



For immediate release

## **FRIENDS OF SIMON WIESENTHAL CENTER EXPRESSES SYMPATHY AND SUPPORT FOR HAITI**

**Toronto – January 13, 2010** - In the aftermath of the severe earthquake that rocked Haiti yesterday, President and CEO of the Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center (FSWC), Avi Benlolo, encourages all members of FSWC to support the impoverished Caribbean nation.

“Our deepest sympathies are with the people of Haiti as they deal with the tragic effects of this disaster,” Benlolo says. “As a Canadian I am proud that my government has already taken steps to respond to this crisis, and I know our members will do all they can to help mitigate the heartrending consequences of the earthquake,” he adds.

### **About Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies**

Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies is a Canadian human rights organization dedicated to fostering tolerance and understanding through community involvement, educational outreach and social action. It has 25,000 members across Canada, and confronts important contemporary issues including racism, antisemitism, terrorism and genocide. The Center is affiliated with the world-wide, Los Angeles-based Simon Wiesenthal Center, an accredited Non-Government Organization with status at international agencies, including the United Nations, UNESCO, OSCE and the Council of Europe. With over 400,000 members of all faiths around the world, the Simon Wiesenthal Center has offices in New York, Miami, Paris, Jerusalem, Buenos Aires and Toronto.

- 30 -

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