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

Report of the Secretary-General

I. Introduction

1. The present report, submitted pursuant to paragraph 50 of Security Council resolution [2808 \(2025\)](#), covers major developments in the Democratic Republic of the Congo since the previous report of 19 March 2026 ([S/2026/208](#)). It describes the progress and challenges in the implementation of the mandate of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO).

II. Political developments

2. Political developments during the reporting period were marked by renewed discussions on advancing constitutional review and revision, modalities for a proposed national dialogue, and continued diplomatic engagement under the Doha, Washington and African Union-led peace processes.

3. On 18 March, Modeste Bahati Lukwebo, President of the Alliance des forces démocratiques du Congo et alliés, resigned as Second Vice-President of the Senate following a petition calling for his removal that was filed and supported by parliamentarians of the majority, after his statements on the proposed constitutional reforms. On 3 April, Norbert Basengezi Katintima, a former Vice-President of the Independent National Electoral Commission and, like Mr. Lukwebo, a member of the ruling Union sacrée de la nation coalition, was elected Second Vice-President of the Senate.

4. On 20 April, André Mbata, Permanent Secretary of the Union sacrée de la nation and member of the National Assembly for the Union pour la démocratie et le progrès social, launched a call for proposals on constitutional reform, with submissions due by 30 May, for consideration by the President, Félix Tshisekedi. Some officials from the Union sacrée de la nation denounced the absence of prior internal consultations, while opposition leaders rejected the initiative, citing article 219 of the Constitution, which provides that no constitutional revision may be undertaken during conditions of conflict or a state of siege. They further characterized the move as an attempt to extend Mr. Tshisekedi's presidency beyond 2028.



5. On 29 April, a motion of no confidence against the Vice-Prime Minister of the Interior, Jacquemain Shabani, reportedly co-signed by 56 majority and opposition members of the National Assembly, citing persistent insecurity and the obstruction of decentralization efforts, was rejected without debate on grounds of procedural irregularities.

6. At a press conference on 6 May, the President indicated his openness to serve for a third presidential term should the population so request through a popular referendum. He said that elections would not be feasible in 2028 if North Kivu and South Kivu Provinces were still occupied by the Alliance Fleuve Congo/Mouvement du 23 mars (AFC/M23). On 9 and 15 June respectively, the National Assembly and the Senate adopted the referendum bill granting the Head of State exclusive authority to call a referendum on questions of national concern.

7. The Sauvons la RDC opposition platform, led by the former President, Joseph Kabila, reiterated its opposition to any constitutional change during a conclave held from 6 to 8 April in Nairobi. On 19 May, Martin Fayulu, Jean-Marc Kabund, Moïse Katumbi and Delly Sesanga launched the Coalition article 64 pour la défense de l'ordre constitutionnel (C64). In response, the Union pour la démocratie et le progrès social established the Coalition des congolais pour le changement de la Constitution, in support of constitutional review and change. On 11 June, Mr. Kabila urged the Congolese people to "actively defend the Constitution and democratic gains".

8. On 12 June, in Kinshasa, C64 organized a sit-in demonstration against the proposed constitutional reforms and referendum. Clashes were reported between demonstrators and elements associated with the Force du progrès, including reports of the use of weapons amid a reinforced security deployment. Several people were injured, including C64 leaders Mr. Fayulu, Mr. Sesanga and Mr. Kabund, while reports of possible fatalities remain under investigation. The Government, through the Ministry of Communication, condemned the events and reaffirmed its commitment to the constitutionally guaranteed freedom of expression, assembly and peaceful protest, within the framework of the applicable laws. The Government also indicated that verifications of the events are ongoing.

9. Regarding the national dialogue, political majority, opposition and civil society actors continued to express divergent views on its timing, location, mediation, participation and agenda. As the Catholic and Protestant churches continued to promote a social pact for peace, the President reiterated on 6 May his openness to dialogue aimed at peace, stability and national cohesion. In this context, MONUSCO continued to engage key stakeholders through its good offices in support of a consensual way forward.

10. Diplomatic efforts in support of a ceasefire and the peace process continued during the reporting period. From 13 to 17 April, representatives of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and AFC/M23 held the ninth round of talks on the implementation of the Doha Framework in Montreux, Switzerland, with MONUSCO participating as an observer. The parties reviewed progress on the two signed protocols on prisoner exchange and ceasefire monitoring, and signed a memorandum of understanding with the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region on the operationalization of the Expanded Joint Verification Mechanism Plus. Although no consensus was reached on the third protocol on humanitarian access and judicial protection, the parties reaffirmed their obligations under international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law. By early June, the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and AFC/M23 had designated representatives to the Expanded Joint Verification Mechanism Plus, ahead of the planned conduct of the first ceasefire verification mission.

11. In line with the Washington peace process, on 23 April, the Joint Oversight Committee held its fifth meeting, bringing together the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Qatar, Rwanda, Togo and the African Union Commission, to review progress since the meeting held on 17 and 18 March on de-escalation measures. During this meeting, the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and AFC/M23 reported on steps taken to reduce tensions and reaffirmed their commitment to sustaining momentum on implementation of de-escalation measures.

12. On 30 April, the United States Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control imposed sanctions on the former President, Mr. Kabila, for his alleged role in supporting AFC/M23. The Office of Foreign Assets Control stated that the measure was consistent with the Washington Accords and the commitment to advance a regional economic integration framework. The Office had a few weeks earlier imposed sanctions on the Rwanda Defence Force and four of its senior commanders.

13. On 27 April, the National Assembly approved two bills authorizing the ratification of the peace agreement between the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda, and the strategic partnership agreement between the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the United States of America. The bills were adopted by the Senate on 19 May.

14. The African Union mediator and the panel of co-facilitators conducted multiple engagements during the reporting period. On 12 May, in Kampala, the President of the Council of Ministers of Togo and African Union mediator, Faure Gnassingbé, accompanied by co-facilitator Olusegun Obasanjo, met with the Presidents of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uganda and reaffirmed their commitment to continued consultations with regional actors towards a lasting solution. On 13 May, the African Union mediator travelled to Kigali to meet with the President of Rwanda to discuss regional peace initiatives. On 7 and 8 June, in Lomé, the African Union mediator chaired a semi-annual review meeting of the African mediation process, which brought together regional and international stakeholders, with a view to strengthening the coherence and consolidating the peace process. On 9 June, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region of Africa participated in those discussions, and subsequently also met with the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Mahmoud Ali Youssouf, and reaffirmed United Nations support to the African Union-led process.

