



UNMIS

## Office of the Spokesperson

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### **The UN strongly condemns attack on a Joint Monitoring Team near Malakal as a serious violation of the Ceasefire.**

**20 August 2006, Khartoum-Juba-Malakal:** The United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) condemns the deliberate attack by unidentified armed men on a Joint Monitoring Team on 17 August in the area of Phom El Zeraf, near Malakal. Two UNMIS Force Protection soldiers and a Sudanese Armed Forces National Monitor were injured in the attack.

The Joint Monitoring Team, comprising three UN Military Observers, two National Monitors, one interpreter and a UN Force Protection Team composed of one Officer and five soldiers, was patrolling the River Nile between Malakal and Phom El Zeraf on Fast Patrol Boats when it came under small arms fire from the Southern bank of the River near Dor. The injured were evacuated to the level II Indian Contingent hospital in Malakal and their condition is stable.

The Ceasefire Joint Military Commission, which was meeting in Juba at the time, was immediately informed of the attack, which it condemned, and the Malakal Area Joint Military Committee has started a detailed investigation to identify the perpetrators of the attack and bring them to justice.

The parties to the CPA are responsible for the safety and security of the Mission's personnel, and for definitively resolving the issue of the Other Armed Groups (OAGs) within the OAGs Collaborative Committee.

UNMIS considers the attack on the Joint Monitoring Team a serious violation of the Ceasefire, and calls on the two parties to the CPA to ensure that the perpetrators are held to account, and that such incidents do not occur in the future.

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