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Mission in the Democratic Republic
of the Congo



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Mission de l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour la Stabilisation en République Démocratique du Congo

MONTHLY REPORT 1 TO 31 MAY 2011

Highlights:

- The Steering Committee for the STAREC/ISSSS met in Kinshasa on 24 May 2011. The meeting was chaired by the Vice Prime Minister, Minister of Interior and Security, Adolphe Lumanu Mulenda Bwana N'Sefu, in the presence of DSRSG/RC/HC Fidèle Sarassoro and several national ministers and provincial Governors.
- A sous-commissariat in Baraka was finalized and handed over to the Territorial Police.
- The first Conciliation Committee was installed in Binza *groupement*, Rutshuru territory and formally launched by the Governor of North Kivu, accompanied by international partners.
- Drawn down of the field Joint Monitoring Teams has been initiated, due to termination of support by the principal donor, Sweden.

LOCATIONS: NK North Kivu; SK South Kivu; IT Ituri; REG Eastern DRC

COMPONENT 1: IMPROVING SECURITY

Population security in target areas

NK	Deterioration	
	 Rutshuru territory saw an upswing in violence against civilians, capped by an attack on the visiting national Minister of Education on 5 May. The FDLR remain the main perpetrators. 	
	 In response, the Governor temporarily relocated his Cabinet to Rutshuru centre and replaced the Territory Administrator. 	
	 Situation remained the same elsewhere; attacks remain frequent in southern Lubero and Masisi/Walikale border areas. 	
SK No significant change		
	The situation remains unsettled in the Hauts Plateaux area with skirmishes and exactions involving smaller Mai-Mai groups, Mai-Mai Yakatumba and the FNL (a Burundian armed group). Some observers have linked this with the absence of law enforcement personnel, due inter alia to ongoing restructuring of the 10 th Military Region.	
	 FDLR attacks increased slightly in Kalehe, Mwenga and Shabunda territories, although not to the levels of North Kivu. 	

Finalization of garrisons project in South Kivu

S	SK	Clarity emerged on final outputs from the Dutch-supported project to build FARDC garrisons in		
		South Kivu (budgeted at around \$10m). The key points:		
	 The project will conclude at end of August. Works delivered will comprise Camp S 			
	(Bukavu) and Nyamunyuni (close to Kavumu).			
		 MoD/FARDC and IOM engineering sections have agreed to modify the blueprints for the FARDC officers' apartments. 		
		 Collaboration between IOM and the Office des Voiries et Drainages, as well as the 		

- eventual relocation of families from Bukavu Camp Saio's Zone III permitted initiation of works.
- The finalized facilities will be for two battalions, or about 1,330 soldiers and 5,100 dependents.

Comment: The time and expense to build garrisons make it unlikely that more results can be delivered in this area within the lifetime of the ISSSS (2009-12). There is a need to think creatively about other avenues to support FARDC conduct & operational effectiveness.

COMPONENT 2: SUPPORT TO POLITICAL PROCESSES

Disengagement of armed groups

NK SK There were no major developments during May 2011. The Government continued discussions with some residual combatants, and exerted military pressure in other cases.

The ISSS Disarmament and Demobilization initiative remains suspended. Discussions are ongoing with the Minister of Defense to revive it; it is extremely important to provide an alternative to integration into the FARDC.

COMPONENT 3: RESTORATION OF STATE AUTHORITY

Handover of new facilities

SK

A sous-commissariat in Baraka was finalized and handed over to the Territorial Police.

Comment: Lack of police capacity is still a concern. In Baraka, in a police station meant for 30 elements, only 9 officers are on site and none of them received the 6 month basic training program. Government counterparts have committed to deploy additional elements once the ongoing project to construct police housing is completed.

Rollout of training for civil administration

NK SK UNDP and MONUSCO Civil Affairs continued the implementation of their joint support program in support of local administration in ISSSS target areas :

- A second phase of training was held in Bukavu (9-14 May) for traditional leaders and chefs des territoires / groupements along the ISSSS strategic axes in South Kivu.
- Joint sensitization missions (MONUSCO, UNDP, Ministry of Interior, and Territorial Administration) continued along the ISSSS priority axes in North Kivu and South Kivu. This is linked with recent handovers of new facilities in April.

Comment: The support project is moving forward, but it is clear that there remain differences in approach. The Government favors broader targeting of sensitive areas, arguing that an approach limited simply to the six ISSSS "strategic axes" is not feasible. This will need to be taken into account for any extension of the project.

Support from MONUSCO military engineers

NK SK MONUSCO military engineering contingents held a planning meeting on 11-12 May 2011. The key points intersecting with ISSSS were the following:

- To be able to discuss possible involvement in rehabilitation of the road at the next engineering conference in July, the Uruguayan contingent will scope works required for the Hombo-Walikale axis in North Kivu.
- The Chinese contingent will start work on the Fizi-Minembwe axis after finishing with the Uvira-Baraka axis. (This axis was opened by ACTED in 2009/10 but some sections are currently not passable.)

