First Meeting of the Ceasefire Joint Military Committee

JUBA, 7 May 2005: The first meeting of the Ceasefire Joint Military Committee (CJMC), including representatives from the Government of Sudan, the SPLM/A and the United Nations, will be held here on Sunday 8th May. The Committee forms a key part of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), signed by the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement in Naivasha, on 9 January 2005. It will hold its first meeting on schedule, exactly 45 days after the UNMIS mandate came into effect. The Committee will be chaired by the United Nations Force Commander, Major-General Fazle Elahi Akbar.

In line with paragraph 14.6 of the CPA, the CJMC will be permanently located in Juba. As well as the UN Force Commander and Deputy Force Commander, the parties to the CPA will nominate three military officers each to the committee, from the Sudan Armed Forces and the Sudan People’s Liberation Army. In addition each party will also nominate a senior security/police officer.

The CJMC, will report to the Ceasefire Political Commission, and will plan and implement the tasks assigned to the military under the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. These tasks include the monitoring of troop locations, troop strengths, the stocks of weapons and ammunition held by the two armed forces and the formation of the military Joint Integrated Units.

The CJMC will also oversee and coordinate other military tasks mandated under the CPA. These include mine clearance activities, to be carried out by both parties and the overall monitoring of the peace agreement between the parties.