



## **Timeline of International Response to the Situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo**

This timeline provides a chronological list of the major responses and policy actions by key international actors to the crisis in the Democratic Republic of the Congo since renewed conflict emerged in early 2012. *Updated 9 February 2016*

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### **Acronyms:**

**ADF-Nalu** – Allied Democratic Forces-National Army for the Liberation of Uganda  
**APCLS** – Alliance of Patriots for a Free and Sovereign Congo  
**AU** – African Union  
**CAR** – Central African Republic  
**CNDP** – National Congress for the Defense of the People  
**DPKO** – United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations  
**DRC** – Democratic Republic of the Congo  
**EP** – European Parliament  
**EU** – European Union  
**FARDC** – Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo  
**FDLR** – Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda  
**FPLC** – Patriotic Forces for the Liberation of the Democratic Republic of the Congo  
**ICC** – International Criminal Court  
**ICGLR** – International Conference for the Great Lakes Region  
**IDP** – Internally Displaced Person  
**LRA** – Lord’s Resistance Army

**M23** – March 23 Movement  
**MAT** – Military Assessment Team  
**MONUSCO** – United Nations Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo  
**OCHA** – United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs  
**OHCHR** – United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights  
**SADC** – South African Development Community  
**UN** – United Nations  
**UNHCR** – United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees  
**UNICEF** – United Nations Children’s Fund  
**UNJHRO** – United Nations Joint Human Rights Office in the Democratic Republic of the Congo  
**UNSC** – United Nations Security Council  
**UK** – United Kingdom  
**US** – United States of America  
**WB** – World Bank  
**WFP** – United Nations World Food Programme

## **January 2012**

### **9 January 2012**

- **MONUSCO** – MONUSCO condemns attacks against civilians by members of an armed group in remote villages in South Kivu, during which at least 45 people were killed. The week prior, MONUSCO organized the air evacuation of 13 severely injured civilians to Bukavu with the assistance of partner relief agencies. ([Source](#))

### **13 January 2012**

- **Secretary-General** – The Report of the Secretary-General on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (A/66/657\*-S/2012/33\*) is released, which reports on acts of sexual violence such as mass rapes that took place in North and South Kivu in the eastern DRC. ([Report](#))

### **18 January 2012**

- **UN Committee on the Rights of the Child** – The committee held a session considering the report of the government of the DRC on its progress in implementing the Optional Protocol on the Convention on the Rights of the Child on children involved in armed conflict. ([Source](#))

### **20 January 2012**

- **UNHCR** – The UNHCR voice concern and reports that more than 100,000 civilians have fled their homes in the provinces of North Kivu and South Kivu since November. ([Source](#))

### **25 January 2012**

- **Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations** – During an official visit to the DRC, Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations Hervé Ladsous stresses the need for stability and reconciliation in the region, including renewed respect for the rule of law. ([Source](#))

### **January 26 2012**

- **Secretary-General** – The Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (S/2012/65) is released. ([Report](#))

## **February 2012**

### **3 February 2012**

- **UNHCR** – The UNHCR denounces alleged reports that internally displaced persons (IDPs) have been both tortured and killed in their camps by armed groups. ([Source](#))

### **7 February 2012**

- **The Secretary-General's Special Representative for DRC** – The Secretary-General's Special Representative for DRC Roger Meece stresses that post-election reconciliation must be based on legal means and dialogue, not violent confrontation. He also admits, “The elections themselves were marked by numerous problems,” such as late procurement and delivery of vital election materials and difficulties during verification of vote counting. ([Source](#))

### **8 February 2012**

- **Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations** – Noting that MONUSCO provided technical and logistical support to the organization of presidential and parliamentary elections in 2011, Hervé Ladsous emphasizes the need to boost the peacekeeping mission in order to ensure the successful facilitation of the next phase of the country's elections. ([Source](#))

### **9-10 February 2012**

- **International Contact Group on the Great Lakes Region** – The International Contact Group on the Great Lakes Region meets at the Department of State in Washington, DC. ([Source](#))

## **March 2012**

### **6 March 2012**

- **UNHCR** – The United Nations refugee agency states that fresh attacks by the Ugandan rebel LRA in the Orientale province of the DRC have created 3,000 displaced civilians. ([Source](#))

### **7 March 2012**

- **Ukraine** – Ukraine contributes four Mi-24 attack helicopters to MONUSCO and enhances the force's capacity to protect civilians. ([Source](#))

### **9 March 2012**

- **UNHCR** – The UNHCR reports that since the beginning of this year, over 3,000 civilians have fled the North Kivu province of DRC to enter southwestern Uganda. Most refugees are farmers and recount experiences of abductions, looting, and sexual violence. ([Source](#))

### **14 March 2012**

- **ICC** – The ICC finds Congolese warlord Thomas Lubanga Dyilo guilty of recruiting child soldiers into the FPLC, and using them in conflicts in northeastern DRC from September 2002 to August 2003. The verdict is the first ever issued in the history of the ICC. ([Source](#)) ([Official Verdict](#))
- **MONUSCO** – Lieutenant Colonel Idrissa Muradadi turns himself in to the joint forces of MONUSCO and FARDC. Muradadi was former commander of the FDLR, which continues to be active in the eastern DRC. ([Source](#))

- **OHCHR** – UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay released a statement hailing the Lubanga verdict as a “major milestone in fight against impunity.” ([Source](#))

#### **16 March 2012**

- **UNSC** – The UNSC releases a press statement to note with appreciation the first verdict of the ICC on Congolese warlord Thomas Lubanga Dyilo. ([Source](#))

#### **20 March 2012**

- **UNJHRO** – A report by the UNJHRO reveals that Congolese security forces committed killings, disappearances, and arbitrary detentions during the DRC’s 2011 presidential and legislative elections. ([Report](#))

### **April 2012**

#### **20 April 2012**

- **UNSC** – UNSC members attend an Arria Formula meeting on security sector reform in the DRC. ([Source](#))

### **May 2012**

#### **2-10 May 2012**

- **UN Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights** – UN Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights Ivan Šimonović visits South Kivu, Kasai Occidental and Kinshasa to hold discussions with Congolese authorities, officials of MONUSCO, UN agencies, and NGOs. ([Source](#))

#### **3 May 2012**

- **UNSC** – After a briefing by Hervé Ladsous, the UNSC releases a press statement stressing its serious concern over recent attacks by the CNDP and urging the DRC to develop a national security sector development strategy. ([Source](#))
- **The Secretary-General’s Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict** – The Secretary-General’s Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict Margot Wallström calls all parties in the DRC to refrain from any acts of violence, especially in light of ongoing sexual violence committed against civilians by members of armed groups. ([Source](#))

#### **4 May 2012**

- **UNHCR** – While UNHCR urgently responds to the more than 300,000 people who have been displaced in North Kivu and South Kivu so far this year, and the recent influx as a result of the CNDP attacks, it appealed to all sides of the conflict to allow humanitarian access and urged provincial authorities to increase security around displacement camps.

### 10 May 2012

- **UN Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights** – UN Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights Ivan Šimonović released a statement raising grave concern regarding the activities of armed groups, including the FDLR, LRA, and Mayi-Mayi militias. ([Source](#))

### 14 May 2012

- **ICC** – The Prosecutor of the ICC, Luis Moreno-Ocampo, announces that he is seeking new charges against Congolese rebel leader Bosco Ntaganda as well as Sylvestre Mudacumura, supreme commander of the Rwandan rebel group known as the FDLR. ([Source](#))
- **UNSC** – The UNSC condemns “in the strongest terms” the 14 May 2012 attack on the MONUSCO base in South Kivu province, in which at least 11 Pakistani peacekeepers were seriously wounded. MONUSCO states that elements of the Mayi-Mayi group, Rai Mutomboki, may have been part of the attackers that fired on the peacekeepers. ([Source](#)) ([Official UNSC Press Release](#))

### 16 May 2012

- **UNHCR** – High Commissioner António Guterres voices his renewed alarm at inflows of refugees from the DRC into Rwanda and Uganda. The UNHCR reports that more than 8,200 refugees have crossed into Rwanda since 27 April 2012, and that 30,000 refugees have arrived in Uganda in May alone. ([Source](#))

### 22 May 2012

- **MONUSCO** – MONUSCO pledges to uphold civilian protection measures following new outbreaks of violence originating from actions instigated by Bosco Ntaganda resulting in a mutiny of troops integrated into FARDC. ([Source](#))

### 23 May 2012

- **Secretary-General** – The Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (S/2012/355) is released. ([Report](#))

### 29 May 2012

- **UNHCR** – The UNHCR announces that over 40,000 people have been displaced as a result of renewed violence in Rutshuru territory of North Kivu province, with most seeking refuge in schools and churches. ([Source](#))

### 30 May 2012

- **ICC** – Judges at the ICC dismiss the Prosecution's appeal against the decision to drop charges against Callixte Mbarushimana, the head of FDLR. ([Source](#))

### 31 May 2012

- **OHCHR** – Navi Pillay calls for urgent action by the Congolese government to stop the commission of large-scale atrocities by armed groups in the east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. ([Source](#))

## **June 2012**

### **6 June 2012**

- **EU** – The EP adopts a resolution on the monitoring of elections in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Notably, the resolution deplors the violence in the DRC and encourages the EU to make its financial contribution to the electoral process dependent upon the effective implementation of the recommendations of the EU Election Observation Mission. ([Source](#))

### **8 June 2012**

- **WFP** – The WFP stresses that it needs more funding to assist civilians fleeing violence in the DRC. WFP operations in the DRC, Uganda, and Rwanda are reported to suffer from a funding shortfall of \$46 million over the next six months. ([Source](#))

### **12 June 2012**

- **UNSC** – The UNSC receives a briefing by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and head of MONUSCO Roger Meece on recent developments in the DRC. ([Source](#))

### **15 June 2012**

- **UNSC** – The UNSC expresses “strong concern” and condemns the recent mutiny by renegade soldiers led by Bosco Ntaganda and Sultani Makenga in April, which displaced more than 100,00 people. ([Source](#))

### **19 June 2012**

- **OHCHR** – Navi Pillay expresses deep concern over the safety of civilians in the eastern DRC due to continued fighting with the M23 movement, an entity that she calls “a particularly notorious group of human rights violators.” ([Source](#))

### **21 June 2012**

- **UNSC** – Interim report of the Group of Experts on the DRC is released. ([Report](#))

