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MDRP Partners to Discuss DRC National Demobilization and Reintegration Program (PNDDR), February 23rd in Kinshasa

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and partners, donor members and staff of the World Bank **Multi-Country Demobilization and Reintegration Program (MDRP)** will hold a **technical review meeting** in **Kinshasa, February 23rd, 2006**. Participants will report on the DRC's National Demobilization and Reintegration Program (PNDDR - *Programme National de Démobilisation et Réinsertion*) and agree upon next steps for project improvement.

Journalists are invited to attend a Press brief on Thursday Feb 23 at 5pm at the Grand hotel, Kinshasa

This meeting will be the culmination of a Joint Implementation Support Mission. Reporting will be based on a series of assessments currently ongoing, made by teams of participants. Teams have each been assigned to an area of responsibility, and are visiting specific PNDDR projects around the country to note progress and constraints in implementation

Teams are reviewing, among other areas: efforts to link demobilization with security sector reform; the operation of orientation centers; the implementation status of ID, payment and information management systems; the extent and effectiveness of the reinsertion program; project management and procurement and financial management; and communications campaigns.

The joint technical meeting will be in two parts. One will consist of partners and donors, while the other will be restricted to donors only. It will conclude with the writing of an *aide-memoire* summarizing all key issues and/or problems, which will be discussed with DRC Government officials.



About MDRP. Launched in 2002, MDRP is a regional initiative that supports a comprehensive planning and financing framework for the demobilization and reintegration (D&R) of an estimated 400,000 regular and irregular combatants in countries involved in, or affected by, conflict in the greater Great Lakes Region of Africa. MDRP implements D&R activities in Angola, Burundi, the Central African Republic (CAR), the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), the Republic of Congo (ROC), Rwanda and Uganda. MDRP D&R efforts contribute to the overall security environment and regional peacebuilding and stabilization process, thus helping lay the groundwork for sustainable development.

Financed by the World Bank and 11 donors – Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the European Commission – MDRP collaborates with some 30 partner organizations, including several United Nations agencies.

For more information, please visit: www.mdrp.org

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