HEAD OF UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS MEETS AU REPRESENTATIVE, FRENCH AMBASSADOR

Abidjan, le 27 Décembre 2010.... The Head of the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations, Alain Le Roy, met successively on Monday, 27 December 2010, with the Representative of the African Union (AU) in Côte d’Ivoire, Ambroise Niyonsaba, and French Ambassador Jean-Marc Simon to discuss the post-election crisis in Côte d’Ivoire.

“The United Nations, AU, Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the entire international community are working together to help Côte d’Ivoire to achieve peace and they are making great efforts in this regard in order to get out of this difficult situation,” Mr. Niyonsaba said after the meeting at the UN Operation in Côte d’Ivoire (UNOCI).

For his part, the Ambassador of France said everything should be done in calm and without violence. “Everyone has to listen to reason; no-one has to plot and it is in no-one’s interest to do so,” he added.

This is the second visit to Côte d’Ivoire by the head of the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the first being in June 2009. Since arriving on Monday morning in Abidjan to support UNOCI in “this particularly delicate moment”, he has also met President Alassane Ouattara and Prime Minister Guillaume Soro.

For further information, please contact:

Hamadoun Touré, Spokesman
Tel. : +225-06203305 ; Mobile : + 225-05990075 ; Fax : +225-06203305
Email: hamadoun@un.org
http://www.onuci.org