### **24 June 2012**

- **AU** – The Peace and Security Council of the AU adopts communiqué PSC/PR/COMM.(CCCXXIV) on the situation in the DRC. ([Source](#))

### **25 June 2012**

- **EU** – Council of the EU adopts conclusions on the situation in eastern DRC. It condemns the mutiny in North Kivu, calls on all countries of the region to

cooperate with Congolese authorities to demobilize the M23 Movement and other armed groups, and announces its concern with reports of outside support for mutineers. ([Source](#))

#### **26 June 2012**

- **UNSC** – The Chair of the DRC Sanctions Committee briefs members of the UNSC on the interim report of the Group of Experts on the DRC. ([Source](#))

#### **27 June 2012**

- **UNSC** – The UNSC renews MONUSCO’s mandate until 30 June 2013. ([Source](#))
- **UNSC** – Addendum to the Group of Experts on the DRC’s interim report published in accordance with paragraph 4 of UNSC resolution 2021. ([Report](#))

#### **28 June 2012**

- **ICGLR** – ICGLR and the Concentration of Women’s Organizations operating in the Great Lakes Region releases a joint statement condemning violence in the region and demanding an immediate end to war crimes and crimes against humanity. ([Source](#))

### **July 2012**

#### **5 July 2012**

- **UNSC** – Members of the UNSC condemn “in strongest terms” attacks by the M23 movement on MONUSCO peacekeepers on 5 July 2013, which resulted in the death of an Indian peacekeeper. ([Source](#))

#### **6 July 2012**

- **Secretary-General** – Ban Ki-Moon expresses his serious concern with the stability of the eastern DRC and calls for an immediate end to all violence. He also announces regret for the death of a UN peacekeeper killed in a recent attack in the DRC. ([Source](#))

#### **10 July 2012**

- **ICC** – The ICC sentences Thomas Lubanga Dyilo to 14 years of imprisonment for his involvement in widespread child soldier recruitment. ([Source](#))
- **UNSC** – UNSC holds consultations on M23 Movement and heard a briefing on the escalating violence in North Kivu from Roger Meece. ([Source](#))

#### **11 July 2012**

- **Secretary-General** – In calls with the leaders of Rwanda and the DRC, Ban Ki-moon expresses grave concern over reports that the M23 movement is receiving external support from Rwanda. ([Source](#))
- **ICGLR** – The Extraordinary Meeting of the Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee of the ICGLR is held in Addis Ababa. ([Source](#))

### 13 July 2012

- **ICC** – The ICC issues an arrest warrant for Sylvestre Mudacumura as well as a second arrest warrant for Bosco Ntaganda. ([Source](#))
- **MONUSCO** – MONUSCO uses two of its attack helicopters on Thursday to deter fighters of the M23 movement near the villages of Ngugo and Nysisi in North Kivu. ([Source](#))

### 14 July 2012

- **AU** – The Peace and Security Council of the AU releases a press statement calling upon governments of the DRC and Rwanda to activate existing bilateral mechanisms to address insecurity and to build confidence, including the Joint Verification Mechanism. ([Source](#))

### 15 July 2012

- **ICGLR** – The Declaration of the Heads of State and Government of the Member States of the ICGLR on the Security Situation in Eastern DRC recommends the creation of a neutral force to help quell the violence that is causing massive suffering in the eastern Democratic of the Congo (DRC). ([Source](#))
- **AU** – One-on-one meeting between DRC and Rwanda in AU headquarters. ([Source](#))

### 16 July 2012

- **UNSC** – The UNSC strongly condemns the attacks in the eastern DRC by the M23 Movement. In a statement issued to the press, the UNSC also urges that commanders of the M23 be apprehended and brought to justice. ([Source](#))

### 18 July 2012

- **Acting Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict** – Acting Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict VIJAY NAMBIAR condemns the sexual violence occurring in the DRC and demands an investigation of the crimes. ([Source](#))

### 22 July 2012

- **US** – The US cuts military aid to Rwanda following accusations that the Rwandan government is backing M23 rebels. The funding, amounting around \$200,000, is instead reallocated to other countries. Rwanda continues to reject reports that it is supporting the rebels. ([Source](#))

### 25 July 2012

- **MONUSCO** – MONUSCO and FARDC launch a counter-offensive against M23 mutineers at Rwaswa. ([Source](#))

### 26 July 2012

- **Netherlands** – The Netherlands announces it will be suspending more than 5 million euros of aid to Rwanda following evidence that Rwanda has been

supplying the M23 Movement with weapons, ammunition, and fighters. ([Source](#))

### **27 July 2012**

- **UNHCR** –The UNHCR again condemns indiscriminate killings, rape and other sexual violence occurring in the eastern DRC. The violence is believed to have displaced more than 470,000 people. ([Source](#))

### **28 July 2012**

- **Germany** – Germany announces it will suspend 21 million euros in aid to Rwanda from 2011 through 2015 in light of Rwandan support to the M23 Movement. ([Source](#))

### **30 July 2012**

- **UNSC** – Roger Meece briefs the UNSC on the situation in the DRC. ([Source](#))

## **August 2012**

### **2 August 2012**

- **UNSC** – The UNSC reiterates its “strong condemnation of the M23 and its attacks” and demands that the M23 immediately cease its violent activities, including its anticipated advance towards the city of Goma. ([Source](#))

### **3 August 2012**

- **OCHA** – Under Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator Valerie Amos embarks on a three-day visit to the DRC in order to highlight the deteriorating humanitarian situation. ([Source](#))

### **7 August 2012**

- **Secretary-General** – Ban Ki-Moon renews his call for the Great Lakes regional grouping to provide “enhanced and sustained support” to the Congolese authorities for Security Sector reform and other key endeavors to help resolve the humanitarian crisis in the eastern DRC. ([Source](#))
- **OCHA** – While on a three-day visit to the DRC, Valerie Amos highlights that military insecurity and poor roads are hampering humanitarian efforts at assisting civilians. ([Source](#))

### **7-8 August 2012**

- **ICGLR** – The ICGLR meets for its Extraordinary Summit of the Heads of State and Government in Kampala, Uganda. ([Source](#))

### **13 August 2012**

- **Sweden** – Sweden announces that it is provisionally suspending an undisclosed amount of aid to Rwanda pending clarification that the Rwandan government continues to back the M23 Movement. ([Source](#))

### **16 August 2012**

- **ICGLR** – The ICGLR Sub-Committee of Ministers of Defense on Security in East of DRC meets in Goma and decides that a neutral intervention force should work under the mandate of the African Union and United Nations, and should be composed of African troops. ([Source](#))

### **17-18 August 2012**

- **SADC** – At the 32<sup>nd</sup> SADC Summit in Maputo, SADC members discuss the ongoing conflict in the DRC and condemn its violence. ([Source](#))

### **28 August 2012**

- **SADC** – Mozambican President Armando Guebuza arrives in Rwanda in his capacity as Chairperson of SADC to engage Kigali to stop military support to the M23 Movement. ([Source](#))
- **OHCHR** – Roger Meece and Navi Pillay express deep concern over reports of hundreds of civilian killings in Masisi territory, North Kivu ([Source](#))

### **29 August 2012**

- **UNSC** – The UNSC holds an informal interactive dialogue with the Rwandan foreign minister and DRC representatives about the conflict in eastern DRC. ([Source](#))

## **September 2012**

### **8 September 2012**

- **ICGLR** – The 3<sup>rd</sup> Extraordinary Summit of the ICGLR is hosted in Kampala, Uganda. The Summit calls for the to establishment of a Neutral International Force to combat negative forces in Eastern DRC. ([Source](#))

### **14 September 2012**

- **ICGLR** – The ICGLR launches its Expanded Joint Border Verification Mechanism.

### **18 September 2012**

- **UNHCR** – The UNHCR appeals for approximately \$40 million to assist with the ongoing IDP crisis in the eastern DRC. ([Source](#))

### **21 September 2012**

- **WFP** – The WFP announces it has launched a new emergency operation to assist approximately 1.2 million people in the DRC who have been affected by ongoing violence. The agency also launches an appeal for \$81 million. ([Source](#))

### **22 September 2012**

- **ICGLR** – The ICGLR sends in its MAT to Goma in order to undertake an assessment on the actual size, location and number of the FDLR, M23 Movement, and other armed forces in the eastern DRC. ([Source](#))

### **27 September 2012**

- **EU** – The EU partially freezes its financial support to Rwanda, following similar moves by the US, Germany, the Netherlands, and Sweden. Direct budgetary support of up to \$90 million over the next six years is effectively suspended. ([Source](#))
- **ICGLR** – The ICGLR holds its “Mini-Summit” on the eastern DRC at the margins of the 67th Session of the UN General Assembly. ([Source](#))

## **October 2012**

### **2 October 2012**

- **UNHCR** – The UNHCR announces that more than 25,000 Congolese have returned to their homes in the northern DRC under a voluntary repatriation programme that was launched by the agency. ([Source](#))

### **17 October 2012**

- **MONUSCO** – MONUSCO reports that six peacekeepers and a local interpreter were wounded in a “cowardly” overnight ambush in the DRC. ([Source](#))

### **19 October 2012**

- **UNSC** – In a presidential statement, the UNSC reiterates its condemnation of all external support being provided to armed groups in the DRC, in particular the M23 Movement. It also expresses its intention to apply targeted sanctions against the leadership of the M23 and those acting in violation of the existing sanctions regime and arms embargo. ([Source](#))

## **November 2012**

### **2 November 2012**

- **AU** – The Peace and Security Council of the AU releases a press statement recalling its previous communiqué on the humanitarian situation in eastern DRC and reiterates its strong condemnation of the rebellion of M23 and all “negative forces.” The Council also calls on the relevant stakeholders in DRC and parties in the region to collaborate. ([Source](#))

### **14 November 2012**

- **Secretary-General** – The Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (S/2012/838) is released. ([Report](#))

- **UNJHRO** – The UNJHRO released its report on “Human Rights Violations Perpetrated by Armed Groups During Attacks on Villages in Ufamandu I and II, Nyamboko I and II and KIBABI Groupements, Masisi Territory, North Kivu Province, Between April and September 2012.” In their Press Release for the report UNJHRO announces that at least 264 civilians, including 83 children, were arbitrarily executed by armed groups between April and September this year. ([Source](#))

