster.

My memories of the damage and suffering, which I saw first-hand during two visits, are still fresh. But I also have a keen sense of the progress that has been achieved in reconstruction and recovery over the past three years. Your contributions, combined with the resilience of the Haitian people, have made much possible.

At the same time, I know we are all concerned about the fate of more than 300,000 displaced Haitians, who continue to live in make-shift camps, and about the successive hurricanes that have destroyed many livelihoods and raised the spectre of food insecurity.

I continue to call on the international community to stand with Haiti at its time of dire need. I thank all of you for being the caring face of the United Nations, on the ground, accompanying the people of Haiti on the path to a more secure and prosperous future.