<u>Mali: Three UN peacekeepers killed in</u> <u>attack in Kidal</u>

9 June 2017 — Condemning yesterday's attacks against the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (<u>MINUSMA</u>) in the city of Kidal, <u>Secretary-General</u> António Guterres reiterated the Organization's support to help implement the peace agreement in the West African country.

In a statement issued by his spokesman, the UN chief reiterated that <u>attacks</u> <u>targeting UN peacekeepers may constitute war crimes</u> and called for the perpetrators to be swiftly brought to justice.

Mr. Guterres also expressed his condolences to the families of those the peacekeepers killed and a speedy recovery those injured.

According (<u>news release</u>, in French) to MINUSMA, yesterday, its camp in Kidal was hit by intensive rocket and mortar fire. Initial information indicated that about a dozen shells of different calibres targeted the camp.

Shortly thereafter, peacekeepers situated outside the camp also came under attack.

The attacks follow a strengthening of patrols (<u>news release</u>, in French) initiated by the Mission in Kidal in response to increased violence in the region as well as reported incidents of human rights abuses targeting specific communities.