#### **17 November 2012**

- **UNSC** – Meeting in an emergency session, the UNSC strongly condemns the latest attacks by the M23 Movement and calls upon MONUSCO to deploy attack helicopters in support of the national army. ([Source](#))

#### **18 November 2012**

- **Secretary-General** – Ban Ki-Moon strongly condemns the resumption of hostilities by the M23 and calls on all relevant states to use their influence on M23 in order to bring about peace. He also calls upon MONUSCO to “robustly implement its mandate to the fullest of its capabilities.” ([Source](#))

#### **19 November 2012**

- **OCHA** – The OCHA notes that new clashes in the DRC has forced thousands of displaced civilians to flee North Kivu province, adding to the dire humanitarian situation in which over 2.4 million people are internally displaced. ([Source](#))
- **AU** – The AU issues a press release strongly condemning the fresh offensive launched by the M23. ([Source](#))

#### **21 November 2012**

- **UNSC** – The UNSC issues a press release demanding the immediate withdrawal of M23 rebels from Goma, which was overwhelmed on 20 November 2012, and demands its members immediately disband and lay down its arms. ([Source](#))
- **UNHCR** - UNHCR’s regional representative, Stefano Severe, raised concern regarding the new wave of displacement following the violence in Goma. Severe urged parties to the conflict to ensure the safety of the more than 60,000 people who had been displaced and to “take steps to protect civilians and prevent indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks on them.” ([Source](#))

#### **22 November 2012**

- **SADC** – SADC condemns the seizure of the town of Goma by the M23 rebel group. ([Source](#))

#### **23 November 2012**

- **OHCHR** – Navi Pillay publishes an op-ed entitled “End the Impunity of Congo’s war criminals” discussing the history of the CNDP and armed groups in eastern DRC and the current crisis in Goma. ([Source](#)).

#### **24 November 2012**

- **AU** – The AU calls for the immediate implementation of the Kampala Summit decisions on the situation in the east of the DRC, which was reached by the ICGLR. ([Source](#))
- **ICGLR** – The ICGLR holds its 5<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Summit of the Heads of State and Government in Kampala. The ICGLR demands that the M23 Movement withdraw from Goma and adopts the final concept of operations for the Neutral International Force. ([Source](#))

### **25 November 2012**

- **Secretary-General** – Ban Ki-moon welcomes the joint statement issued by the President of the DRC Joseph Kabila Kabange, Rwandan President Paul Kagame and President of Uganda Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, which calls on the 23 March Movement (M23) rebel group to immediately cease its violent activities. ([Source](#))

### **28 November 2012**

- **UNSC** – In a unanimously adopted resolution, the UNSC extends the arms embargo imposed against armed rebel groups in the DRC to 1 February 2014, while also expressing its intention to consider additional targeted sanctions against the leadership of the M23 Movement. ([Source](#))
- **UNJHRO** – An inter-agency mission visits to Minova in South Kivu to investigate reports of serious protection incidents during the occupation of Goma.

### **29 November 2012**

- **UNHCR** – UNHCR leads a joint mission to Goma to assess the security conditions in the area to determine whether it was safe for IDPs to return home. After determining the situation was calm, the agency facilitated transport and assistance to vulnerable individuals who wanted to return.

### **30 November 2012**

- **UK** – The UK, Rwanda's largest bilateral donor, announces that it will withhold 21 million pounds of aid to Rwanda due to increasing evidence that Rwanda is supporting the M23 Movement. ([Source](#))

## **December 2012**

### **1 December 2012**

- **DPKO** –Kieran Dwyer, spokesperson for the DPKO, welcomes the withdrawal of the M23 Movement from Goma, while emphasizing that stability in the region remains very fragile. ([Source](#))

### **4 December 2012**

- **UNHCR** –After an attack on the Mugunga III camp for IDPs outside of the provincial city of Goma over the weekend, the UNHCR states that it is increasingly concerned about the security of civilians in the DRC. ([Source](#))

### **5 December 2012**

- **UNHCR** – Following the UNJHRO mission to Minova, UNHCR condemns “those who exploit the fluid situation in eastern Congo to commit grave human rights violations, especially rape.” The mission found evidence of at least 72 cases of rape as well as looting and the presence of armed men at IDP sites. ([Source](#))

### **8 December 2012**

- **SADC** – SADC authorizes the deployment of 4000 troops for a neutral force in the eastern DRC to help stabilize the conflict. ([Source](#))
- **ICGLR** – Peace talks between the Congolese government and M23 Movement begin in Kampala under the auspices of the ICGLR. ([Source](#))

### **10 December 2012**

- **UNICEF** – UNICEF announces that approximately 250 schools have been occupied or looted during the 2012 fighting in the DRC. ([Source](#))

### **18 December 2012**

- **ICC** – The ICC acquits former Congolese rebel leader Mathieu Ngudjolo Chui of war crimes and crimes against humanity, saying it could not convict him “beyond reasonable doubt” due to a lack of available evidence. ([Source](#))
- **UNHCR** – UNHCR reiterates its concern regarding the situation at the Mugunga 3 camp, where the presence of armed men around the camp has raised worries among IDPs. ([Source](#))

### **21 December 2012**

- **OHCHR** – The OHCHR announces that it is concerned by the loss of civilian lives in the eastern DRC and appalled that women and girls are being targeted by multiple armed groups, including the national army that is supposed to protect them. The OHCHR also announces that UNJHRO has made two visits to the area this month. ([Source](#))

### **31 December 2012**

- **UNSC** – The 1533 DRC Sanctions Committee adds the M23 and FDLR to the sanctions list, plus M23 rebel group leaders Eric BADEGE and Jean-Marie RUNIGA. ([Source](#))

## **January 2013**

### **2 January 2013**

- **AU** – The AU announces that AU Commissioner for Peace and Security, Ambassador Ramtane Lamamra, will travel to DRC and Rwanda from 2 to 5 January to meet high-level officials to discuss ongoing conflict in the Great Lakes region. ([Source](#))

## 8 January 2013

- **AU** – The AU hosts a ministerial meeting on the creation of a neutral international force and the Expanded Joint Verification Mechanism for the eastern DRC. ([Source](#))

## 17 January 2013

- **OCHA** – The Head of the OCHA, Barbara Senstone, appeals for \$30.5 million to provide humanitarian assistance to approximately 59,000 people who have been affected by fighting in the DRC's eastern province of North Kivu. The six-month plan, initiated in December, is called the North Kivu Response Plan. ([Source](#))

## February 2013

### 15 February 2013

- **Secretary-General** – The Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (S/2013/96) is released. ([Report](#))

### 24 February 2013

- **Secretary-General and the chairpersons of the AU Commission, SADC and ICGLR** – The DRC, Angola, Republic of Congo, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, CAR, Burundi, Rwanda, South Sudan and Zambia sign the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the DRC and the Region. Secretary-General and the chairpersons of the AU Commission, the SADC and the ICGLR also sign the agreement as witnesses. ([Source](#))
- **UNSC** – The UNSC issues welcomes the signing of the framework agreement in a press release issued by Council President Kim Sook. ([Source](#))

### 27 February 2013

- **MONUSCO** – MONUSCO shelters 400 people in heavy fighting nears its base in Kitchanga, North Kivu. At least one civilian was killed and nine other people injured. ([Source](#))
- **Secretary-General** – The Special Report of the Secretary-General on the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Great Lakes Region (S/2013/199) is released. ([Report](#))

## March 2013

### 5 March 2013

- **Secretary-General** – Ban Ki-moon calls on the Security Council to authorize the deployment of an intervention bridge for the DRC. ([Source](#))

#### **7 March 2013**

- **OCHA** – The OCHA warns of deepening ethnic violence and arbitrary arrests in the town of Kitchanga, displacing thousands and threatening civilian casualties. ([Source](#))

#### **8 March 2013**

- **MONUSCO** – MONUSCO calls on FARDC to suspend two of its battalions in light of recent investigations concluding that Congolese forces have been involved in mass rapes and other human rights violations. ([Source](#))

#### **18 March 2013**

- **Secretary-General** – Ban Ki-moon announces the appointment of former Irish president Mary Robinson as the new Special Envoy for the Great Lakes region of Africa. ([Source](#))

#### **18 March 2013**

- **US** – Bosco Ntaganda hands himself over to the US embassy in Kigali. The US agrees to transfer him to the ICC. ([Source](#))

#### **22 March 2013**

- **UNSC** – The UNSC releases a press statement welcoming Bosco Ntaganda's surrender to the ICC and recalling that Sylvestre Mudacumura is still at large. ([Source](#))

#### **25 March 2013**

- **MONUSCO** – MONUSCO transfers 245 Mayi-Mayi Kata Katanga combatants to Kinshasa after the rebels peacefully surrender. MONUSCO also demands that the Congolese government take action against FARDC members who have committed sexual violence against civilians. ([Source](#))

#### **26 March 2013**

- **Secretary-General** – Ban Ki-moon meets with Congolese Foreign Minister Raymond Tshibanda N'tungamulongo and reaches an agreement that the upcoming Security Council resolution on the DRC should strengthen the role of MONUSCO and attempt to address the root causes of instability in the region. ([Source](#))

#### **26 March 2013**

- **ICC** – Bosco Ntaganda makes his first appearance before the ICC tribunal. The ICC sets 23 September as the start date for confirmation of charges against him. ([Source](#))

#### **28 March 2013**

- **UNSC** – By means of Resolution 2098, the UNSC authorizes the deployment of an intervention brigade within MONUSCO for an initial period of one year. The brigade is mandated to carry out targeted offensive operations, with or without the FARDC, for the objective of protecting civilians, neutralizing armed groups, and making space for stabilization activities. ([Source](#))

### **30 March 2013**

- **Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict** – Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict Zainab Hawa Bangura and Prime Minister Augustin Matata Ponyo Mapon sign a Joint Communiqué on conflict-related sexual violence in the DRC. In the agreement, the DRC commits to working with partners such as State entities, donors, and NGOs to prevent sexual violence, accelerating security sector reform efforts, following vetting mechanisms when integrating former combatants into the national army, ensuring better control of mineral resources, and providing greater support services for survivors of sexual violence. ([Source](#))

### **April 2013**

#### **1 April 2013**

- **MONUSCO** – MONUSCO announces that it protecting approximately 1,500 civilians after clashes renew between the FARDC and APCLS. ([Source](#))

