



PRESS RELEASE

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United Nations Assistant Secretary-General and Director of the Africa Regional Office of UNDP Visits Burundi

Bujumbura, Burundi – Mr. Gilbert Fossoun Hougbo, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General, Deputy Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Director of the Africa Regional Office of UNDP, is on a working visit to Burundi from 21 to 24 May 2006.


Mr. Hougbo, who arrived in Bujumbura this morning, was received by a group of officials comprising the Minister of Information, Communication, Relations with Parliament and Spokesman of the Government, the Minister of the Interior, the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of External Relations and International Cooperation, the Ambassador of Tanzania to Burundi, and members of the United Nations system, including Ambassador Nureldin Satti, Acting Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in Burundi.

Answering questions from journalists on the purpose of his visit, Mr. Hougbo said that he was bearer of a message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations to Burundian authorities. The Assistant Secretary-General added that his visit had to do with “discussing about how the Government and people of Burundi and the United Nations can continue to cooperate better to maximize the benefits of such cooperation in the interest of Burundians.”

Mr. Hougbo will be granted audience by the President of the Republic and will meet several members of government, including the two Vice-Presidents and the Minister of Information, Communication, Relations with Parliament and Spokesman of the Government. He will also hold working sessions with his colleagues of the United Nations system and Burundi's partners and donors.

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