



**PRESS STATEMENT
FROM THE SPOKESMAN OF THE SPECIAL ENVOY OF THE
UN SECRETARY-GENERAL, H.E. OLUSEGUN OBASANJO**

A full package of ground rules that will guide the substantive talks in the Nairobi Dialogue on the crisis in Eastern Congo was agreed today, and the delegations immediately moved to discuss a joint declaration of cessation of hostilities which they are seriously considering.

This was announced by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region, H. E. Olusegun Obasanjo, on the eve of his departure for New York where he will brief the UN Security Council, later this week, on the progress of the talks.

The Special Envoy commended both parties for now engaging in direct talks designed to achieve a comprehensive cessation of hostilities, a very important aspect of the security issue.

While the Chief Mediator is in New York, the Dialogue will continue under the chair of his Co-Mediator, former President of Tanzania, H. E. Benjamin Mkapa.

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