



# Humanitarian News

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## Rapid Demobilization comes to an end in Angola



Photo: Giovanni Diffidenti for UCAH

*The continuity of humanitarian assistance interventions in Angola is being threatened by a sudden increase in violent acts involving relief workers in the countryside. During the reporting period two deminers of the Santa Barbara Foundation and a WFP driver lost their lives while new mines were found along routes used by relief organizations to support vulnerable populations in various provinces and reports of increased tension increase in the field raising serious concerns for the safety of relief workers when the UN celebrates its 52nd Anniversary and 21 years in Angola.*

### INSIDE...

#### ◆ Humanitarian Assistance:

*Humanitarian activities are suspended in the Caculama hospital while a high level delegation travels to Chongoroi in solidarity with the families of the two deminers who recently lost their lives in the area.*

#### ◆ Demobilization & Reintegration:

*Rapid Demobilization operations come to an end at the last of the 15 SDCs while activities continue at the Special Centers for Disabled in Southern Angola.*

#### ◆ Mine Action:

*WFP loses a driver to a newly laid mine when a relief convoy transported essential relief for needy populations in the eastern corner of the country.*

**NATIONAL RECONCILIATION**

**UN SC DECIDES TO IMPLEMENT SANCTIONS AGAINST UNITA**

During its meeting on 29 October, the UN Security Council approved the implementation of sanctions against UNITA as this party did not comply with its remaining tasks of the Lusaka Protocol. According to the SC resolution 1135/97, the sanctions came into force from 30 October. As adopted last August in the SC resolution 1127/97, all UN State members have (1) to prevent the entry into or transit through their territories of all UNITA senior officials and of adult members of their immediate families, except members of the GURN, National Assembly and Joint Commission, (2) to suspend or cancel all travel documents, visas or residence permits issued to UNITA officials, (3) to require the immediate and complete closure of all UNITA offices in their territories and (4) to prohibit UNITA flights and the supply of aircraft or components.

On 31 October, the SRS in Angola, Maître Alioune Beye, met in Andulo with UNITA leadership and with Dr. Savimbi to inform them of the SC resolution and to discuss the prospects for the future. On its side, the Angolan Government stated that the sanctions against UNITA were not an end in themselves, but a means of inducing it to choose peace and reconciliation. In an official statement launched on 31 October, the Government said it remained open to serious dialogue, but will also remain firm in the defense of the territorial integrity.

**UNITA REMAINS IN THE LUSAKA PROTOCOL**

UNITA will remain in the Lusaka Protocol, the UNITA representative to the Joint Commission, Ambassador Isaías Samakuva, told the press on his return from Andulo where the UNITA Political Commission met following the sanctions approved by the UN SC. The laconic communiqué issued by UNITA leadership considers "as unjust the attitude of the Security Council" and advises that "UNITA has decided to assume a posture which consists of closely watching the Government of Angola and the countries that comprise the International community". Finally, "the leadership of UNITA is conscious of the enormous difficulties which it is going to meet in fulfilling the remaining obligations attributed to it by the Lusaka Protocol, because of these unjust sanctions".

**PORTUGAL AS THE FIRST TO ATTEMPT TO CLOSE UNITA OFFICE**

Twenty-four hours after the SC resolution, UNITA's offices in Portugal were asked to close following an order of the Portuguese Government. Before the closure order was given, the Portuguese Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Mr. José Lamego, met with UNITA representatives to inform them that Portugal is to apply the SC resolution 1135. However, due to legal reasons this order has not yet been fully implemented.

In Brussels, a Belgian Foreign Ministry spokesman said that UNITA's representation office will be closed as soon as possible. "As a UN member state, Belgium will respect and apply the sanctions imposed by the SC", the spokesman explained. South Africa has also welcomed the sanctions and promised to apply them.

**EXTRACT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL STATEMENT  
ON UN DAY - 24 OCTOBER**

On 24 October, the SRSG read the statement made by the SG on the occasion of the UN's 52nd anniversary. An extract of the statement is as follows, "**We can and must be more responsive to the needs of peoples and Member States. We can and must improve our work in development, in advocacy and in the field. We can and must be more effective in promoting human rights and good governance. We can and must be swifter in responding to crises and preventing conflict. We can and must make the UN all that its peoples want it to be**". In Angola, the UN has been present for the past 21 years.

**ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZES UN  
ACTIONS**

On 20 October, during the opening of a photographic exhibition within the framework of the celebration of the 21 years of UN's presence in Angola and the UN day, the Angolan Foreign Minister, Mr. Venâncio de Moura, stated that the Government of Angola will devote itself to support the implementation of humanitarian assistance and development programs carried out by UN agencies and NGOs. The Minister advised that "the UN family in Angola should reinforce its action to set up more efficient mechanisms for attracting investments and to better coordinate assistance intended for Angola". He also reiterated the wish of the Angolan Government to see more Angolan professionals within the UN at national and international levels. The exhibition included photos from all UN agencies working in Angola plus MONUA and UCAH. Meanwhile, the Angolan Minister of Planning, Mr. Emmanuel Carneiro, stated that "there is no doubt that the UN contributes towards the establishment of a better world". Addressing the main ceremony of UN day at the National Assembly on 24 October, the Minister recognized "with high esteem the support of the UN in the negotiation, signature and application of the Lusaka Protocol".

**TRANSITION TO DEVELOPMENT AID**

The UNDP representative in Angola, Mr. Bernard Ntegeye, explained that UN agencies are getting ready to make the transition from emergency humanitarian assistance towards rehabilitation and development programs although there are agencies which will continue to provide humanitarian aid. Speaking on the occasion of the 21st anniversary of the UN presence in Angola, Mr. Ntegeye said that the emphasis will

be placed in the future on **development and creation** of conditions for self sufficiency in food production.

**BENGUELA GOVERNOR  
SUPPORTS HUMAN  
RIGHTS CAMPAIGN**

The Governor of Benguela Province, Mr. Dumilde Rangel, promised to intensify the human rights campaign after the normalization of State Administration is completed in the province. Addressing an official ceremony on 24 October in Benguela city, the Governor reiterated his interest in taking the respect of human rights as a priority of his government. In this framework, one of the Benguela Vice-Governors requested the local MONUA Human Rights officer to hold a seminar on human rights to be attended by municipal administrators. This seminar will take place next December. Meanwhile, upon the request of the local administrator, MONUA conducted at the Adventist Church in Baía Farta municipality, a meeting on the respect of human rights. Some 400 persons attended this session where human rights kits were distributed.

# HUMANITARIAN Activities

## AMBUSH ON LOBITO/BOCOIO ROAD

On 23 October, around 3 km from the Lobito/Bocoio junction, armed men ambushed a civilian car, killing the driver. The car was returning from Lobito where it had collected a spare part for one of the civilian trucks rented by WFP as part of a relief convoy and which had broken down between Culango and Bocoio localities. MONUA in Benguela is investigating this incident.

## AAD HOLDS SEMINAR FOR ANGOLAN JOURNALISTS

The Angolan Action for Development, AAD, is preparing two seminars for Angolan journalists on the Media's challenge in a democracy, to be held from 17-22 November in Luanda and on 24-29 November in Benguela. According to this Angolan NGO, around 40 journalists will attend these seminars which are sponsored by the German Heinrich Boll Foundation. AAD has asked UCAH's Information Unit to address the theme of Humanitarian Journalism in order to enable the participants to deal with relief matters. Other themes include journalism and democracy, women journalists and political affairs, the freedom of the press and the World Bank's role in the economy of developing countries.

## HIGH LEVEL DELEGATION VISITS CUBA

Following the incident on 23 October at Bocoio commune which led to the death of two Santa Clara Foundation (SBF) deminers and four Angolans, a mission travelled to Chongoroi town and Benguela city in the Province of Benguela on 31 October. The solidarity mission met with local authorities, representatives of the SBF and UN agencies operating in the region. Mission members were informed of the details leading to the terrible accident, the measures being adopted to identify and punish the culprits, as well as, SBF's plans to redeploy somewhere else in the region and possible alternatives to continue demining activities in this area. Other issues discussed included the impact of Normalization of State Administration on security conditions, resettlement operations and rehabilitation projects. The delegation was integrated by the Minister of Social Assistance, the Ambassadors of the United Kingdom and Sweden, the Chargé d'Affaires of Norway and Germany, the Deputy-Ambassador of the United States of America, as well as, representatives of UCAH, WFP, the SRS's Office and Norwegian Popular Aid (NPA).