III. Protection of civilians

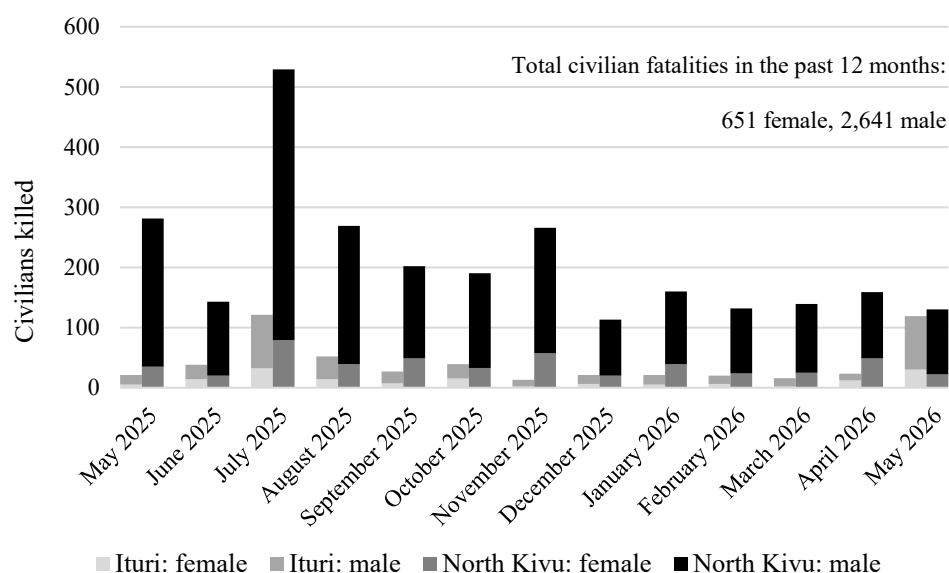
15. The reporting period was marked by persistent insecurity in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo. Clashes between, on one side, M23 and Twirwaneho alongside the Rwanda Defence Force and, on the other side, the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and their allies, continued across multiple front lines in North and South Kivu. In Ituri, the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), the Coopérative pour le développement du Congo (CODECO) and the Convention pour la révolution populaire (CRP) continued to pose threats to civilians. MONUSCO documented 587 protection incidents across North Kivu and Ituri, resulting in 632 civilian deaths, including 122 women and 48 children. This represents a 35 per cent increase in civilian fatalities compared with the previous reporting period.

16. The engagement of MONUSCO with the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and AFC/M23 facilitated an agreement for the secure transfer to Beni of civilians still under the Mission's protection in Goma. The transfer is currently on hold due to the ongoing Ebola virus disease outbreak.

17. In Ituri, fighting intensified between CRP and the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo around Bule and Fataki. At least 21 CRP-related incidents were reported, involving 15 civilian deaths, including 10 women. Notably, on 28 April, a CRP attack against the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo in Pimbo, and a subsequent counter-attack by the Armed Forces with CODECO reinforcements, caused 69 deaths (12 civilians, including 10 women, 6 members of the Armed Forces, 6 CODECO elements, 7 CRP elements and the rest undetermined). On 14 May, following talks facilitated by Uganda between Kinshasa and CRP, CRP announced a unilateral ceasefire and its intention to release captured elements of the Armed Forces. Although it was only partially respected, the unilateral ceasefire has led to a relative lull in attacks led by the group.

Figure I

Reported killings of civilians in armed conflict incidents in Ituri and North Kivu, May 2025–May 2026, disaggregated by sex



Source: MONUSCO/Joint Operations Centre/Situational Awareness Geospatial Enterprise.

Note: Victim counts are likely underreported due to restrictions on access in North Kivu.

18. In response to persistent insecurity in Ituri, MONUSCO deployed six mobile operating bases across Djugu and Irumu territories, from 22 to 31 March, to strengthen its rapid response capacity. Following engagements with local authorities and community leaders, the MONUSCO Intervention Brigade dispatched reconnaissance patrols to Mambasa territory to assess potential deployments to deter further ADF attacks.

19. On 5 April, MONUSCO supported the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo in repelling an attack by CRP near the Lodha internally displaced persons site, and facilitated, on 10 April, the extraction of three civilians previously abducted by CRP in Ala. From 19 March to 22 April, the MONUSCO base at Bayoo, in Bule, provided shelter to 10 civilians, including one woman, against a direct CRP threat, and continued to deter CRP movements around the Djaiba displaced persons site in Fataki. Amid intense fighting around Pimbo, MONUSCO evacuated 191 civilians from the surrounding localities to the Kpawa internally displaced persons site and to Gina hospital for medical treatment.

20. ADF attacks resulted in 287 civilian deaths, including 44 women, and 119 abductions, with Islamic State Central Africa Province claiming responsibility for 33 ADF attacks through its media channels. On 1 and 2 April, an ADF attack in Bafwakoia, Mambasa territory, left 54 civilians dead, while an attack in Biakato, on 7 May, killed 15 civilians. Ensuing rising insecurity in Mambasa spurred population displacements, incidents of mob justice and the emergence of self-defence groups, extending into neighbouring Tshopo Province. ADF also further expanded into Haut-Uélé Province where, on 21 May, it attacked and burned the barracks of the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo near Mungbere, causing fatalities among the army.

