



## Press Release

**MINURCAT/PR/005/03/2008**

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### **Visit of SRSG Victor Angelo to Central African Republic**

**N'Djamena, Chad** – The Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) in Chad, Mr. Victor Angelo, visited the Central African Republic on 19-20 March 2008, and met with the authorities of the country as well as with representatives of the five Permanent members of the Security Council residing in Bangui, members of the diplomatic corps, and his counterparts of the UN system in the capital Bangui.

Mr. Angelo raised three major concerns which he intends to address immediately, including a speedy deployment of MINURCAT in Chad and Central African Republic, the improvement of the security situation in eastern Chad and northeastern Central African Republic, and the development of a close collaboration between MINURCAT and all stakeholders involved in both countries.

The SRSG said the Mission was planning to open a Liaison Office in Birao, northeastern Central African Republic, comprising three UN Police, four Security Officers, five Military Liaison Officers, and three Civil Affairs Officers. An assessment mission is expected to arrive in the area on 26 March 2008 to prepare for the establishment of the Office. Mr. Angelo expressed his wish to work closely with Central African authorities in order to end insecurity. He, however, cautioned that MINURCAT would work strictly in the framework of the Security Council Resolution 1778 (2007) which authorizes the Mission to provide security for refugees inside the camps and in well-identified sites of Internally Displaced People in both Central African Republic and Chad.

He urged the Five Permanent members of the Security Council to do more toward strengthening MINURCAT in terms police and military capability. Mr. Angelo stressed that his intention is to show, as soon as possible, concrete results on the ground as a way of building confidence and trust between the local populations and the Mission.

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