

**Office of the Resident Coordinator
Situation Report No. 1
Earthquake in Peru
0:00 hours**

August 15-2007

Situation

1. At 11:40:58 PM UTC/GMT (Greenwich time) 6:34:56 PM local time, an earthquake of 7.9 degrees in the Richter scale struck in the Department of Ica. The epicenter was 25 miles (61 kilometers) west-northwest of Chincha Alta, Peru, and 90 miles (161 kilometers) south-southeast of Lima, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. The epicenter was 30.2 km depth (18.8 miles). The effects were also strongly felt in Lima capital.
2. Several aftershocks have been registered to the moment.
3. There is no official information regarding the number of casualties although unofficial reports indicate 17 casualties and 70 injured and housing damages in the Provinces of Ica, Chincha, Cañete and Pisco. Damage assessments are being made in the Capital of Lima.

National Response

1. The Peruvian Government has declared the state of emergency in the Department of Ica.
2. At the moment the UNDMT has contacted the National Civil Defense Institute (INDECI) and been informed that an INDECI assessment team has been deployed to the provinces of Ica and Chincha (three hours by land from Lima) and a report is expected in the incoming hours.
3. No damages to hospital facilities have been reported so far. The Ministry of Health has deployed medical teams to the Ica Department in support to the local hospitals.
4. An aerial assessment is expected in the early hours of Thursday 16.

The UN Response

5. The RC has activated the Emergency Operations Centre on a 24 hrs basis and convened a meeting at 8:00 local time with the UNDMT.

6. The RC has informed National Authorities the availability of an immediate release of an emergency cash grant in support of the assessment needs.
7. The government of Peru has requested international support to handle the situation, the UNETT is closely following any possible request of deployment of USAR teams.