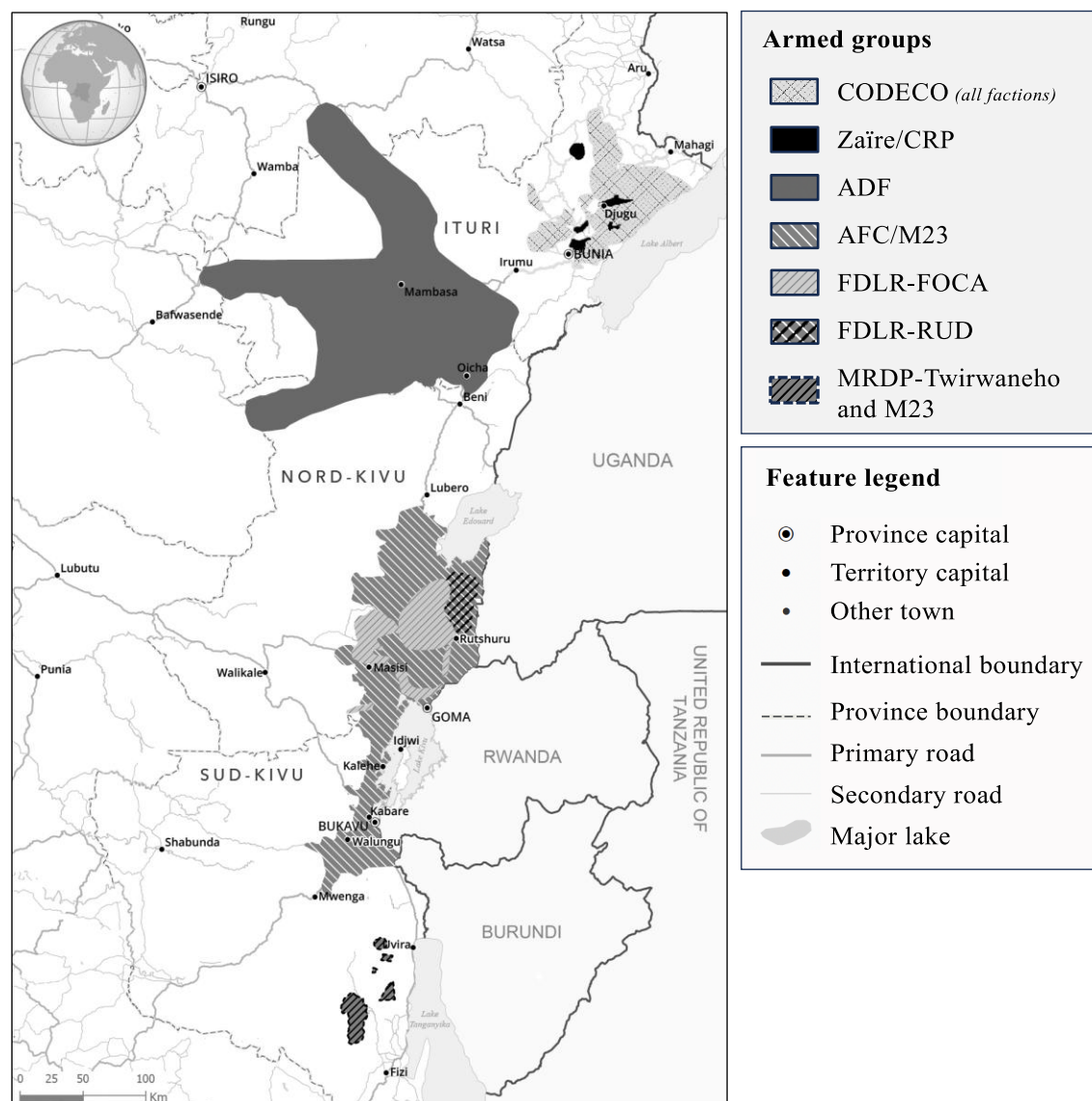
21. In North Kivu, ADF violence re-emerged on 18 May, in Beni territory and on the outskirts of Beni town, after nearly three months of inactivity, killing 66 civilians, including 17 women and three children. The deteriorating insecurity triggered protests that caused damage to two MONUSCO vehicles and left one peacekeeper wounded by the protesters.

22. Following the resurgence of violence on the outskirts of Beni town, the MONUSCO Intervention Brigade intensified intelligence-driven operations in the locality and deployed 16 mobile operating bases to combat and reduce ADF activity in Beni territory. During the reporting period, MONUSCO and the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo conducted 2,101 joint patrols as part of enhanced operational coordination. Joint operations conducted by the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces under Operation Shujaa also continued to target ADF positions in Mambasa and Irumu territories.

23. M23 accounted for 50 per cent of reported incidents in North Kivu, including 219 killings, 53 abductions and the forced recruitment of at least 302 civilians. Other Congolese and foreign armed groups were responsible for 271 civilian deaths and eight incidents of sexual violence, with the Alliance des patriotes pour un Congo libre et souverain and the Alliance des nationalistes congolais pour la défense des droits humains identified as the most frequent perpetrators. The Forces démocratiques de libération du Rwanda (FDLR) were responsible for 6 per cent of protection incidents, including ambushes on civilians near Rutshuru and the looting of residences in Katwiguru.

24. AFC/M23 continued to consolidate its parallel administration in areas under its control through the appointment and reshuffling of territorial administrators and local chiefs in Rutshuru, Masisi and Nyiragongo territories, including the appointment of a new "mayor" in Goma on 9 April. On 20 April, the group also implemented a new taxation system across all areas under its control.

Figure II
Selected armed groups' areas of influence as at 1 June 2026



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Base map source: MONUSCO/Field Technology Section.

Note: Territorial control estimates by MONUSCO.

Abbreviations: ADF, Allied Democratic Forces; AFC, Alliance Fleuve Congo; CODECO, Coopérative pour le développement du Congo; CRP, Convention pour la révolution Populaire; FDLR, Forces démocratiques de libération du Rwanda; FOCA, Forces combattantes abacunguzi; M23, Mouvement du 23 mars; MRDP, Mouvement pour la résistance et la défense du peuple; RUD, Rassemblement pour l'unité et la démocratie.

25. Following the withdrawal of AFC/M23 from the front line in Lubero territory on 23 March, the vacated areas were overtaken by Wazalendo groups, while the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo subsequently deployed to Katondi and Kipese. In Masisi territory, the withdrawal of AFC/M23 from Mpeti and Minjenje resulted in Wazalendo reprisal attacks, including the killing of civilians who Wazalendo accused of prior collaboration with AFC/M23. As the front line moved, incidents affecting the civilian population committed by both parties temporarily

spiked. AFC/M23 and Government-aligned forces engaged in heavy fighting close to the mining town of Rubaya, amid intensified drone strikes.

26. In South Kivu, between 9 and 16 May, AFC/M23 withdrew from most of the Ruzizi plain to their positions prior to the offensive of December 2025 against Uvira. The Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Wazalendo deployed to the vacated areas. Beginning in early June, the Armed Forces intensified operations around Minembwe to regain control of the area from AFC/M23 and Twirwaneho. Fighting caused civilian displacement, with reports of forced recruitment of men and children, amid increased use of drones by both sides.

27. Throughout its area of operations, MONUSCO continued to support community alert networks, strengthening civilian early warning and police response through the joint protection hotline, which processed 5,646 calls, leading to 1,952 interventions and the apprehension of 434 suspects. The expanded reach of the community alert network permitted improved verification of alerts, notably in Ituri Province, as well as in Lubero and Beni territories in North Kivu.

28. In Irumu and Djugu territories in Ituri Province, MONUSCO, in collaboration with the Provincial Division of Gender, Family and Children, conducted awareness-raising sessions for over 450 people from internally displaced persons sites and surrounding villages – the majority of whom were women – on peace and cultural dialogue. The campaign also addressed the need for increased inclusion of women in security and governance frameworks and equipped survivors of violence with foundational self-protection techniques.

29. MONUSCO continued to support public safety and early warning in Bunia and Beni, particularly around internally displaced persons sites and other vulnerable areas. MONUSCO Police also conducted 497 patrols, including 81 joint patrols with the Congolese National Police, and supported 547 Congolese National Police patrols.

