



## Press Release

**MINURCAT/PR/015/08/2008**

### **Maj-Gen Gerardo Chaumont Assumes his Duties as MINURCAT's New Police Commissioner**

**N'Djamena, 15 August 2008** – Major-General Gerardo Christian Chaumont of Argentina assumes his duties today as Chief of the Police of the United Nations Mission in Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT). He succeeds Acting Police Commissioner, Antero Lopes, from Portugal, who left the Mission on 14 August 2008 after more than six months of service.

Prior to his arrival in Chad, Maj-Gen Chaumont served as Police Commissioner in the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (ONUCI) from 10 April 2006 to 6 June 2008 and in the United Nations Operation in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUC) from June to December 2002. He was also Chief of the Police Support Team in the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) in June 2005, and has served in the United States, France and Chile.

An officer of the gendarmerie, where he was in the Second Section of general officers, Maj-Gen Chaumont, left active service as Deputy National Director of the Argentinean Gendarmerie in 2006.

The new UN Police Chief of MINURCAT, who pursued higher education in his country, holds a BA in Psychology, a Certificate of Higher Military Studies of the French Gendarmerie (1990), a Higher Diploma from the Military Academy in Paris (1989), and a Certificate in Drugs Control from the Drug Enforcement Administration in the United States.

The Maj-Gen has been decorated with the medal of the French National Gendarmerie and received the United Nations Medal three times. He is married and father of three children.

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