## NGO ACTIVITIES SUSPENDED IN CACULAMA HOSPITAL

NGO activities carried out in the hospital of Caculama, Benguela, in the Province of Benguela, have been temporarily suspended following the incident with local UNITA officers. On 16 October, during a meeting in Caculama local UNITA representatives stated that the hospital recently established by NGOs with voluntary funds from the international community actually belongs to the UNITA party. The suspension of all activities made by the NGOs is a representative

decision taken by the local UNITA representatives. The suspension of NGO activities in the hospital of Caculama, Benguela, has been reported to the Joint Fact-Finding Mission of the Swedish Mission and the association of international NGOs who are now working in the hospital. The suspension of all NGO activities in the hospital will remain suspended until the issue is resolved and UNITA agrees that the hospital is part of the national public health structure.

# DEMOBILIZATION & REINTEGRATION

Updated figures on Demobilization Process

Total registered troops	38,497
Total registered troops "in situ"	5,281
Total deserters	25
Total dead	10,000
Total incorporated in FAA	38,497
Total already demobilized	(including the first 2,124 ex-UNITA and 360 FAA underage soldiers plus 419 demobilized through the in-situ operation)
Total still to be demobilized from SDCs and MWDCs	4,357
Total still to be demobilized "in situ"	4,865
Total SDCs already closed	14
Total SDCs still active	1
Total MWDCs already closed	
Total MWDCs still active	

**Status of Rapid Demobilization :**

- At the Licua SDC demobilization activities are coming to be completed during the first weeks of November. Meanwhile, activities continue at Military War Disabled at the Special Centers located in Jamba/Biongue and Mavinga. Operations were completed at the Kavaleka on 29/10/97.

**Update on Demobilization "In Situ":**

- The MONUA Force Commander continues to coordinate the implementation of this exercise with technical support from the Humanitarian Demobilization Unit (UCAH). In this context, demobilization of 31 soldiers (31 soldiers demobilized), in Quibaxe (31 soldiers demobilized) which brings to 419 the total number of soldiers demobilized to date.

**Demobilization of Special Categories:**

- The first round of registration took place for senior UNITA military officers in Luanda performing activities within the context of the implementation of the Lusaka Protocol. A last round of registration is scheduled for the 18th of November for the last individuals in Luanda. Other personnel to be registered include former Social Promoters and INAROOE deminers.
- The group to be demobilized within this category will include 61 ex-UNITA troops who were selected but not finally incorporated into the National Police. This group is presently residing at the IOM Transit Center in Viana, Luanda Province.

### ***MINE KILLS WFP DRIVER IN CAMANONGUE...***

On 30 October, a truck (the fifth vehicle of the convoy) hit an anti-tank mine between Camanongue and Luena, in Moxico Province, which led to the death of the driver. This truck was part of a WFP convoy from Luanda, via Saurimo, composed of over 50 vehicles which were transporting food to Luena.

Preliminary reports indicate that the mine was laid recently along this route which is used frequently by relief workers. The Minister of Social Assistance and the Director of INAROE have corroborated the condemnation of this act. After the timely intervention of the INAROE Moxico demining brigade which cleared an additional four mines, the rest of the convoy was able to proceed and finally arrive to its destination.

### ***...WHILE A CATERPILLAR HITS ANOTHER MINE IN CUBAL***

A caterpillar truck hit a mine on the road between Cubal/Lomaum, in Benguela Province, on 26 October. The type of vehicle, fortunately there were no victims. According to the CRS report, it is believed that the mine had been laid recently.

### ***NEW MINES ON LOMBE/CALANDULA ROAD***

FAA reported the discovery of two new landmines (on top of each other) at some 500m outside Lombe on the Malange-Lombe-Calandula road on 15 October. After withdrawing the mines, they were destroyed in the presence of MONUA staff. On 17 October UCAH/MONUA issued a declaration to all UN/NGOs informing them that this road was no longer considered safe. This road was being used to provide basic relief to some 1,000 persons returning with their own means to their villages in the surroundings of Lombe.

