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The UN Mission in Sudan condemns the killing of AMIS peacekeepers and the attack on an African Union Mission helicopter

Khartoum, 2 April 2007: The United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) strongly condemns the killing of five (5) peacekeepers of the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) during an unprovoked attack on 1 April by unidentified armed men on an AMIS contingent guarding a water point in Um Baru, 220 km from El Fasher.

UNMIS extends its condolences to AMIS and to the families of the soldiers who lost their lives in the line of duty.

UNMIS also condemns the attack on 31 March by unidentified armed men on an AMIS helicopter, which was carrying the AMIS Deputy Force Commander and his team from Zalingei to El Fasher, at the Kurni area in West Darfur.

UNMIS expresses deep concern at the attacks targeting AMIS and calls on all parties to the Darfur conflict to respect the neutral and impartial role of the African peacekeeping mission and recalls that any attack against the African Union personnel deployed in Darfur is a serious violation of international law and relevant resolutions of the United Nations Security Council.

UNMIS stresses the urgent need to identify those responsible for the attacks on AMIS and to hold them accountable to the fullest extent of the law.

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