#### **12 April 2013**

- **MONUSCO** – MONUSCO praises the efforts of the DRC to suspend for further investigation the commanding officers of two of its battalions implicated in mass rapes and other human rights violations. ([Source](#))

#### **25 April 2013**

- **AU** – The Peace and Security Council of the AU releases press statement urging the DRC to expedite implementation of its obligations under the Framework Agreement for Peace, Security and Cooperation in the DRC and calls on all parties to remain engaged in the peace talks in Kampala. ([Source](#))

#### **29 April 2013**

- **The Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region of Africa** – Mary Robinson begins her weeklong visit to the Great Lakes region by meeting with senior Congolese officials including Joseph Kabila, Augustin Matat, and Raymond Tshibanda. She also meets with the leadership of MONUSCO, the UN Country Team and civil society groups, including women's organizations. ([Source](#))

### **May 2013**

### 3 May 2013

- **WFP** – The WFP warns of volatile security in a “Triangle of Death” area between the towns of Pweto, Mitwaba and Manono of the DRC. ([Source](#))

### 8 May 2013

- **UNSC** – The UNSC releases a press statement condemning the targeted attack against a United Nations military convoy in South Kivu province that resulted in the death of a Pakistani peacekeeper. It calls on the Government to launch an investigation into the incident. ([Source](#))
- **UNJHRO** – A report authored by the UNJHRO and OHCHR in the DRC reveals that the FARDC raped more than 102 women and 33 girls in November 2012, actions that may constitute international crimes under human rights law and Congolese criminal law. ([Source](#))

### 20 May 2013

- **MONUSCO** – MONUSCO voices its concern regarding renewed clashes between the M23 Movement and the FADRC in Kibati and Rusayo, approximately 12 kilometres from Goma. ([Source](#))

### 21 May 2013

- **The Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region of Africa** – Mary Robinson proposes a set of principles to guide future peace efforts in the DRC, while maintaining a focus on long-term solutions in light of the abandoned peace talks. ([Source](#))

### 22 May 2013

- **Secretary-General and WB** – Ban Ki-Moon and WB President Jim Yong Kim visit the DRC in support of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Region as well as to promote economic development. The WB Group also announces \$1 billion in proposed new funding for the Great Lakes region. ([Source](#))
- **UNHCR** – UNHCR released a statement calling for the protection of civilians amid new fighting near Goma. The statement comes after reports of shelling near IDP camps, resulting in new displacements. The UNHCR’s acting regional representative, Germaine Bationo, asserted the necessity of respecting the principle of distinguishing between military targets and the civilian population. ([Source](#))

### 26 May 2013

- **SADC** – The Extraordinary Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Southern Africa Development Community is held in Addis Ababa. The conference communiqué welcomes the adoption of UNSC Resolution 2098, the appointment of Mary Robinson as UN Special Envoy, and reiterated its call for urgent attention to be given to the humanitarian situation in eastern DRC. ([Source](#))

## 26-31 May 2013

- **UN Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator** – Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator Kyung-wha Kang visits the DRC and Uganda.

## June 2013

### 4 June 2013

- **UN Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator** - Following a mission to the DRC from 25 to 31 May Kyung-wha Kang holds a press conference detailing her observations from the trip. She emphasizes the increase in sexual violence and deteriorating humanitarian situation. ([Source](#))

### 8 June 2013

- **The Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region of Africa** – Mary Robinson welcomes the possible resumption of peace talks between the DRC and the M23 Movement in Kampala and urges both parties to move toward the normalization of the situation in eastern DRC. ([Source](#))

### 10 June 2013

- **MONUSCO and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict** – MONUSCO and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict Roger Meece express concern regarding reports that at least 53 children are at risk of being re-recruited by the M23 Movement in Nyiragongo Territory, North Kivu Province. ([Source](#))
- **Secretary-General** – Ban Ki-Moon announces the appointment of Martin Kobler as head of MONUSCO and the Secretary-General's Special Representative to the country. ([Source](#))

### 18 June 2013

- **ICC** – Pre-Trial Chamber II of the ICC postpones the confirmation of charges hearing for Bosco Ntaganda from 26 September 2013 to 10 February 2014. The ICC Prosecutors Office had filed a request on 23 May to postpone the hearing because the case had been dormant for several years and they needed more time for preparations. ([Source](#))

### 24 June 2013

- **UNSC** – The UNSC unanimously adopts resolution 2106, which strengthens efforts to end impunity for sexual violence efforts and emphasizes that “effective steps to significantly contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security.” In addressing the Council, Ban Ki-Moon specifically recalls his visit to the DRC. ([Source](#)) ([Resolution](#))

### **27 June 2013**

- **MONUSCO and UNICEF** – Roger Meece as well as DRC Representative of UNICEF Barbara Bentein condemn the recent rape of nine prepubescent girls over the past two months in the South Kivu and call for end to abuse. ([Source](#))

### **July 2013**

#### **9 July 2013**

- **UNJHRO** – The UNJHRO announces that the first convictions of state agents involved with torture have taken place, following the enactment two years ago of a law criminalizing the practice. ([Source](#))

#### **10-15 July 2013**

- **The Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region of Africa** – Mary Robinson organized the first regional conference on women, peace, security and development in the Great Lakes region. During the conference participants discussed the action plan for implementation of the “Framework of Hope” and three countries adopted the action plan (Burundi, DRC and Rwanda). ([Source](#))

#### **11 July 2013**

- **UNSC** – Hervé Ladsous briefs the council on MONUSCO's latest report. ([Source](#))

#### **15 July 2013**

- **MONUSCO** – MONUSCO announces that it is on high alert and ready to use force to protect civilians in Goma from an advancing rebellion by the M23 Movement. ([Source](#))

#### **16 July 2013**

- **UNHCR** – UNHCR releases a press statement noting that renewed fighting between the FARDC and the M23 Movement has uprooted tens of thousands of people into Uganda's Kisoro district. ([Source](#))

#### **17 July 2013**

- **Secretary-General** – Ban Ki-moon urges “all parties to exercise utmost restraint” in the DRC in light about the latest round of hostilities between the M23 rebel group north of Goma. ([Source](#))

#### **19 July 2013**

- **UNHCR** – The UNHCR announces that it is aiding more than 15,500 Congolese refugees at a crowded transit facility in western Uganda. ([Source](#))
- **UNSC** – The Group of Experts presents their interim report to the Security Council committee established pursuant to Resolution 1533. ([Source](#))

### 23 July 2013

- **UNHCR** – The UNHCR again expresses its concern about the situation of civilians in the eastern DRC and for the thousands of refugees in Uganda. ([Source](#))

### 25 July 2013

- **UNSC** – The UNSC hosts a debate on the Great Lakes region and the DRC. US Secretary of State John Kerry presides over the debate, which includes presentations from Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region Mary Robinson and World Bank President Jim Yong Kim. The UNSC adopts a presidential statement demanding that all armed groups lay down their arms and calling upon the DRC and countries of the region to fully implement their commitments under the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework. ([Source](#)) (Presidential Statement) (US Concept Note) (Report of the Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region) ([UN Secretary-General's Remarks](#))

### 27 July 2013

- **MONUSCO** – In response to reports of forceful recruitment in Kibumba and looting of approximately 20 houses in Kiwanja, MONUSCO releases a statement condemning human rights violations attributed to the M23 Movement and urges humanitarian access to areas controlled by the rebel group. ([Source](#))

### 29-30 July 2013

- **ICGLR** – The Interministerial Committee of the ICGLR is meets in Nairobi, Kenya. Ambassador James Mugume of Uganda announces that progress has been achieved in Kampala talks between DRC government and M23. Two peace drafts that were compiled in one draft and will now be the subject of further negotiations. ([Source](#))

### 30 July 2013

- **UNHCR** – The UNHCR announces that its protection monitoring teams have registered 705 cases of sexual violence in the DRC since January 2013, including 619 cases of rape. ([Source](#))
- **MONUSCO** – MONUSCO announces that it will use its intervention brigade to enforce a security zone around Goma, giving rebels 48 hours to disarm. MONUSCO states that after 4pm on 1 August, any rebels in the area will be considered an imminent threat of physical violence to civilians and all necessary measures will be taken to disarm them. ([Source](#))

### 31 July 2013

- **Secretary-General** – In a message to the ICGLR delivered by Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region Mary Robinson, Ban-Ki-moon urges regional support for implementing the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework. ([Source](#))
- **ICGLR** – The 6th Extraordinary Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Great Lakes Region on the Security Situation in the DRC and the Region, is held in Nairobi. ([Source](#))

## **August 2013**

### **16 August 2013**

- **MONUSCO** – MONUSCO releases a statement welcoming the release of 82 children from the Mayi-Mayi Bakata Katanga armed group, which was facilitated by several aid agencies working in the country. The Secretary-General's special Representative in the DRC, Martin Kobler, states that “we are extremely concerned by continued reports of active recruitment by Mayi Mayi Bakata Katanga and other armed groups in the DRC.” ([Source](#))

### **17-18 August 2013**

- **SADC** – The SADC holds its 33<sup>rd</sup> Summit of the Heads of State and Government in Malawi. ([Source](#))

### **19 August 2013**

- **AU** - The AU Peace and Security Council holds its 391<sup>st</sup> meeting in open session for World Humanitarian Day and receives briefing on protection of civilians and the humanitarian situation in the Central African Republic and the DRC. The Council released a statement condemning the escalation in fighting in eastern DRC, urging the government and opposition to resume ICGLR peace talks in Kampala, and welcoming the progress made in benchmarking the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework. ([Source](#))
- **SADC** – Following its 17-18 August Summit the SADC releases a Communique, which welcomes the deployment of the SADC Intervention Brigade in the DRC, commends the signing of the Framework Agreement and the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 2098, and encourages all stakeholders to the Kampala Talks to resume meetings. ([Source](#))

### **20 August 2013**

- **The Secretary-General's Special Representative for DRC** – Martin Kobler, new head of MONUSCO and Special Representative for DRC visits North Kivu for the first time. During his visit Kobler met with provincial authorities and UN military and civilian staff. Kobler read a statement emphasizing that he shall “do everything in [his] power to address the armed groups' issue in the Kivus and in the rest of the eastern DRC.” ([Source](#))

### **21 August 2013**

- **MONUSCO** – A UN spokesperson announced that MONUSCO is increasing its patrols and sending helicopters to protect civilians in eastern DRC. The order was given following M23 advances towards Goma and direct targeting of MONUSCO positions. ([Source](#))

