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The International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) has the honour to request the cooperation of the competent authorities of your Government in the following matter.

As you know, the recent earthquake in Haiti has led to an emergency situation which requires urgent shipments of medications, including medications containing internationally controlled substances, to that country. The Board would like to remind all Governments that in acute emergencies, such as the present situation following the devastating earthquake in Haiti, it is possible to apply simplified control procedures for the export, transportation and provision of controlled medicines. Under the present circumstances, competent authorities may, therefore, allow the exports of controlled medicines to Haiti containing narcotic drugs and/or psychotropic substances even in the absence of the corresponding import authorizations and/or estimates. Emergency deliveries need not be included in the estimates of the receiving country.

Competent authorities may find further information on this subject in the Guidelines for the international provision of controlled medicines for emergency medical care which were developed by WHO in cooperation with INCB. These Guidelines are available on the INCB website (<http://www.incb.org>) under General information.

Competent authorities are invited to contact the Board, in case any assistance is required to facilitate the supply of controlled medicines to Haiti.

The Board trusts that this matter will receive the prompt attention of your Government.

Vienna, 20 January 2010