The Bangladeshi contingent will continue to work on the Bukavu-Shabunda axis.

Comment: Support from MONUSCO engineers remains critical for the ISSS. Donor funding support for roads is nearly concluded, and the engineering contingents are filling essential gaps. There is a consensus among STAREC stakeholders that the Hombo-Walikale-Masisi axis is very high priority as it is the main "missing link" to connect Bukavu and Goma to Kisangani.

COMPONENT 4: RETURN, REINTEGRATION & RECOVERY

First Conciliation Committee installed in North kivu

NK

The first Committee was installed in Binza *groupement*, Rutshuru territory and formally launched by the Governor of North Kivu, accompanied by international partners.

Background: The CLPCs are mandated by the 23 March Agreements in North Kivu, and are meant to contribute to peaceful and sustainable returns of Congolese refugees returning from Rwanda and Uganda.

COMPONENT 5: COMBATING SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Protection & prevention

IT	•	•	20 Judicial Police Officers will receive four hours of training on sexual violence as part of a	
		training of trainers workshop held by UNPOL and IOM between 23 May and 4 June.		
SŁ	(•	Sensitization and Training Kit on Sexual Violence finalized and already launched by UNHCR	

 Sensitization and Training Kit on Sexual Violence finalized and already launched by UNHCR and the Provincial Division for Social Affairs (DIVAS).

Multi-sectoral assistance

NK	 Concept notes on Protection and Prevention, Multisectoral Assistance, and Data and 					
	Mapping components were proposed to and validated by the CTC North Kivu, following					
	discussions at a provincial sub-commission meeting. UN Agencies, national and international					
	NGOs will be submitting full project proposals for review and approval at the national level.					
IT	 Program proposals on Protection and Prevention, Multisectoral Assistance, and Data and 					
Mapping components were validated by CTL in Bunia.						
SK	SSR component launched the training of trainers module "Programme de la réduction de					
	l'ampleur des violences sexuelles dans l'Est de la République Démocratique du Congo" for					
	FARDC officials. It is designed to strengthen the ethical and moral elements of the Civic and					
	Patriotic Education seminars imparted to FARDC troops.					

Data & mapping

REG	•	• Equipe Technique meeting discussed the progress achieved under the first allocation of the		
	SRFF as well as revised procedures and schedule for the second allocation.			
	•	A presentation of all existing mapping exercises on sexual violence programmes at a		
	dedicated meeting of the Governmental Gender Thematic Group.			

PARTNERSHIPS & COORDINATION

Meeting of STAREC Steering Committee

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The fourth meeting of the STAREC *Comité de Suivi* was held on 24 May 2011 in Kinshasa. The meeting was chaired by the Vice Prime Minister, Minister of Interior and Security, M. Adolphe Lumanu Mulenda Bwana N'Sefu; under the auspices of the DSRSG/RC/HC Sarassoro. The level of representation was high: national Ministers; Heads of International Cooperations, provincial Governors/Vice-Governors; heads of UN Agencies and MONUSCO sections. It is also to be noted that the Ambassadors of the United States and Norway were present.

A number of operational issues were discussed, including the DDR program and delays in the training and deployment of officials to newly built STAREC / ISSSS facilities.

The main focus of the meeting was on forward planning. In particular:

- The Government presented stabilization priorities identified in each of the six provinces targeted under the STAREC. These focused on consolidation of existing works along the ISSSS strategic axes; extension of new axes in North Kivu, Province Orientale and Maniema; and early recovery activities.
- The STAREC/ISSSS Joint Technical Secretariat tabled an Action Plan for outstanding issues to complete existing works under the ISSSS, following the request formulated at the last Partners Meeting in February 2011.
- The Committee adopted wide-ranging recommendations. Among others, the SSU will
 organize a workshop with implementing partners to develop a concept of operations in
 support of the ISSSS priorities.

Drawdown of JMTs

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The Bunia Joint Monitoring Team (comprising two civilian observers and two UNPOL officers) has now been drawn down. This follows termination of support for civilian observers by the principal donor, Sweden.

At present, three teams remain in Goma and one in Bukavu; these will be progressively phased down over the coming months. JMTs role to observe, monitor and mentor activities and operating standards of deployed state officials within the Restoration of State Authority being an important contribution, the SSU will assess the impact this may have on the M&E of activities carried in the ISSSS.

Comment: As per Terms of Reference, the JMT initiative was intended to boost field presence and mentoring support under the State Authority component of the ISSS. Drawdown aggravates an already difficult situation for stabilization efforts in Ituri, as there is no dedicated coordination support for the STAREC / ISSSS in the district yet.

Support to STAREC coordination

NK	STAREC Joint Technical Committee met on 18 May 2011.		
	 Fiche de projet on sexual violence was approved. 		
SK	STAREC Joint Technical Committee met on 19 May 2011.		
	 Supporting sub-committee for Economic Recovery met on 18 June to work on 2011-12 		
	priorities and the corresponding project concepts.		

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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