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## PRESS RELEASE

### **MONUSCO launches first "training of trainers" for SAMIDRC commanders to strengthen peacekeeping capabilities in Eastern DRC**

**Goma, November 4, 2024:** The United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) has launched the first round of a two-week "Training of Trainers" session designed for the Commanders of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (SAMIDRC). This program, which will run from November 4 to November 15, underscores MONUSCO's commitment to enhancing peacekeeping capabilities and support to the FARDC for the pacification of Eastern Congo.

During the inaugural ceremony, the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Protection and Operation, Mrs. Vivian van de Perre stated that this initiative is aligned with United Nations Security Council Resolution 2746 (2024), which mandates MONUSCO to strengthen SAMIDRC through enhanced coordination, information sharing, and logistical assistance.

The training will cover a comprehensive range of topics vital to peacekeeping operations, including Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law, Protection of Civilians, Human Rights Due Diligence Policy, Child Protection, Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, among others. This comprehensive program is structured to ensure SAMIDRC officers reinforce their skills and deliver standardized training across these crucial areas.

In addition to training support, MONUSCO has provided vital logistical equipment, including an armored vehicle and 30 sea containers to bolster SAMIDRC's operations. MONUSCO's collaboration with SAMIDRC and other local and regional partners is part of a broader, multifaceted approach to address the security, governance, and development challenges that hinder peace in this region and is taking place within its available resources and mandate.

"We remain steadfast in our support to SAMIDRC and our shared mission to bring sustainable peace to Eastern Congo. I reiterate MONUSCO's commitment to assisting SAMIDRC, while ensuring adherence to international humanitarian law and human rights standards. The challenges are complex and enduring, yet through continued collaboration and mutual support, we can make meaningful progress toward stability and enhancing civilian protection in this region," said Mrs. van de Perre.

As partners in peace, MONUSCO and SAMIDRC will continue to work towards overcoming insecurity in Eastern DRC.