### **22 August 2013**

- **The Secretary-General's Special Representative for DRC** – The UN reports that Martin Kobler has ordered peacekeepers to take necessary action to protect civilians and prevent armed groups from advancing in North Kivu. Kobler is currently on his first visit to North Kivu. ([Source](#))

#### **22-28 August 2013**

- **OHCHR** – The UN Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights visits the DRC to evaluate the human rights situation and the work of the UNJHRO and talks with local authorities and civil society regarding protection of civilians and combatting sexual violence. ([Source](#))

#### **23 August 2013**

- **France** – The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France released a statement on the DRC/Bombings in the Goma Region condemning the resumption of violence in Goma. It places emphasis on attacks carried out by M23 against civilian populations and MONUSCO facilities, which constitutes war crimes. The statement reaffirms the urgent need to implement the Framework Agreement and encourages MONUSCO to use all means available to fulfill its mandate. ([Source](#))

#### **24 August 2013**

- **UNHCR, OCHA, UN Children's Programme, World Food Programme and UN Humanitarian Coordinator in the DRC** - Several UN agencies issue a joint statement condemning the killing of civilians by military strikes during the fighting between FARDC and M23. The UN Humanitarian Coordinator in the DRC, Moustapha Soumare added "I condemn all attacks causing deaths and injuries among the civilian population and remind all parties to the conflict that the indiscriminate or deliberate attack against civilians is a war crime." ([Source](#))
- **The Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region of Africa**- Mary Robinson issues a statement asserting "The attacks on the town of Goma as well as on MONUSCO forces, and their tragic consequences on the civilian populations already traumatized by two decades of conflict are unacceptable. They must stop immediately."([Source](#))
- **The Secretary-General's Special Representative for DRC** – Martin Kobler issues a statement deploring the killing of demonstrators in Goma and announcing a joint investigation to be carried out by the DRC's police and MONUSCO's police cell. ([Source](#))

#### **25 August 2013**

- **United States** – The State Department of the United States issues a statement on the situation in the eastern DRC. The statement condemns actions of M23 against civilian populations and commends the actions of MONUSCO to protect civilians. The statement also raises concern regarding reports of shelling across the Rwandan border and urges the governments of the DRC and Rwanda to exercise restraint to prevent military escalation. ([Source](#))

#### **27 August 2013**

- **UNHCR** – The UNHCR spokesperson reads a statement at a press briefing in Geneva joining other UN agencies in condemning the killing of civilians during fighting between the FARDC and M23 in Goma this weekend. The statement reminds all parties that indiscriminate or deliberate attacks against civilians are war crimes. ([Source](#))
- **European Union** – Catherine Ashton issues a statement “forcefully condemning” the resumption of fighting near Goma and calling upon all sides to use restraint. ([Source](#))

### **29 August 2013**

- **UNSC** – The UNSC releases a Press Statement on 29 August condemning targeted attacks against civilians and MONUSCO and threatening additional targeted sanctions against individuals acting in violation of the arms embargo. ([Source](#))
- **ICGLR** – The ICGLR releases a Press Release with “grave concern” for renewed fighting in the DRC and reaffirming support for political dialogue. ([Source](#))

## **SEPTEMBER 2013**

### **5 September 2013**

- **ICGLR** – The ICGLR holds its 7<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Summit on the security situation in the DRC. Following the Summit the group releases a Communique condemning recent M23 offensives and urging the government and M23 to restart the Kampala Talks. ([Source](#))

### **2-5 September 2013**

- **UN Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region** - Mary Robinson visits for a regional tour with envoys from the AU, European Union and United States to reinforce diplomatic efforts to end the conflict. Robinson is joined by Boubacar Diarra, representing the AU, Koen Vervaeke, the EU Senior Coordinator for the Great Lakes Region, and Russ Feingold, US Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region. ([Source](#)) ([Source](#))

### **7 September 2013**

- **UN Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region** - Following the ICGLR meeting Special Envoy Robinson and Martin Kobler, UN Special Representative to the DRC, welcomed the political approach expressed by the ICGLR meeting. SRSK Kobler also expressed satisfaction in the decision to include MONUSCO in the Joint Verification Mechanism. ([Source](#))

### **12 September 2013**

- **UN Security Council** – UN Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region and UN Special Representative to the DRC briefed the Security Council regarding the security situation on the ground. The UNSC issued a Press Statement reiterating their support for the Framework Agreement. ([Source](#))

### **23 September 2013**

- **Regional Oversight Mechanism** – The Regional Oversight Mechanism of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework met on the sidelines of the opening of the UN General Assembly in NY. Participants to the meeting adopted a Communique condemning activities by various armed groups in the DRC as well as shelling into Rwanda. ([Source](#))

### **24 September 2013**

- **UN Secretary-General** – UN Secretary-General issued a progress report on the implementation of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the DRC and the region. ([Source](#))
- **Human Rights Council** – The Human Rights Council passed a Resolution regarding the provision of technical assistance and capacity-building for human rights in the DRC. ([Source](#))

### **25 September 2013**

- **OHCHR** – The High Commissioner for Human Rights issued a report on the human rights situation in the DRC. The report addresses the deteriorating situation in eastern DRC and measures taken by the government to address longstanding human rights issues. ([Source](#))

### **30 September 2013**

- **UN Secretary-General** – UN Secretary-General issued a progress report on the MONUSCO's mandate. ([Source](#))

## **OCTOBER 2013**

### **4 October – 7 October 2013**

- **UN Security Council** - The UN Security Council went on a visitation mission to the Great Lakes Region, making stops in Kinshasa (5 October), Goma (6 October) and Kigali (7 October) before making a trip to Addis Ababa to meet with the AU regarding progress to the Framework Agreement. ([Source](#))

### **11 October 2013**

- **Special Representative to the DRC** – UN Officials issued a strong condemnation of an attack on a MONUSCO helicopter. ([Source](#))

### **18 October 2013**

- **Special Representative to the DRC** – UN Officials issued a strong condemnation of another attack by M23 on a MONUSCO helicopter ([Source](#))

### **21 October 2013**

- **UN Security Council** – UN Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region and UN Special Representative to the DRC briefed the Security Council regarding the

breakdown of negotiations between the government and M23. Both noted with alarm the reports of military buildups surrounding Goma. ([Source](#)) ([Source](#))

- **ICGLR** – ICGLR-led talks between the government and M23 broke down again, reportedly over whether to grant amnesty to M23 leaders and combatants who had perpetrated violence over the past year.

#### **24 October 2013**

- **MONUSCO** – MONUSCO published a report documenting 1,000 cases of child recruitment by armed groups between 1 January 2012 and 31 August 2013. ([Source](#))

#### **25-26 October 2013**

- **United States** – The United States’ State Department issued two press statements expressing concern for renewed violence in eastern DRC. ([Source](#)) ([Source](#))

#### **26 October 2013**

- **UN Special Representative to the DRC** – In his role as head of MONUSCO, Special Representative Kobler issued a statement condemning recent atrocities committed by the Mayi-Mayi Cheka armed group, in collaboration with Raia Mutomboki, against civilians in Masisi. ([Source](#))

#### **27 October 2013**

- **UN Secretary-General** – UN Secretary-General issued a statement strongly condemning the killing of a UN Peacekeeper during fighting in eastern DRC over the weekend. ([Source](#))

#### **28 October 2013**

- **UN Security Council** – The UN Security Council held an emergency session regarding the DRC following a resumption of violence between the FARDC and M23 over the weekend. ([Source](#))

### **NOVEMBER 2013**

#### **4-5 November**

- **SADC-ICGLR** - South Africa held a joint SADC-ICGLR summit. The UN, EU and US Special Envoys to the Great Lakes Region also attended. UN Special Envoy Robinson noted the meeting was “an important opportunity to build consensus on ending the immediate security crisis and for moving forward with full implementation of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework.” ([Source](#))

#### **5 November**

- **M23** – Reportedly following international condemnation, M23 announced the end of its rebellion. Commander Sultani Makenga surrenders to Ugandan authorities.

## **6 November**

- **UNSC** – The UNSC held an emergency meeting following the M23 surrender and agreed that the Intervention Brigade should turn its attention to other armed groups in the DRC, namely the FDLR. Meanwhile, many states and special envoys to the region released statements welcoming the surrender of M23. ([Source](#))

## **11 November**

- **ICGLR** – The ICGLR announced that the negotiation process had been completed and an agreement would be signed by M23 and the government of the DRC by the end of day. Reported disagreements over the title of the agreement led to delays in signing the document. ([Source](#))

## **14 November**

- **UNSC** – The UNSC issued a Presidential Statement welcoming the end of the M23 rebellion and stressing the need to neutralize all armed groups operating in the DRC, particularly the FDLR. ([Source](#))

## **20 November**

- **MONUSCO** – Marking his first 100 days in office as Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General in the DRC, Martin Kobler led a special ceremony in Goma today during which a pile of weapons collected from ex-combatants of various armed groups in the country's east were destroyed. ([Source](#))

## **25 November**

- **UN Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region** – Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region, Mary Robinson has [begun](#) a week-long mission to help shore up peace efforts. She will focus on the immediate priority of the so-called Kampala dialogue in the Ugandan capital, where the M23 rebel group and the DRC Government failed to reach agreement earlier this month. ([Source](#))

## **26 November**

- **UN** - In her first press conference since returning from the eastern DRC, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, Leila Zerrougui remarked that there are positive signs the Congolese Government has taken steps to aid children caught up in the conflict. "I can confirm ... that there is strong commitment to end recruitment of underage children, also of sexual violence," she said, noting that children are being systematically released from the military. ([Source](#))

## **27 November**

- **UNICEF and MONUSCO** – The UN agencies called on the DRC to take immediate action in light of alarming reports of disappearance and assassination of children and youth that coincide with a Government operation to tackle delinquency in Kinshasa. ([Source](#))

## **DECEMBER 2013**

### **2 December**

- **DRC and Uganda** - DRC President Joseph Kabila and Uganda's Yoweri Museveni met in Uganda's capital to discuss a peace deal, but there was no sign of a breakthrough on the wording of the accord that derailed a signing last month over the DRC's M23 rebels. ([Source](#))
- **DPKO** - Hervé Ladsous, UN Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations said that the situation in the region, where civilians have suffered through recurrent insurgencies, showed evidence of improvement, and gave hope for further progress. ([Source](#))

