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Stabilisation en Haïti

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**PRESS RELEASE**

***MINUSTAH Press Conference: Security Council meeting in New York and security operations in Haiti***

*Port-au-Prince, 12 January 2005* – The United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) held a Press Conference on 12 January, to inform the population about the Security Council meeting on Haiti held in New York and to provide an update on the security situation in Haiti after the latest operations conducted in Port-au-Prince and throughout the country.

“Both the Special Representative of the Secretary-General to the United Nations Mission in Haiti, Juan Gabriel Valdes, and the Haitian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Yvon Simeon, participated in the Security Council meeting in New York, which was held especially for Haiti,” said Sophie Boutaud de la Combe, Officer for Public Outreach and Advocacy at MINUSTAH’s Office of Public Information and Communication.

The meeting – attended by the Brazilian, Argentinean and Chilean Foreign Affairs Ministers – aimed at “underscoring the donor’s strong engagement on elections and on the reconstruction of Haiti”, added Boutaud de la Combe.

During the press conference, MINUSTAH’s Force Commander, Lieutenant General Augusto Heleno Ribeiro Pereira, briefed both national and international press on the results of the latest security and clean-up operations in Cite Soleil and Bel Air and on the reconstruction of “route de rails” in the neighborhood of Carrefour. According to General Heleno, these operations are contributing immensely to the return of stability in the country.

“Security measures are also being taken in order to secure the population during the upcoming Carnival celebrations and to protect election candidates during their electoral campaigns”, added MINUSTAH’s Force Commander.

“Health and education programmes, which were previously blocked due to insecurity, are now operational and will provide long-term stabilization in these districts and their neighbors so that, finally, life in Haiti can improve”, remarked Mrs. Boutaud de la Combe.

*For additional information, please contact MINUSTAH’s Office of Communication and Public Information at tel.: (509) 510-2563 ext.: 6343 or 510- 3183/84/85 ext.: 6037- 6034-6035 or consult the Mission’s Internet site at <http://www.minustah.org>.*

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