30. The Mine Action Service conducted explosive ordnance disposal operations in Beni territory, North Kivu, and in Ituri, clearing 900 square meters, benefiting 6,643 local people, over half of them women and girls. Amid constraints on clearance activities in areas not under government control, the Mine Action Service also scaled up explosive ordnance risk education and awareness-raising for affected populations and humanitarian personnel to strengthen community resilience and operational safety. In addition, MONUSCO opened an explosive ordnance disposal training centre in Beni to train specialists from the national defence and security forces. In May, the Mine Action Service launched an emergency project in Uvira, South Kivu, to mitigate explosive ordnance threats through community-based risk education, clearance and survey activities. Explosive ordnance risk education programmes were expanded, reaching 6,744 community members, including 1,273 women and 1,897 girls.

IV. Human rights situation

A. Human rights and international humanitarian law

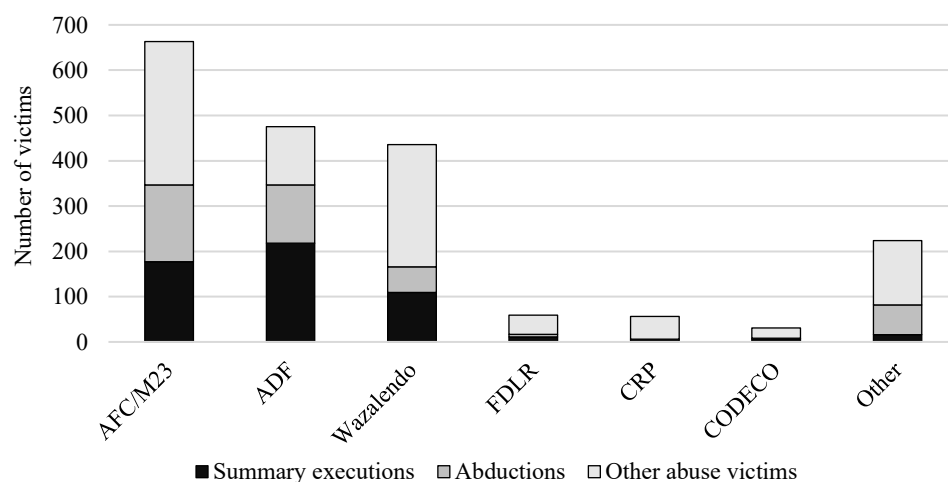
31. The reporting period was marked by continued human rights violations stemming from ongoing clashes between the parties to the conflict, along with their allies. The increased use of drones, aerial bombardments and heavy artillery in densely populated areas of North Kivu and South Kivu raised concerns that the conflict parties were not observing the principles of precautions and distinction under international humanitarian law. During the reporting period, the United Nations Joint Human Rights Office in the Democratic Republic of the Congo documented 1,221 human rights violations and abuses committed across the country, affecting 2,968

victims, including 392 women and 378 children. Of those, 166 abuses and violations were recorded in Ituri, 654 in North Kivu and 184 in South Kivu. This represents a 35 per cent decrease in violations and abuses compared with the previous reporting period. Movement restrictions associated with preventive measures adopted since the declaration of the Ebola outbreak, as well as ongoing insecurity in North Kivu and South Kivu Provinces, negatively affected the capacity of MONUSCO to document human rights violations and abuses.

32. Armed groups remained the main perpetrators, with 825 documented abuses. AFC/M23 was responsible for 379 abuses affecting 656 victims, including 107 women, 54 boys and 23 girls, across North and South Kivu. Those abuses included 98 summary executions of 129 men, 21 women and 27 children, as well as 92 abductions. Wazalendo followed, with 251 abuses against 442 victims, including 70 women and 46 children, while ADF committed 82 abuses against 480 victims, including 56 women, 26 girls and 7 boys.

Figure III

Human rights abuses by alleged armed groups confirmed by MONUSCO across all provinces during the reporting period



Source: MONUSCO/Joint Human Rights Office (JHRO).

Note: Victim counts likely underreported due to restrictions in North Kivu.

Abbreviations: AFC/M23, Alliance Fleuve Congo/Mouvement du 23 mars; ADF, Allied Democratic Forces; FDLR, Forces démocratiques de libération du Rwanda; CODECO, Coopérative pour le développement du Congo.

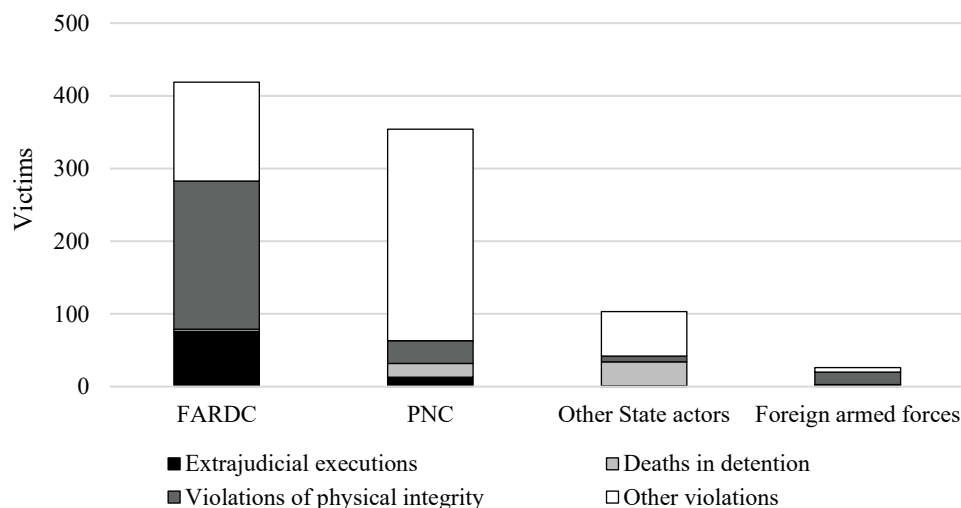
33. Summary and extrajudicial executions remained among the most prevalent violations and abuses by armed groups and State actors documented during the reporting period, with 278 incidents affecting 623 people. The Joint Human Rights Office also recorded 284 abuses and violations of the right to physical integrity, affecting 561 victims, as well as 605 victims of abduction, including 392 women and 317 children.