### **3 December**

- **MONUSCO** - The UN today launched its first-ever unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), in the interest of better protecting civilians in the restive east of the DRC. Such new technology will aid in the surveillance of the vast country. "This is a first in the history of the United Nations that such an advanced technological tool has been used in peacekeeping mission," said Hervé Ladsous, Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations. ([Source](#))
- **WFP** - Serious resource constraints are forcing the WFP to reduce or interrupt some of its activities in the DRC beginning this month, leaving thousands of people with no food assistance. WFP, which is funded entirely by voluntary contributions, urgently needs \$75 million to continue its operations in DRC over the next six months. ([Source](#))

### **4 December**

- **SADC and the UN** – SADC and the UN agreed to strengthen cooperation in efforts aimed at finding a sustainable solution to the political conflict in the DRC. ([Source](#))

### **11 December**

- **MONUSCO** – Following the military defeat of M23 MONUSCO announces that the intervention brigade has shifted its attention toward defeating the FDLR. ([Source](#))

### **12 December**

- **SADC and ICGLR** – In Nairobi SADC and the ICGLR issued a Joint Communique following declarations signed by the DRC and M23 – politically ending the conflict and articulating agreed upon commitments from the Kampala Dialogues. ([Source](#))

### **13 December**

- **UN Secretary-General** – Ban Ki-moon issued a statement welcoming the joint communique and declarations signed by the DRC and M23. ([Source](#))

### **16 December**

- **MONUSCO** – Following a violent attack by unidentified armed groups in Beni that resulted in the death of 21 people, the UN Intervention brigade deployed additional troops to protect civilians in the area. ([Source](#))

### **17 December**

- **UN Secretary-General** – The Secretary-General delivered his Report on the UN Stabilization Mission in the DRC (MONUSCO) to the UNSC. The report details progress on implementation of the Framework Agreement as well as an assessment of the first six months of operation for the Intervention Brigade. ([Source](#))

### **23 December**

- **UN Secretary-General** – The Secretary-General delivered his Report on the Implementation of the Framework Agreement to the UNSC. The report details political and security developments within the DRC, activities of the Special Envoy, and progress by regional partners in implementing their commitments. ([Source](#))

### **26 December**

- **MONUSCO** – UN Peacekeepers assisted FARDC forces in recapturing a section of Kamango that had been taken by ADF-Nalu forces. ([Source](#))

### **31 December**

- **SRSB** – Following an attempted coup that resulted in deadly clashes at a radio station and airport in Kinshasa, SRSB Kobler issued a statement condemning attacks upon key sites in the capital. On 30 December SRSB Kobler increased precautions taken by MONUSCO troops. ([Source](#)) ([Source](#))

## **JANUARY 2014**

### **13 January**

- **SRSB and Special Envoy** – SRSB Martin Kobler and Special Envoy Mary Robinson briefed the UNSC on the status of the situation in the DRC. SRSB Kobler noted the dramatic milestone of the Framework Agreement and briefed the UNSC on the rapid and improved response to an attack a day earlier by Mayi-Mayi militias in Pinga. SRSB Kobler also briefed the UNSC on the ongoing redeployment of peacekeepers from throughout the country to eastern DRC such that at least 2/3rds of MONUSCO forces will operate in eastern DRC by June 2014. ([Source](#)) ([Source](#)).

### **21-25 January**

- **UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP** – High-level representatives from UNHCR, UNICEF and WFP visited the DRC between 21 and 25 January. On 25 January they called upon the international community to sustain support to the DRC in order to

alleviate the large-scale humanitarian crisis caused by widespread displacement. ([Source](#))

### **23 January**

- **UN Group of Experts** – The UN Group of Experts on the DRC released their final report for 2013. The report alleges that neighboring countries continue to support M23 troops, even after the group dismantled and surrendered. ([Source](#))

### **30 January**

- **UNSC** – The UNSC adopted Resolution 2136, extending the mandate of the Group of Experts on the DRC through 1 February 2015. ([Source](#))([Source](#))

### **31 January**

- **Regional Oversight Mechanism of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Great Lakes region** – The Regional Oversight Mechanism held its third meeting on the sidelines of the AU Summit, to exchange updates on the situation in the DRC and on implementation of commitments by participating member states. The UN Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region and the UN Deputy Secretary-General delivered statements. ([Source](#)) ([Source](#))

## **February 2014**

### **5 February**

- **Special Envoy and SRSB** – The government of the DRC passed a law granting amnesty to those who committed acts of insurgency or political offenses. The amnesty law does not grant exceptions for those suspected of perpetrating war crimes and crimes against humanity. The UN Special Envoy to the Great Lakes Region and the SRSB for the DRC both commended the government for ensuring that those who perpetrate atrocities are held accountable. ([Source](#))

### **6 February**

- **United Kingdom** – A delegation from the United Kingdom, including the Under-Secretary of State in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Marc Simmonds, visited Masisi and Walikale territories to assess the security situation in the eastern DRC. The delegation reasserted the United Kingdom's commitment to funding efforts to end sexual violence in the DRC. ([Source](#))

### **10 February – 14 February**

- **ICC** - The ICC's Chief Prosecutor, Fatou Bensouda, started the confirmation of charges hearing for Bosco Ntaganda on 10 February. Ntaganda was indicted for crimes against humanity and war crimes. ([Source](#)) ([Source](#))

### **14 February**

- **Special Envoy** – Special Envoy Robinson met with officials in Kinshasa to call upon the government to fulfill their national commitments to the Framework Agreement. ([Source](#))

### **21 February**

- **SRSB** – SRSB Kobler issued a Press Statement after MONUSCO troops were dispatched to protect civilians following violence that broke out during a protest in South Kivu. ([Source](#))

### **28 February**

- **WFP** – The World Food Programme was forced to scale back the relief it provides to the 4.2 million food insecure people across DRC because of a funding gap. The WFP will now only focus on “Acutely-insecure, conflict-affected areas.” The WFP also stressed that areas experiencing violence, notably Katanga province, were deteriorating as a result of the new preoccupation with refugees from Central African Republic ([Source](#)).

## **MARCH 2014**

### **1 March**

- **MONUSCO** – UN Helicopters provided aerial support to an FARDC offensive against ADF-NALU in Beni as part of its protection of civilians mandate. On 3 March SRSB Kobler issued a press statement urging ADF combatants to immediately put down their arms. ([Source](#))

### **5 March**

- **ICC** - The Appeals Chamber confirmed the decision of the Pre-Trial Chamber to reject Bosco Ntaganda’s request for an interim release. ([Source](#)).
- **UNSG** – The UN Secretary-General released his Report on MONUSCO. The Report documented progress since March 2013 in implementing MONUSCO’s protection of civilians mandate as well as progress made in assisting the government with security sector reform and disarmament. The report noted that 8,500 ex-rebels are currently awaiting reintegration. ([Source](#))

### **7 March**

- **ICC** - The International Criminal Court found Germain Katanga, former leader of the Patriotic Force of Resistance in Ituri (FRPI) militia, guilty of crimes against humanity and war crimes perpetrated against populations in Ituri in 2003. ([Source](#))

### **11 March**

- **SRSB** – SRSB Kobler urged rebel fighters to “surrender without delay” and join the disarmament process. The message was directed in particular at the FDLR, which the FARDC has recently launched operations against. ([Source](#))

- **ICGLR** – The Secretariat of the ICGLR released a statement commending efforts by the FARDC, with MONUSCO support, in combating the ADF-NALU armed group. ([Source](#)).

#### **12 March**

- **MONUSCO** – UN Peacekeepers reportedly participated in FARDC operations against the FDLR. ([Source](#))

#### **13 March**

- **Secretary-General** – UN Secretary-General released his annual report on Conflict-Related sexual violence, which documented over 13,000 incidents of sexual violence in eastern DRC in 2013, over 800 of which were related to the M23 conflict. ([Source](#)).

#### **14 March**

- **SRS&G & Special Envoy** – SRS&G Kobler and Special Envoy Robinson briefed the UNSC in advance of MONUSCO’s mandate renewal at the end of the month.

#### **25 March**

- **ICGLR** – The ICGLR held a Mini Summit in Luanda, Angola to discuss the situation in eastern DRC. During the meeting heads of state of ICGLR member countries discussed efforts taken to eliminate the FDLR, ADF-NALU and M23 as well as domestic measures undertaken by the DRC government ([Source](#)).
- **HRC** – The Human Rights Council held a High-Level Dialogue on Combatting Sexual violence in the DRC during the 25<sup>th</sup> regular session of the HRC. During the session UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay said that rape as a weapon of war is still “alarmingly prevalent” in DRC. ([Source](#))

#### **28 March**

- **UNSC** – The UNSC unanimously adopted a Resolution extending the mandate of MONUSCO for another year, highlighting the need to assist the government with SSR and DDRRR, the need for expanded accountability for war crimes and crimes against humanity, and the need to combat the FDLR. ([Source](#))

### **APRIL 2014**

#### **9 April**

- **UNJHRO** – The UN Joint Human Rights Office in the DRC released a report, entitled “Progress and Obstacles in the Fight Against Impunity For Sexual Violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo” documenting continued widespread rape and a lack of progress on combatting impunity. ([Source](#))

#### **18 April**

- **UN Mine Action Service** – The UN Mine Action Service, which facilitated the completion of an ammunition depot facility in Kisangani in October 2013, held a

nine-week training course for FARDC personnel on the management of arms depots. ([Source](#))

### **23 April**

- **MONUSCO** – SRSG Kobler announced that MONUSCO would provide technical and logistical support for the 2015 and 2016 elections in DRC. ([Source](#))

## **MAY 2014**

### **8 May**

- **OHCHR and UN Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict** – On 5 May a military court in the DRC concluded a trial of 39 soldiers charged with raping civilians in Minova during M23's occupation of Goma in November 2012. The court found only two men guilty of rapes. Several UN officials expressed disappointment with the verdict. ([Source](#)) ([Source](#))

### **23 May**

- **ICC** – The Trial Chamber II of the ICC sentenced former rebel leader Germain Katanga to 12 years imprisonment for committing crimes against humanity and war crimes in Ituri during 2003. ([Source](#)) ([Source](#))

### **30 May**

- **MONUSCO and SADC** – After receiving a letter in April from the FDLR declaring their intention to submit themselves to a DDRRR process, MONUSCO and SADC officials prepared to receive members of the rebel group in North and South Kivu. On 30 May approximately 100 members of the group surrendered. The group of UN and country Envoys urged other members of the group to also submit to this process and renounce violence. ([Source](#))

## **JUNE 2014**

### **1 June**

- **MONUSCO and ICGLR** – Delegates from ICGLR met with SRSG Kobler and signed a Memorandum of Understanding to create a mechanisms linking MONUSCO and ICGLR security mechanisms. The MOU established a framework for coordination and collaboration between the two parties. ([Source](#))

### **3 June**

- **Special Envoys** UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy to the Great Lakes Region, Mary Robinson, together with the Special Envoys of the United States, European Union and African Union, initiated a formal review of progress on benchmarks set in Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for DRC and the Region.

