

RE: The Earthquake in Morocco and Floods in Libya

Content Warning: The following statement has content on death and ongoing recovery after the severe earthquake and flooding that affected Morocco and Libya respectively.

Dear Members,

On Friday September 8th, 2023 at 11:11 pm (local time) a severe earthquake impacted the central region of Morocco causing more than 3,000 deaths and many unrecorded casualties. This has also led to thousands of people being injured and left many homeless and vulnerable. Subsequently, on September 10th, North Africa was once again devastated as a result of Hurricane Daniel. Much of the destruction was centered around eastern Libya, particularly Derna, with flooding that has left over 6,000 people deceased, 10,000 missing, and over 30,000 displaced from their homes. These events have truly shook parts of our community as rescue and recovery efforts are just starting to begin.

We are deeply saddened by the recent events in Morocco and Libya and extend our love and support to all those affected. The SCSU is here to support all our members and we encourage those seeking mental health support, to please access our resource list of on- and off-campus resources available at <https://www.scsu.ca/mental-health-resources> and <https://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/hwc/mental-health-services-and-resources-utsc-students> and/or reach out to our Executive Team.

The SCSU is united in solidarity with the people of Morocco and Libya. At the upcoming SCSU September Board meeting, a donation will be made to Islamic Relief Canada to aid Morocco and Libya. We strongly encourage the UTSC community to amplify the voices of those impacted on different platforms and to donate if possible. This is a joint statement with the Muslim Students Association (MSA), Amnesty International UTSC, and Islamic Relief: UTSC Chapter. These organizations will also be tabling at the student centre this week and the next to raise awareness and funds to better support those who have been affected in both regions of North Africa. To support aid and recovery efforts please consider donating through an E-transfer to the following. A hundred percent of the funds collected will be sent to Morocco and Libya.

Morocco: morocco.relief@gmail.com Libya: libya.floodrelief@gmail.com

In Solidarity,

Your Scarborough Campus Students' Union