



PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



**Security Council Briefing on the situation concerning the
Democratic Republic of the Congo
27 March 2025**

Greece's Statement delivered by Mr. Ioannis Stamatekos,
Deputy Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations,
New York

Thank you Madame President.

I would like to thank SRSG Ms Bintou Keita for briefing us today and Ms. Charlotte Sente, Secretary General Secretary-General of the Danish Refugee Council for her remarks.

Madame President,

Allow me to emphasize on the following points:

First, the adoption of Resolution 2773 was urgently needed in order to address the deteriorating crisis in eastern DRC. We believe that this Resolution sent a clear, strong message to M23, to immediately cease hostilities and withdraw from Goma, Bukavu and all other controlled areas.

Greece resolutely opposes any violations of international law and the UN Charter and stresses its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of the DRC.

Second, we underline that there is no other solution to the conflict than a political solution, based on dialogue, which remains essential. We welcome the recent meeting between President Tshisekedi and President Kagame in Doha where they reaffirmed the commitment of all parties to an immediate and unconditional ceasefire, as agreed at the joint EAC-SADC summit and endorsed by the AUPSC. Rwanda Defense Forces must now cease support to the M23 and immediately withdraw from DRC territory.

We call for urgent de-escalation and we stress that it is more imperative than ever that Rwanda and DRC re-engage immediately in the political dialogue and implement all decisions and commitments agreed under the Luanda and Nairobi processes.

Third, the Resolution 2773 reiterates with the strongest voice the Council's full support to MONUSCO, which is acting within its mandate and is doing critical work in the DRC, in particular protecting the civilians, ensuring continued implementation of the MRM on children and armed conflict and addressing urgent needs. The

protection of civilians as well as of humanitarian and medical personnel must remain an absolute priority.

We emphasize also our strong commitment to the safety and security of MONUSCO's personnel.

Fourth, we are deeply concerned about the grave humanitarian and security consequences of the M23 offensive both in North and South Kivu. All parties must respect international humanitarian law and ensure unrestricted humanitarian access. We strongly condemn all forms of human rights violations, abuses, violence against civilians, including against humanitarian and medical personnel, summary executions and maiming, sex and gender based violence, human trafficking, recruitment and use of children.

All continuing grave violations and abuses committed against children must halt and all parties must uphold their obligations under IHL and IHRL.

Madame President,

Women and girls, being the main victims of the conflict, need to have unobstructed access to justice. We welcome the steps taken by the DRC Government to hold perpetrators of grave violations against children accountable. Also, we urge the DRC to prioritize the

prevention of sexual violence and all other grave violations.

Finally, a meaningful political engagement of women and their solidarity and advocacy at regional, national and international levels are key elements for the peace in eastern DRC, as stressed by the Secretary General in his report.

Madame President,

We stand ready to support any further engagement of this Council as necessary.

I thank you.