### **6 June**

- **MONUSCO** – The mission received an additional 83 FDLR members, together with their dependents, into their voluntary DDRRR program. ([Source](#))

#### **7 June**

- **MONUSCO** – The UN Mission in the DRC urged calm and strongly condemned the outbreak of inter-ethnic violence in South Kivu that resulted in more than 30 civilians killed. ([Source](#))

#### **9 June**

- **ICC** the International Criminal Court confirmed 18 counts of war crimes and crimes against humanity against Bosco Ntaganda for crimes committed in Ituri during 2003. Prior to his surrender Ntaganda was considered one of the leaders of M23. ([Source](#))

#### **10 June**

- **MONUSCO** – An inter-disciplinary mission was sent to assess the security and humanitarian situation in South Kivu following inter-ethnic clashes in Uvira. ([Source](#))

#### **12 June**

- **SRSK Kobler** – The UN Special Representative called for a de-escalation of tensions along the DRC-Rwanda border following sporadic clashes between FARDC and Rwandan troops that resulted in 5 FARDC troops killed. ([Source](#))

#### **20 June**

- **SRSK Kobler** – A delegation, including SRSK Kobler, visited Mutarle, the site of inter-ethnic clashes that left 33 dead earlier in the month. The SRSK issued a public apology for MONUSCO's failure to protect civilians and prevent the violence ([Source](#))

#### **24 June**

- **MONUSCO** – The UN mission has started assisting the government's national election commission in preparation for the 2015 elections, including airlifting electoral kits for voter registration. ([Source](#))

### **JULY 2014**

#### **1 July**

- **UNSC** – The Security Council's sanctions committee for the DRC updated the list of individuals and entities subject to travel bans and asset freezes to include the Allied Defense Forces (ADF). ([Source](#))
- **MONUSCO-ICGLR** - MONUSCO and the ICGLR signed a Memorandum of Understanding to create a legal framework for their collaboration – including creating linkages between the intervention brigade and ICGLR security

mechanisms as well as between the Joint Intelligence Fusion Cell and the Expanded Joint Verification Mechanism ([Source](#))

### **2-3 July**

- **SADC-ICGLR** – A joint SADC-ICGLR Summit was held at the ministerial level to discuss ongoing progress towards benchmarks on the Framework Agreement. On 3 July Ministers of Defence set out a 6-month timeframe for the FDLR to voluntarily surrender their arms before military action against them would be considered. ([Source](#))

### **10 July**

**MONUSCO** - The UN Mission in DRC expanded their “islands of stability” program by launching in Geti, part of Bunia. ([Source](#))

### **14 July**

- **UN Special Representatives on Sexual Violence in Conflict and Children and Armed Conflict** - Two UN Special Representatives issued a joint statement welcoming the appointment of a Presidential Adviser on conflict-related sexual violence and the recruitment and use of children in conflict. ([Source](#))

### **17 July**

- **UNSG** – Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon appointed Said Djinnit the new Special Envoy to the Great Lakes Region. Special Envoy Djinnit will replace Mary Robinson in this role. ([Source](#))

### **21 July**

- **SRSG for Children and Armed Conflict** – Following the release of the UN’s 5<sup>th</sup> Report on Children and Armed Conflict in the DRC, the UN Special Representative briefed a Security Council Working Group and issued a Press Release documenting hundreds of cases of recruitment of children by armed groups and sexual violence against children by all parties to the conflict ([Source](#))

## **AUGUST**

### **7 August**

**UNSC** – The UNSC held a briefing on the Secretary-General’s latest report on MONUSCO. The Council was briefed by Special Representative Kobler and Special Envoy Robinson, her final briefing in her capacity as Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region. SRSG Kobler reported that the situation has vastly improved since 2013, but challenges to progress in reestablishing state authority in the east and to defeating all armed groups remain. ([Source](#)) ([Source](#))

### **12-13 August**

- **ICGLR** – The Heads of State and Government of ICGLR member states held a mini-summit on the situation in the DRC on 12 August. Following this meeting,

the Ministers of Defense of 6 states remained to assess and adopt strategies developed the previous day during the mini summit. ([Source](#))

### **18 August**

- **SADC** – SADC held its 34<sup>th</sup> Summit of Heads of State and Government. During the meeting participants adopted a communique, which declared “With regard to the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Summit endorsed the decision of the last joint SADC / ICGLR Ministerial Meeting which provides that the voluntary surrender and disarmament of FDLR must be made within six months. It also called on the United Nations, in cooperation with the African Union, to assist in repatriating the FDLR who voluntarily, surrendered and laid down their weapons and by relocating them temporarily in third countries outside the Great Lakes region. This process could be conducted within six months as agreed between SADC and ICGLR.” ([Source](#))

### **26 August**

- **UNSC** – Following the 7 August briefings, the UNSC issued a Press Statement regarding the status of national, regional and international efforts to eradicate armed groups in the DRC, particularly emphasizing the need to disarm and neutralize the FDLR. ([Source](#))

## **SEPTEMBER 2014**

### **22 September**

- **Regional Oversight Mechanism** – The regional oversight mechanism (including SADC and ICGLR) held its fourth meeting on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly. Following the meeting they issued a communique encouraging further efforts to neutralize armed groups, establish full state authority in the eastern DRC and accelerate efforts to implement the agreement between the DRC and M23. ([Source](#))

### **26 September**

- **HRC** – The Human Rights Council passed a resolution extending technical support for human rights capacity in the DRC. ([Source](#))

## **OCTOBER 2014**

### **3 October**

- **UNSC** – The UNSC issued a Press Statement concerning the failure of FDLR to voluntarily demobilize. The statement noted that they had reached the halfway point in the ICGLR-SADC six-month window for voluntary demobilization ([Source](#))

### 9 October

- **MONUSCO** – The force commander for MONUSCO briefed the Security Council regarding ongoing efforts to neutralize armed groups operating in the DRC. ([Source](#))

### 10 October

- **UNJHRO** – The UNJHRO published a report on grave rights abuses committed by armed groups in the DRC between April 2012 and November 2013. In response, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the SRSG and other high level UN officials called upon the government to take measures to ensure accountability for these crimes ([Source](#)).
- **MONUSCO** – SRSG Kobler condemned the killing of nine civilians by ADF-Nalu. ([Source](#))

### 18 October

- **SRSG** – SRSG Kobler called for swift joint FARDC-MONUSCO military action following further atrocities committed by the ADF-Nalu ([Source](#))

### 18-20 October

- **SADC – ICGLR** – The two regional organizations held a follow-up meeting to discuss FDLR disarmament and progress towards the 2 January deadline for surrender without military action.

### 21 October –

- **Secretary-General** – The SG condemned the government's decision to ban the chief human rights officer of UNJHRO following the publication of a report that condemned government action against protestors in Kinshasa ([Source](#))

### 22 October

- **MONUSCO** – Following the attacks on civilians by ADF in Beni, protestors attacked a MONUSCO compound, resulting in increased security around the base in Beni ([Source](#)).

### 24 October

- **UN, AU, MONUSCO** – The UN and AU's special envoys, together with MONUSCO, met with regional leaders in eastern DRC to discuss plans for FARDC and MONUSCO to end the threat of the ADF-Nalu following a recent spate of attacks in Beni ([Source](#))

### 27 October

- **UNSC** - The UNSC was briefed by SRSG Kobler and the UN Special Envoy regarding the situation in the DRC and the state of the MONUSCO mission ([Source](#)) ([Source](#))

## **November 2014**

### **5 November**

- **UNSC** – The Security Council issued a Presidential Statement expressing concern regarding the lack of progress on FDLR disarmament and calling upon signatory states to the Peace and Security Framework to make faster progress towards implementation. ([Source](#))

### **9 November**

- **MONUSCO** – The UN welcomed the government’s sentencing of a former FAPC (the previous iteration of FARDC) commander accused of perpetrating war crimes between 2003 and 2005 ([Source](#))
- **AU** – The AU met with the UN Special Envoy to the Great Lakes Region to discuss implementation of the Framework Agreement ( [Source](#))

### **18 November**

- **UNHCR** - The UNHCR urged the government of the DRC and MONUSCO to increase their capacity to protect populations in Katanga. Mai Mai groups, notably the Mai Mai Bataka Katanga have perpetrated violence against populations, particularly targeting the Twa community. ([Source](#))

### **24 November**

- **UN Special Envoy** – Special Envoy Djinnit issued a Press Release strongly condemning ongoing attacks by the ADF against civilian populations in North Kivu ([Source](#))

### **25 November**

- **UNSC** – The Security Council issued a Press Statement condemning ADF attacks on the population and calling upon the government and MONUSCO to increase efforts to protect civilians. ([Source](#))

## **DECEMBER**

### **1 December**

- **AU** - The AU held the first meeting of the Group of Guarantors for the implementation of the Framework Agreement for Peace and Cooperation in the DRC and the Region. ([Source](#))

### **2 December**

- **UN, AU US Special Envoys** - The group of Special envoys issued a statement indicating that they were “deeply outraged” by civilian massacres around Beni in North Kivu and called for the government to engage in robust military action against armed groups ([Source](#))

### **5 December**

- **UNHCR** – The UN Refugee agency condemned the sudden closure of an IDP camp in Rutshuru that was housing approximately 2,300 civilians. ([Source](#))

## 8 December

- **SRSK Kobler** Following another massacre in North Kivu, SRSK Kobler condemned the attack on populations and called for “immediate action” to “eliminate terrorists”. ([Source](#))

## 12 December

- **UN, EU, AU, US Envoys** - The collective envoys for the DRC and Great Lakes Region issued a statement calling for rapid implementation of the Nairobi Declarations on the one year anniversary of their signing. ([Source](#)) ([Source](#))

## 16 December

- **SRSK on Sexual Violence in Conflict** - Following the conviction of a senior army officer for crimes against humanity, the SRSK welcomed the conviction, remarking that it sends a “very clear message to perpetrators of sexual violence in DRC that they cannot hide behind a badge or evade justice with a uniform.” ([Source](#)).