34. State actors were responsible for 367 documented violations, including 97 violations of the right to liberty and security, comprising arbitrary arrest and unlawful detention affecting 419 victims. The Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo committed 206 violations against 422 victims, including 85 women, mainly in Ituri, Haut-Lomami and North Kivu Provinces, representing a 37 per cent decrease compared with the previous reporting period. The Congolese National Police were responsible for 122 violations affecting 354 victims, including 71 arbitrary arrests and unlawful detentions. Other State agents were responsible for 31 violations

involving 103 victims, while foreign forces committed 24 documented violations during the reporting period.

Figure IV

Human rights violations by alleged State actors confirmed by MONUSCO across all provinces during the reporting period



Source: MONUSCO/Joint Human Rights Office (JHRO).

Abbreviations: FARDC, Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo; PNC, Congolese National Police.

B. Child protection

35. During the reporting period, MONUSCO documented 351 grave violations affecting 258 children (71 girls and 187 boys), with 231 cases in North Kivu and 120 in Ituri. Through engagement with the national authorities, MONUSCO secured the release of seven boys who had been detained by the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo for their alleged association with non-State armed groups.

36. MONUSCO continued to engage with CODECO to secure the release of over 100 children under the commitments of the Aru II dialogue, in coordination with the United Nations country team and the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to ensure appropriate interim care upon release. On 17 April and 17 May, during two different missions, additional Wazalendo factions in Walikale signed a unilateral declaration and on 17 May, they agreed on a road map to end and prevent the recruitment and use of children and other grave violations, signalling a positive commitment to reducing the impact of armed conflict on children across the Democratic Republic of the Congo. As a direct result, a total of 122 children formerly associated with the signatory non-State armed groups were released and handed over to MONUSCO, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and partners for interim care and family reunification. Efforts to secure the release of remaining children are ongoing.

C. Gender and conflict-related sexual violence

37. During the reporting period, the Joint Human Rights Office documented 108 cases of conflict-related sexual violence affecting 143 victims, including 87 women

and 53 girls, in North Kivu (89), Ituri (38), South Kivu (15) and Maniema (1). Armed groups were responsible for 57 cases of sexual violence, with AFC/M23 responsible for 22 of those cases. State actors committed 49 cases of sexual violence, all attributed to the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Conflict-related sexual violence remained significantly underreported, as access constraints, insecurity and fear of stigma and reprisals continued to prevent many survivors from accessing healthcare, reporting mechanisms and judicial channels.

38. The Joint Human Rights Office continued its campaign, launched on 9 March, to combat sexual slavery, promote the rights of children born of rape, and coordinate a more structured response to combating conflict-related sexual violence, in collaboration with the Office of the President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, and donors. The campaign will be expanded to other areas across the country, particularly those affected by conflict. In Beni, the Mission also provided 100 women survivors of conflict-related sexual violence with socioeconomic support through vocational training, followed by the distribution of equipment to establish small businesses. The initiative aimed to address the gap between medical and psychosocial assistance and the absence of socioeconomic reintegration services.

V. Humanitarian challenges and response

39. The humanitarian situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo remained severe and complex. As at 30 April, the country had recorded 5.8 million internally displaced persons, including 1.3 million in South Kivu, 1.2 million in North Kivu and 923,000 in Ituri, alongside 4.3 million returnees. Since 19 March, 306,631 persons have been newly displaced and 235,430 returned to their localities of origin or resettled.

40. Humanitarian actors continued to face constraints to safe and unimpeded access due to ongoing fighting, movement restrictions, administrative and logistical challenges, violence and Ebola-related restrictions. As at 30 April, 161 incidents affecting humanitarian personnel had been reported, including 2 individuals killed and 2 injured.

41. In North Kivu, renewed clashes continued to drive displacement and limit humanitarian access. Airstrikes along the Nyabiondo–Mutongo–Pinga axis between Masisi and Walikale territories on 13 June triggered new population movements. In Masisi, ongoing violence has forced the closure or inaccessibility of at least 30 schools, depriving around 12,000 students of education and further exacerbating protection concerns. In addition, ADF attacks near Beni town in late May and early June triggered additional displacement. In South Kivu, intensified clashes since 12 June in Fizi and Uvira territories have resulted in new displacement and severe access constraints, while in Shabunda, over 5,000 people have been displaced by recent armed attacks.

42. Food insecurity remained critical, with an estimated 26.6 million people facing crisis or worse levels. Public health conditions deteriorated, with 23,572 suspected cholera cases and 671 deaths reported nationwide, including 7,423 new infections and 245 deaths recorded since 12 March, marking one of the largest outbreaks recorded in recent years.

43. The Ebola outbreak declared on 15 May in Ituri has expanded rapidly, affecting 31 health zones across the provinces of Ituri, North Kivu and South Kivu. As at 16 June, a total of 808 confirmed cases and 192 confirmed deaths have been reported (case fatality rate: 23.1 per cent). The outbreak is caused by the Bundibugyo strain, for which no approved vaccine or specific treatment is currently available. The World Health Organization assessed the outbreak's risk as very high at the national level, and high for countries with land borders close to the epicentre, while the continental

and global risk remains low, reflecting significant concerns regarding its spread and operational challenges amid domestic and international movement restrictions that have disrupted humanitarian operations. On 7 June, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee activated a system-wide scale-up protocol for infectious disease control in the Democratic Republic of the Congo for an initial period of three months.

44. According to the 2026 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan, launched on 28 January, an estimated 14.9 million people required humanitarian assistance in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The humanitarian community requested \$1.4 billion to assist 7.3 million people with the most urgent needs. As at 16 June, \$739 million had been mobilized for the 2026 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan, representing 52.6 per cent of the requirement. In light of the recent Ebola outbreak, the Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan will be revised to reflect the impact of additional needs.

VI. Support to peace processes

A. Support to peace efforts

45. The Mission continued to support initiatives by the Interfaith Network for Peace in Ituri to de-escalate community tensions and land disputes in Tchabi, Irumu territory. The network facilitated the signing of unilateral commitments by two of the communities concerned to ease tensions, providing a basis for structured dialogue. The launch of the MONUSCO-supported interfaith network community dialogue process in Tchabi to initiate the restoration of social cohesion and peaceful coexistence between communities was delayed, however, due to movement restrictions linked to the Ebola outbreak.

46. On 2 and 3 June, the Ministry of the Interior, supported by MONUSCO and the United Nations Development Programme, finalized a draft ministerial decree providing for the institutionalization of the Ituri permanent dialogue mechanism. The mechanism aims to provide a structured, coherent and durable framework for engagement between State and civil society institutions on local conflict dynamics, including through the systematic follow-up of commitments, while strengthening provincial mediation capacities and promoting a coordinated approach to conflict resolution.

