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Office of the Spokesperson and Media Relations

PRESS RELEASE

MONUSCO condemns the attack that wounded 8 peacekeepers in Saké (North Kivu)

Kinshasa, March 16, 2024: The Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Head of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the DRC (MONUSCO), Ms. Bintou Keita, condemns in the strongest possible terms the attack on peacekeepers that took place on March 16 in Saké. Eight peacekeepers were wounded, one of them seriously. They have been evacuated and are receiving appropriate care.

For several weeks, these peacekeepers have been deployed as part of Operation Springbok in North Kivu. MONUSCO and the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (FARDC) are carrying out joint military actions.

MONUSCO wishes a speedy recovery to the injured peacekeepers and stands ready to support any investigation to determine responsibility before national or international jurisdictions.

Ms. Bintou Keita reaffirmed MONUSCO's commitment to working alongside the Congolese defence and security forces to reinforce joint and unilateral patrols to protect civilians.

The Head of MONUSCO also reiterates her call for an immediate end to violence by all armed groups against civilians. In particular, she calls on the M23 armed group to lay down its arms and respect the terms of the Luanda Roadmap.