Mission de l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour
la stabilisation en République démocratique du Congo

United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission
in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

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PRESS RELEASE

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OFFICE OF THE SPOKESPERSON

MONUSCO Condemns the Attacks on its Premises in Goma and Calls for Restraint

Kinshasa, July 25, 2022: MONUSCO condemns, in the strongest terms possible, the attack on its premises in Goma, North Kivu, perpetrated by a group of looters on the sidelines of a protest movement which was banned by the mayor of the city of Goma.

The Mission is greatly concerned about this very serious incident, which came in following hostile remarks and open threats made by individuals and groups against the United Nations. MONUSCO recalls that its premises are inviolable under the Status of Forces Agreement between the United Nations and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo (SOFA), as well as the 1946 Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations.

The Deputy Special Representative in charge of operations and acting head of Mission, Mr. Khassim Diagne has called for appeasement and restraint. The incidents in Goma are not only unacceptable but totally counterproductive.

MONUSCO is mandated by the Security Council to support the authorities in protecting civilians. It stands alongside the population and supports the National Defense and Security Forces in their fight against armed groups.

The Mission also supports the Congolese authorities' efforts to restore the State authority, said Mr. Diagne. "*It is not in chaos and confusion or division that we will advance the stabilization and peace*," further said Mr. Diagne. MONUSCO urges the Congolese authorities, political actors, civil society members and all active forces in the DRC to condemn these acts of looting. The Mission stands ready to continue working for the restoration of peace and security together with national and provincial institutions.

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