## 30 December

- **US Envoy** – Special Envoy Feingold held a telephone media briefing in which he reiterated the call for the FDLR to disarm by the 2 January deadline and called for immediate military action against the group should the deadline fail to be met. ([Source](#))
- **UNSG** – Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon submitted his strategic review of MONUSCO to the Security Council, recommending a 2,000 troop reduction from the mission. ([Source](#)) ([Source](#))

## 31 December

- **Group of Experts** – The UN Group of Experts submitted their final report on DRC sanctions to the Security Council.

# 2015

## January

### 2 January

- **UN, EU, AU, US Envoys** - The collective envoys for the DRC and Great Lakes Region issued a statement calling for the DRC government and MONUSCO to take all necessary measures to disarm the FDLR. ([Source](#)).

### 5 January

- **MONUSCO** – The UN Mission in the DRC announced that it was readying military operations to support offensives against the FDLR ([Source](#)).

- **UNSC** – At the request of France, the UNSC was briefed by SRSK Kobler on the situation of the FDLR in DRC. ([Source](#))

### **6 January**

- **MONUSCO** – In a Joint Operation with the FARDC, MONUSCO's Force Intervention Brigade took control of bases occupied by the Burundian National Liberation Front (FNL). The mission also engaged in a mission against the FRPI that resulted in the transfer of rebel leader Cobra Matata to Kinshasa. ([Source](#)) ([Source](#))

### **7 January**

- **UN Secretary-General** – Ban Ki-moon phoned DRC President Kabila to urge decisive action against FDLR following the expiration of the surrender deadline. ([Source](#))

### **8 January**

- **UNSC** – The Security Council issued a Presidential Statement urging the DRC government and MONUSCO to take immediate action to neutralize the FDLR ([Source](#))

### **12 January**

- **SADC-ICGLR** – Regional organizations were set to have a joint summit on 15 and 16 January to discuss military action against the FDLR, but the summit was reportedly canceled as a result of all parties already being in agreement on the necessary course of action ([Source](#)).

### **22 January –**

- **AU PSC** – The AU issued a communique encouraging the government of the DRC to launch joint anti-FDLR operations with MONUSCO.

### **29 January**

- **UNSC** – The Security Council passed Resolution 2198 extending the mandate of the Group of Experts and the DRC sanctions regime for an additional year. ([Source](#))

## **February**

### **2 February**

- **MONUSCO** – The UN Mission in Congo threatened to withdraw support to anti-FDLR efforts if the government allowed two generals accused of grave human rights abuses to continue leading the FARDC's efforts.

### **10 February**

- **MONUSCO** – Following the government's refusal to dismiss two generals accused of perpetrating grave crimes against populations in the DRC from the

anti-FDLR operations MONUSCO formally withdrew its support to the offensives. (The operations formally started on 25 February).

### **23 February**

- **AU PSC** – The AU held a meeting regarding the Great Lakes Region and issued a Communique welcoming the FARDC's operations against the FDLR, encouraging the FARDC to resume operations with MONUSCO, and welcoming the signing of bilateral agreements between the DRC and Uganda and Rwanda regarding the disarmament and repatriation of M23 ([Source](#))

## **March**

### **4 March**

- **ICGLR** – ICGLR issued a Press Release welcoming the launch of FARDC operations against FDLR. ([Source](#))

### **19 March**

- **SRSB and Special Envoy** – The head of MONUSCO and Special Envoy to the Great Lakes Region briefed the UNSC regarding ongoing operations against rebel groups in DRC and recent political developments related to the 2016 elections. This meeting occurred ahead of the UNSC session to agree upon MONUSCO's new mandate. ([Source](#))

### **26 March**

- **UNSC** – MONUSCO's mandate was renewed when the UNSC adopted Resolution 2211, which reminded the government that it bears the primary responsibility to protect civilians within its territory, including from crimes against humanity and war crimes. ([Source](#))

### **31 March**

- **SRSB for Sexual Violence** – Military commanders in the DRC signed a landmark declaration pledging to combat rape in war. This declaration was met with praise by the UN SRSB for Sexual Violence in Conflict. ([Source](#))

## **APRIL**

### **17 April**

- **MONUSCO** – The UN Mission in DRC condemned a 15 April attack by ADF rebels on Beni which killed more than 20 people. ([Source](#))

## **May**

### **4 May**

- **MONUSCO** – The UN Mission in the DRC condemned the 4 May attack on one of its helicopters by ADF rebels near Beni. ([Source](#))

## 6 May

- **MONUSCO** – The UN Mission in the DRC condemned the killing of MONUSCO peacekeepers in Beni ([Source](#))
- **UNSC** – The Security Council issued a Press Statement condemning the killing of MONUSCO peacekeepers in Beni. ([Source](#))

## 7 May

- **ICGLR** – The ICGLR condemned the 5 May attack on MONUSCO that killed two peacekeepers ([Source](#)).
- **DPKO** – The UN announced that MONUSCO was planning to act unilaterally against FDLR. ([Source](#)).

## 11 May

- **ICGLR** – The ICGLR Chiefs of Defense Staff met to discuss the security situations throughout the Great Lakes Region ([Source](#)).

## 13 May

- **UNJHRO** – The UN Joint Human Rights Office released a report on the situation in Beni from October-December 2014. The report highlights that the ADF killed at least 237 civilians and perpetrated crimes which may amount to crimes against humanity. ([Source](#))

## JULY

### 6 July

- **United States** – The United States appointed Thomas Perriello as new Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region following the resignation of Russ Feingold early this year. ([Source](#))

### 27 July

- **OHCHR** – The Annual Report of the OHCHR on the Situation of human rights and activities of UNJHRO in the DRC was released. A/HRC/30/32

## AUGUST

### 20 August

- **MONUSCO** – UNJHRO in Ituri organized a conference against impunity for sexual and gender based violence. ([Source](#)) ([source](#))

## September

### 1 September

- **ICC** – Chief Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda delivered a Press Statement ahead of the start of the trial of Bosco Ntaganda. (Source)

### 2 September

- **ICC** - The ICC Prosecution delivered its opening statements in the case of Bosco Ntaganda, formally starting his trial. Further statements will be delivered on 3

September and hearings will begin on 15 September. The court is expected to call more than 80 witnesses for testimony. ([Source](#))

- **SRSB for Sexual Violence** – SRSB Bangura issued a statement welcoming the start of the ICC trial against Bosco Ntaganda, noting the powerful message it sends to other military leaders who may perpetrate attacks against defenseless civilian populations ([Source](#))
- **Team of International Envoys** The International Envoys released a statement regarding the DRC’s election calendar following a two-day meeting in Geneva that started on 28 August ([Source](#))

#### **4 September**

- **OHCHR** – UN ASG for Humanitarian Affairs Kyung-wha Kang issued a statement following a 4-day visit to the DRC where she urged states to ensure the country does not “fall off the humanitarian radar.” Ms. Kang toured many IDP camps in eastern DRC while she was in the country ([Source](#))
- **SRSB Kobler** – It was announced that SRSB Martin Kobler would step down as head of MONUSCO at the end of his term in October 2015 ([Source](#))

#### **15 September –**

- **ICC** – The court started to hear testimony of witnesses and victims in the case of Bosco Ntaganda.

#### **28 September**

- **UN Secretary-General** – The annual report on MONUSCO was published. (S/2015/741) ([Source](#)).

#### **29 September**

- **Regional Oversight Mechanism** – On the sidelines of the UN General Assembly the annual high-level meeting of the Regional Oversight Mechanism was held in New York.

### **OCTOBER**

#### **7 October**

- **MONUSCO** – SRSB Kobler briefed the UN Security Council regarding the ongoing operations against militias in eastern DRC as well as rising tensions ahead of the 2016 elections. ([Source](#)) ([Source](#))

#### **8 October**

- **UN Secretary-General** – Maman S. Sidikou of Niger was appointed new SRSB for the DRC and head of MONUSCO. ([Source](#))

### **NOVEMBER**

#### **9 November**

- **UNSC** – The Security Council adopted a Presidential statement regarding the escalation in attacks by armed groups in eastern DRC, urging the government and MONUSCO to resume joint operations. ([Source](#))

### **30 November**

- **UNSC** – The Security Council issued a Press Statement condemning recent ADF attacks, including the killing of a MONUSCO peacekeeper. ([Source](#))

## December

### **19 December**

- **ICC** – Germain Katanga was released back to the DRC to complete his sentence, which runs through March 2020. The government of the DRC later announced Katanga would be tried domestically for other incidents of crimes against humanity in eastern Congo ([Source](#)).

### **24 December**

- **UN Secretary-General** – The UN Secretary-General issued his semi-annual report on MONUSCO ([Source](#)).

### **29 December –**

- **UN Secretary-General** – General Derrick Mbusyiselo Mgwebi of South Africa was appointed the new Force Commander of MONUSCO. \*Mgwebi took his position as of 1 February 2016 ([Source](#))

## **2016**

## January

### **14 January –**

- **SRSR** – Special Representative Sidikou briefed the UNSC on 14 January, alerting the council to the “very real risks of unrest and violence” in the upcoming elections. ([Source](#))

### **26 January –**

- **MONUSCO** – MONUSCO and the FARDC officially resumed joint operations against armed groups in the eastern DRC after a year without such cooperation. In a 2 February Press release MONUSCO reiterated that the government bears the “primary responsibility for the protection of its citizens,” noting its readiness to support the government in these efforts. ([SOURCE](#))

### **28 January –**

- **Signatories to the PSC Framework** – States and organizations affiliated with the 2013 Peace and Security Framework met at the ministerial level on the side lines of the AU Summit ([Source](#))

## February

### **2 February-**

- **OCHA** – The government of the DRC and OCHA released a “Humanitarian Action Plan” aimed at assisting 6 million people affected by violence in the eastern DRC. ([Source](#))

### **8 February**

- **OHCHR** – The spokesperson for the OHCHR released a statement regarding the inter-communal violence in Lubero and Walikale, raising concern about escalating conflict between the Nande and Hutus. ([source](#))