



STATEMENT BY FIRDAOUS INTEGRATED SERVICES (FIS) ON THE WITHDRAWAL BY M23 FROM KIBUMBA

Firdaous Integrated Services (FIS) welcomes the withdrawal by M23 of their soldiers from Kibumba a strategical front-line position 20 Kilometres from Goma and handing it over to the East African Community (EAC) Regional Forces. This withdrawal is a good gesture on the peace process towards the implementation of the Luanda mini-summit Communique and is a great milestone in the process of conflict resolution in Africa and the protection of civilians as well as the humanitarian Access.

FIS expresses its commitment to conflict resolution in Africa and urges all the parties to take on the peace process undertaken in Nairobi in order to prevent civilians in Eastern DRC from the brunt of the violence in the Region, which has had terrible effects on them. Movement into and out of the area for humanitarian organizations working to aid the thousands highly vulnerable people who had ended up in the conflict zone had been significantly hampered by the situation.

The importance of the stakes in the dispute resolution process at this point cannot be overstated. The people in Eastern DRC, who have up to now borne the brunt of this crisis as violence had grown more pervasive, systematic, and terrible, need to see an immediate improvement in their day-to-day life on the ground.

FIS and its partners remain committed to working with all relevant authorities and stakeholders to ensure that a peaceful resolution is found in Eastern DRC as well as humanitarian assistance continues to reach people in need in the region.

Firdaous Integrated Services (FIS)