**PRESS RELEASE**

**MONUSCO recognizes a serious incident at the border between the DRC and Uganda, in Kasindi**

Kinshasa, July 31, 2022: The Special Representative of the UN Secretary General and Head of MONUSCO, Mrs. Bintou Keita, is sad to learn the serious incident having occurred this morning in Kasindi, at the border between the Democratic Republic of Congo and Uganda. During this incident, peacekeepers from the Intervention Brigade of MONUSCO Force, returning from leave, opened fire at the border post for unknown reasons and forced their way through. The incident caused loss of life and serious injuries.

The Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General, Mrs. Bintou Keita, is deeply shocked and saddened by this serious incident. She extends her heartfelt condolences to the families of the victims and wishes a speedy recovery to the injured.

In response to this unspeakable and irresponsible behavior, the perpetrators of the shooting have been identified and arrested pending the conclusions of the investigations which have already begun in collaboration with the Congolese authorities.

Contacts have also been established with the country of origin of these peacekeepers so that legal proceedings be initiated urgently with the participation of the victims and witnesses, so that tough sanctions can be taken as soon as possible.