

Elements to the Press

The members of the Security Council met today for their first video-conference on the United Nations Organisation Stabilisation Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo, with the participation of the Special Representative of the Secretary General, Leila Zerrougui, and Undersecretary General for peace operations, Jean-Pierre Lacroix.

They recognized the improved political and security situation in most parts of the country, and stressed that the continued cooperation between members of the ruling coalition and their commitment to broad political dialogue are critical to further normalization in the country and encouraged the DRC government to continue its efforts for political reforms.

They expressed concern at the continued instability in the East of the country. They welcomed the Government's commitment to work with MONUSCO in addressing the security challenges, including through the planning and conduct of joint military operations.

They welcomed MONUSCO's efforts to adapt to the changing environment in the DRC and called on TCC/PCCS to improve its overall efficiency

They welcomed the important role played by regional member states, as well as regional and sub-regional organisations including the AU, SADC and ICGLR

They encouraged the Government to engage with the Security Council and the Secretariat on working on the transition compact for a sustainable exit of MONUSCO, including a joint strategy and benchmarks for drawdown.

They expressed concern at the current humanitarian situation, especially the current measles epidemic, and called on partners to step up their support. They welcomed the progress made on combating the Ebola virus, noting the absence of new cases over the last month.

They welcomed the steps taken by the Congolese authorities to contain COVID-19, and called on the United Nations to continue working with the Congolese authorities to prevent the further spread of the virus, while ensuring the safety and security of UN personnel.

They reiterated its calls on the international community for capacity building and support to the Government of DRC.