

*Council of Europe*  
*The Secretary General*

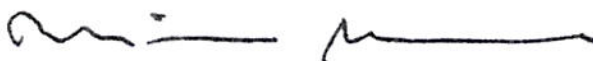
Strasbourg, 24 October 2011

Dear Prime Minister,

I was deeply distressed to learn about the terrible earthquake which occurred yesterday in the province of Van, claiming so many lives and provoking so many injuries and such material damage.

In these tragic circumstances, I should be grateful if you would transmit my heartfelt condolences and sympathy, on behalf of the Council of Europe and in my name, to the authorities of the province and to the families of the victims.

Yours sincerely,



Thorbjørn Jagland

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