47. The Mission continued its good offices to support the Doha and Washington peace processes, including through participation as an observer in the Doha talks held in Montreux and in virtual meetings of the Ceasefire Oversight and Verification Mechanism held on 28 April and 27 May. MONUSCO also supported the African Union-led mediation through regular engagement with the co-facilitators and liaison with the African Union-led joint independent secretariat, including preparations for a visit to North Kivu and South Kivu of two co-facilitators, which had to be postponed due to the Ebola outbreak.

B. Support for the implementation of a permanent ceasefire

48. MONUSCO continued to support the operationalization of the Expanded Joint Verification Mechanism Plus. The newly appointed commander of the mechanism, Brigadier General Charles Simuyuni Nakeempa of Zambia, and his deputy, Colonel Arlindo Sebastião Van-Dúnem Fernandes of Angola, assumed their functions in Goma on 31 March. MONUSCO engaged with the mechanism's leadership to further define the modalities of its contribution to ceasefire monitoring efforts in North and South Kivu. MONUSCO and the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region have

also worked to update the existing memorandum of understanding to reflect the provision of support to the Expanded Joint Verification Mechanism Plus. The Mission provided logistical support, including office space and personal protective equipment.

49. The Special Representative held regular consultations with government interlocutors on mandate implementation and the Mission's support to ceasefire mechanisms. During visits to Goma from 24 to 26 April and from 10 to 12 June, the Special Representative also engaged with the leadership of AFC/M23 and the Expanded Joint Verification Mechanism Plus, underscoring the importance of operationalizing the mechanism and advancing confidence-building measures consistent with commitments made under the Doha process.

VII. Support for the stabilization and strengthening of State institutions and key governance and security sector reforms

A. Disarmament, demobilization, reintegration

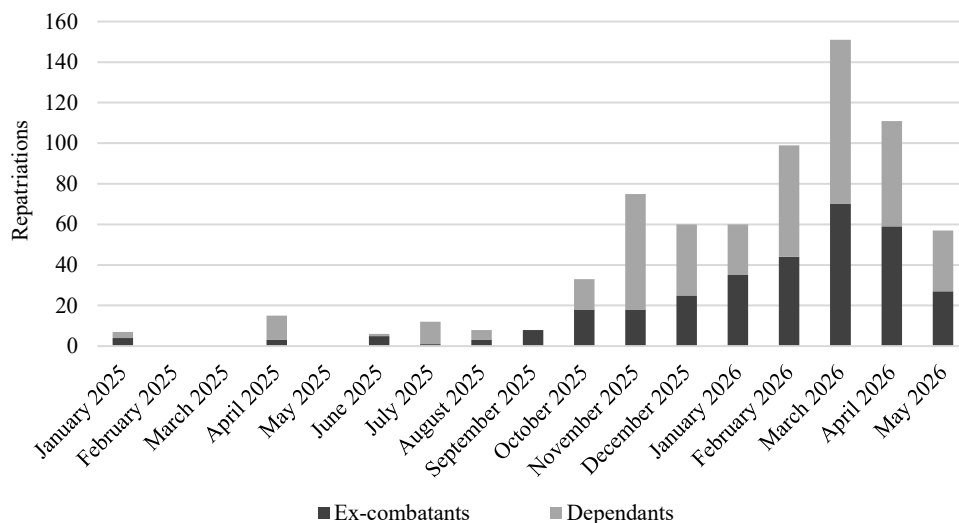
50. During the reporting period, MONUSCO supported the repatriation of 156 Rwandan ex-combatants and 163 dependants affiliated with the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda and other foreign armed groups to Rwanda, in collaboration with national and regional authorities. An additional 81 ex-combatants and dependants remained at the Sake transit camp, awaiting repatriation, owing to temporary Ebola-related restrictions on admission to Rwanda.

51. In March, the Mission initiated a project to support the repatriation of up to 700 ex-combatants and 2,000 dependants in North Kivu, focusing on community sensitization, safe and dignified return procedures, and cross-border coordination to support sustainable reintegration.

52. In April and May, MONUSCO launched four community violence reduction projects to support the disengagement of local and foreign armed groups, particularly the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda. These activities reached 3,376 community members, including 651 women and 1,630 young people, and advanced integrated community stabilization, economic recovery, social cohesion and community engagement.

53. In Ituri, MONUSCO completed three reinsertion projects in support of the national Disarmament, Demobilization, Community Recovery and Stabilization Programme, benefiting 221 ex-combatants, including 20 women, and 442 community members through road rehabilitation and economic subsistence initiatives. Three agricultural cooperatives were established, and 267 beneficiaries received training in fish farming and livestock activities to support sustainable livelihoods. The Mission also launched seven new community reinsertion and recovery projects on infrastructure rehabilitation, community reintegration and psychosocial support, targeting 786 beneficiaries, including 262 ex-combatants and 524 community members in Ituri Province and Beni territory.

Figure V

Total Mission-facilitated repatriations by type since January 2025

Source: MONUSCO/Disarmament, Demobilization, Reintegration and Stabilization.

B. Security sector reform and support to judicial system and fight against impunity

54. MONUSCO continued to provide strategic and technical support to the national authorities on security sector reform and governance, including through the joint biannual work plan between MONUSCO and the National Security Council, notably in advancing an inclusive process to draft the country's first national security policy. On 12 June, the Mission facilitated a high-level dialogue between the National Security Advisor and the diplomatic corps to facilitate an inclusive and coordinated national reform process. The Mission continued to provide technical support to the defence and security commissions of the National Assembly and the Senate, civil society organizations and security institutions on inclusive security governance.

55. On 30 March, MONUSCO supported a meeting of the women's advisory group on security sector reform, chaired by the Prime Minister, Judith Suminwa Tuluka, which focused on mainstreaming gender in the national security policy, the recommendations of the national assessment on barriers to women's participation in security institutions, and the implementation of the Government's commitments on the recruitment, retention and leadership of women. On 12 May, 120 women officers of the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Congolese National Police completed a three-month MONUSCO-supported computer training programme aimed at strengthening professional and administrative capacities.

56. To promote safe, secure and humane detention conditions, the Mission supported the drafting of regulations to operationalize the Prison Law of 15 June 2023, trained 53 prison personnel, including 11 women, in human resources management, and conducted a joint assessment of prison conditions in Djugu and Beni towns together with the national authorities. Together with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, MONUSCO trained one investigator and two law officers on integrated intelligence, investigation and case management systems. A retreat with national prison authorities held from 27 March to 2 April resulted in a plan to align the new prison structure with the current legislative framework.

57. The Mission provided information and telecommunications equipment to strengthen surveillance systems and digitization in four priority prisons and equipped a penitentiary ward with 23 beds at the Beni general hospital.

