



Press Release

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Arrival of the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General in N'Djamena to Take up his Duties

N'Djamena, Chad – Mr. Victor Angelo, the newly-appointed Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) and Head of the United Nations Mission in Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT), arrived in N'Djamena on 7 March 2008. The SRSG was greeted at the airport by Mr. Youssouf Saleh Abbas, Minister of State and Special Representative of the President of the Republic for MINURCAT and the European peacekeeping force (EUFOR), by members of EUFOR, and senior representatives of MINURCAT.

The SRSG commented that he was pleased to be in Chad, and noted the urgency for MINURCAT to deploy in eastern Chad and Central African Republic as soon as possible, following EUFOR presence in these areas. Mr. Angelo also said it is essential to coordinate MINURCAT's efforts with those of EUFOR, the authorities of Chad, the Central African Republic, the UN Country Team, the humanitarian community, and the diplomatic corps. "A shared vision and good collaboration will allow us to achieve the expected results," Mr. Angelo said.

The SRSG declared that he would seek to work closely with countries contributing to EUFOR and MINURCAT, the members of the Security Council, and the African Union. He observed that MINURCAT and EUFOR were linked inextricably by Security Council Resolution 1778 (2007), and that the success of one was tied to the success of the other. He finally noted that it will be important for MINURCAT to ensure that the integrity and credibility of the UN are unquestionable, and this, he said, "will start with proper implementation of the Mission's mandate".

Mr. Angelo was appointed by the Secretary-General of the UN on 28 January 2008, and assumed his function on 25 February 2008 prior to his arrival in Chad. He has had a long and distinguished career with the United Nations. Most recently, he was the Executive Representative of the Secretary-General for Sierra Leone and the Resident Coordinator of the UN System in Freetown.

For more information, please contact:

Penangnini TOURE, Spokesperson

Email: tourep@un.org – Intermission: 194 6553 – Mobile: +235 690 0034