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UN Volunteers Programme Executive Coordinator visits Sudan

UN Volunteers (UNV) Programme Executive Coordinator, Flavia Pansieri, currently on a five-day familiarization visit to the Sudan, arrived in Khartoum on 14 February. During her stay she will meet with over 260 UNV volunteers, including 26 Sudanese, who are serving with various substantive and administration units of the UN Mission in Sudan (UNMIS).

These volunteers, men and women from 60 countries, bring a host of skills and experience across many professional fields to UNMIS activities. From human rights and civil affairs to medical, engineering and aviation, UNV volunteers comprise an invaluable asset for the mission and, more importantly, for the people of Sudan.

While in the Sudan, Ms. Pansieri and her team from UNV's Bonn Headquarters in Germany, will meet with senior officials from UNMIS and other UN agencies, as well as with senior Governmental officials in Khartoum and Juba.

Yesterday, when they met at UNMIS Headquarters in Khartoum, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Ashraf Qazi, told Ms. Pansieri of the mission's great appreciation for the volunteer programme and the UNV volunteers serving with UNMIS throughout the Sudan. "These people are dedicated idealists", he said. "They exemplify the core values of the UN and we are proud of them."

"Visiting volunteers in the field is always a great inspiration. What greater testament to humanity and solidarity is there than the spirit of volunteerism", Ms. Pansieri noted.

She said she had been gratified to receive so much positive feedback in the course of her visit about the work of the UNV volunteers and their contribution to make a reality of the mission's mandate to support the Comprehensive Peace Agreement.



UNV Executive Coordinator, Flavia Pansieri (R) with UNMIS SRSG, Ashraf Qazi (L)

Photo: Johann Hattingh/UNMIS

UNV Volunteers in UNMIS



UNV Medical Officer examining a patient in Malakal



UNV heavy duty drivers and mechanics assisting the construction of the Yei – Kaya road



UNV Air Operations assistant on duty



UNV Civil Affairs Officer giving a lecture on the CPA in Abyei

For more information on the UNV programme and ways to volunteer within the UN access the www.unvolunteers.org webpage.

UNMIS Photo Releases are posted on www.unmis.org

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