58. MONUSCO also provided technical support to the national coordination mechanism on military justice through capacity-building on investigations for serious crimes, digitization and partner coordination to address operational and resource gaps. From 23 to 29 March, military jurisdictions in Beni and Bunia updated their prosecution prioritization strategies for serious crimes, including sexual violence and crimes committed against peacekeepers, with support from MONUSCO, the wider United Nations system and external partners.

59. To reduce pretrial detention, in Beni, Bunia, Irumu and Mahagi, MONUSCO supported three court inspections and 28 inspections of detention cells, leading to the release of 107 individuals (27 women and one child). In addition, following MONUSCO advocacy in the context of the Ebola outbreak, nine children were released from Bunia prison.

60. MONUSCO supported four mobile courts in Beni, Bunia, Butembo and Mambasa, resulting in 145 convictions, including 60 members of the national security forces; 51 individuals were convicted of sexual violence crimes. In total, 34 individuals were acquitted and at least 19 individuals died in custody prior to their case being adjudicated. The High Military Court upheld the convictions of two military officials for war crimes in an attack against a humanitarian convoy in Djugu territory in October 2021 and awarded damages to 102 civil parties in the case. On 5 June, in Kinshasa, the High Military Court sentenced 54 individuals, including one military officer, to death for war crimes in the killing of two United Nations experts in March 2017 in Kasaï Province.

61. The Mission also supported the implementation of the 2024–2026 United Nations Joint Police Reform Support Programme. In collaboration with the International Organization for Migration, the MONUSCO police component trained the mining police in Bunia to enhance security oversight in extractive zones. It delivered nine targeted training sessions in Beni, Bunia and Kinshasa on investigative procedures, legal classification of offences and first response, benefiting 200 police officers, including 46 women. MONUSCO also provided the national coordination of the judicial police with four modular offices, information and communications technology equipment, and three forensic kits, which supported the review of 94 organized crime cases, including 56 deemed ready for prosecution.

VIII. Gradual, responsible and sustainable transition

62. The joint technical secretariat, established by the Mission and the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, held regular sessions to ensure joint planning for a phased and responsible transition. During the reporting period, the secretariat advanced the development of a draft joint workplan to guide transition priorities and coordinated partnership. On 12 June, the steering committee of the joint justice programme – comprising the Minister of Justice, MONUSCO, six United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, and bilateral partners – validated the programme’s annual workplan in support of institutional justice reform. The deterioration of the security situation in North and South Kivu, as well as continuous insecurity in Ituri and the Ebola outbreak, underscore the need for an adaptive transition approach that responds to political, security and operational dynamics.

IX. Mission effectiveness

A. Mission performance (military, police and civilian personnel)

63. MONUSCO sustained mandate delivery under significant operational and resource constraints, including through the realignment of its footprint in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo. This involved the relocation of key functions and personnel from Goma to Beni, the reinforcement of critical infrastructure in Beni and Goma in North Kivu and Bunia in Ituri, and the maintenance of essential logistical support to enable operational continuity and sustained presence in priority areas such as Beni, Bunia and Eringeti.

64. Operational constraints persisted, particularly in areas of North Kivu under AFC/M23 control, where limitations on access and freedom of movement continued to affect the Mission's reach, as did the continued suspension of banking and airport operations in Goma. Progress was nonetheless recorded in facilitating troop rotations and repatriations in the Mission's central sector. The implementation of the contingency plan resulted in reduced enabling capacities, including intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, early warning, medical support and human rights monitoring. That increased operational risks and constrained delivery across the full scope of mandated tasks. In that context, the Mission adopted a more risk-informed approach to prioritization and operational management.

Military component

65. MONUSCO deployed 7,940 troops (599 women) and 294 United Nations military experts on mission (64 women), against an authorized strength of 11,500 troops and 600 military experts. Targeted adjustments were made to the Mission's force posture in Ituri and North Kivu to consolidate limited resources and preserve the Mission's capacity to protect civilians and secure key internally displaced persons sites following the implementation of the liquidity contingency plans. MONUSCO maintained strategic positions around Goma, Kitshanga and Kiwanja to facilitate the voluntary disarmament, demobilization and repatriation of elements of the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda.

66. In line with its Action for Peacekeeping Plus commitments, MONUSCO conducted evaluations of five military units, with tailored performance improvement plans developed for each one to address identified gaps and strengthen operational effectiveness.

Police component

67. The police component deployed 855 personnel, comprising 161 individual police officers from 26 police-contributing countries and 688 formed police unit personnel. Women represented 36 per cent of individual police officers and 16 per cent of formed police unit personnel. The international civilian staff of the police component comprised six personnel, including three women.

68. The performance rating of individual police officers increased to 75 per cent, representing a marginal improvement compared with the previous reporting period, attributable to targeted training sessions, particularly on the protection of civilians, impact assessment and evaluation, leadership and management, as well as the operational readiness of recently deployed personnel.

69. During the reporting period, all formed police units completed performance assessment and evaluation reports, achieving an overall rating of "good", an improvement from the previous rating of "satisfactory", reflecting strengthened

logistical arrangements, improved infrastructure, including enhanced facilities for female personnel, and sustained training efforts. In parallel, the relocation of formed police unit personnel and equipment to a new site in Goma improved operational readiness and command-and-control efficiency, while enhancing personnel well-being.

Civilian component

70. As at 31 May, 1,475 civilian personnel (25.6 per cent women), including 183 United Nations Volunteers (50.3 per cent women) and 37 government-provided personnel (35.1 per cent women), were serving with MONUSCO. The implementation of liquidity contingency measures continued to affect the Mission's workforce composition, in particular gender parity and workforce rejuvenation.

B. Strategic communications

71. MONUSCO maintained regular engagement with national and international media through press briefings, interviews, stakeouts and proactive outreach to promote accurate reporting and provide verified context during sensitive developments. The Multimedia Section produced and disseminated content focused on the Mission's operational activities and impact, with particular emphasis on the protection of civilians, support for peace efforts and community engagement. Through coordinated digital storytelling across platforms, the Mission increased reach and audience engagement while contributing to the prevention and correction of misleading narratives.

72. To support community radios in remote areas, the Mission facilitated the handover of solar panels and satellite connections to 29 community radios in 26 locations, such as Kwango, Mai-Ndombe, Mongala and Tshuapa, across 20 provinces, which agreed to relay Radio Okapi content. To consolidate reach and access to its content, Radio Okapi secured agreements with two satellite broadcasting platforms and, to further attract a broader audience, the radio introduced Lingala language in its morning show.

73. Compared with the previous reporting period, digital content hostile to MONUSCO decreased by approximately 25 per cent, despite continuing campaigns aimed at discrediting the Mission's actions and leadership. To counter hate speech and disinformation, and promote fact checking, MONUSCO engaged the Ministry of Digital Affairs and civil society organizations in support of a digital ethics charter.

C. Serious misconduct, including sexual exploitation and abuse

74. From 1 March to 31 May, the Mission conducted 142 training sessions on United Nations standards of conduct, focusing on the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse. Of the 6,003 military, police and civilian personnel who attended, 5,399 were men and 604 were women.

75. MONUSCO organized seven outreach events to inform local populations about the United Nations strategy and related measures to address sexual exploitation and abuse, reaching 935 participants, including 523 women. The Mission conducted nine visits to police and military camps throughout the area of operations to assess potential risks related to sexual exploitation and abuse. During the reporting period, one allegation of sexual exploitation and abuse was recorded, involving one former civilian personnel, reportedly occurring between 2017 and 2023.

76. The Mission maintained its established referral pathway, directing victims of sexual exploitation and abuse to the United Nations Population Fund and the UNICEF

for appropriate assistance. The Mission also collaborated closely with United Nations Headquarters to facilitate paternity and child-support claims submitted by victims. The Mission maintained regular engagement with victims on the disciplinary and parental aspects of their cases.

X. Safety and security of United Nations personnel

77. During the reporting period, 173 security incidents affecting United Nations security management system personnel and premises were recorded, 9 of which affected women. The Mission strengthened movement controls, low-profile measures and continuous coordination with relevant authorities to mitigate the risk to United Nations personnel and property.

78. In Djugu, MONUSCO premises came under crossfire during hostilities between the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and CRP, staff received death threats from CRP elements at Bayoo and Djaiba bases, and one MONUSCO staff residence in Bunia was broken into. On 23 March, a MONUSCO national staff member and his daughter were shot and wounded by an Armed Forces soldier in Bunia. In North Kivu, one United Nations national staff member was illegally detained for four days at Grande Barrière in Goma, while another was summoned by AFC/M23 in Goma. The Mission continued frequent route reassessments, temporary movement suspensions, and other security advisories and recommendations in affected locations.

79. Following the declaration of the Ebola virus disease outbreak, three separate teams of United Nations security management system staff have been threatened by civilians in the course of supporting Ebola response teams. Land and air border closures with neighbouring countries have also impacted staff movements. MONUSCO has been working closely with the United Nations country team and all national and regional stakeholders to find sustainable solutions and enable the resumption of routine staff movements in full compliance with relevant Ebola-related travel measures in place.

XI. Observations

80. I welcome the continued dialogue and engagements between the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and AFC/M23 under the auspices of the Doha framework. Progress made towards the signing of the protocol on humanitarian access and judicial protection should be sustained. I therefore encourage the signatories to maintain their commitment in order to progress quickly on the remaining protocols, including on humanitarian aspects. I further urge all parties to strengthen momentum in favour of de-escalation and work towards a permanent ceasefire as a critical step to restore durable peace.

81. In this context, I commend the United States, Qatar and the African Union for their unwavering commitment to peace and prosperity in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the wider Great Lakes region, and welcome the support of Switzerland for the Doha process.

82. The agreement to operationalize the Expanded Joint Verification Mechanism Plus, with the support of MONUSCO, is a welcome development. I encourage the parties to build on this momentum to ensure a permanent and verifiable ceasefire, finalize the remaining protocols under the Doha framework, and allow the implementation of the Washington agreements and the process being led by the African Union.

83. I urge rapid progress to permit the Expanded Joint Verification Mechanism Plus to commence its operations and reiterate my calls for full freedom of movement for MONUSCO personnel, assets and supplies in North and South Kivu in the context of the implementation of its mandate. I also underscore the need for air access to Goma and Kavumu airports, as well as relevant landing sites and United Nations installations, unhindered medical evacuations, uninterrupted fuel supply lines, the provision of timely flight clearances and the cessation of offensive drone activities and GPS spoofing and jamming.

84. I call on all parties to fully comply with their commitments under Security Council resolutions [2773 \(2025\)](#) and [2808 \(2025\)](#), which reaffirm respect for the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. I also call for the full respect and implementation of the ceasefire agreed to under the Doha process and therefore renew my calls for an immediate cessation of hostilities, including the use of heavy weapons and drone strikes in populated areas, and for all parties to refrain from actions that escalate tensions and undermine the peace process.

85. I remain deeply concerned by the continued violence to which civilians are subjected across North Kivu, South Kivu and Ituri. Armed groups continue to perpetrate killings, abductions, forced recruitment and sexual violence. Violations by State actors are also a source of serious concern. I strongly condemn these acts and call on all parties to comply with international humanitarian and human rights law. I further urge the authorities of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to intensify efforts to investigate all allegations and ensure those responsible are brought to account.

86. The humanitarian situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo remains one of the most severe crises globally, driven by continued conflict, mass displacement and returns, as well as restricted access. The spreading Ebola virus disease outbreak, in a context of significant cutbacks in humanitarian funding, places millions at risk inside the country and the surrounding region. The continued closure of Goma and Kavumu airports and restrictions on the freedom of movement of peacekeepers and humanitarian workers in areas under the control of AFC/M23 threatens to weaken efforts to contain the spread of the deadly virus. I call upon all parties to comply with international humanitarian law, ensure safe, rapid and unhindered access for humanitarian actors, and respect the civilian character of displacement sites. I also urge Member States and partners to increase financial support for the humanitarian response, including efforts to stem the spread of Ebola.

87. I am concerned by heightened political tensions at the national level and increasing reports of restrictions on political and civic space, including incidents during the demonstration held on 12 June in Kinshasa. I take note of the Government's commitment to investigate those incidents and encourage the Government to conduct its investigations in a timely and transparent manner, in line with due process. I welcome the commitments to dialogue expressed by the President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and a broad array of Congolese political leaders. I commend the efforts undertaken to date by the President of Angola to facilitate inclusive inter-Congolese talks and I encourage continued efforts by all stakeholders to foster consensus on the way forward.

88. MONUSCO continues to implement its mandate in a complex and highly fluid operating environment and under financial pressure. The Mission has taken steps to adjust and ensure the continued implementation of its priority tasks, while providing support to ceasefire monitoring and verification efforts in North and South Kivu. However, the Mission's ability to deliver on the expectations of the Security Council will depend on the timely provision of adequate resources and the continued

engagement of Council members and key partners in support of ongoing diplomatic efforts.

89. I express my appreciation to the Special Representative, James Swan, and all United Nations personnel for their dedication under difficult circumstances, including all those engaged in supporting the Congolese authorities in the fight against the Ebola virus disease outbreak, for their courageous commitment to the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

