USG Le Roy visits Bouaké

Bouaké, 28 December 2010....The Head of the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations, Alain Le Roy, travelled on Tuesday 28 December 2010 to Bouaké, where he had working sessions with Sector East Commander Brigadier general Fida Hussein Malik, the Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of the Forces Nouvelles, Gen. Soumaïla Bakayoko, the staff of UNOCI and UN agencies, and NGO representatives.

Mr. Le Roy discussed military issues with the two generals. Earlier he was provided by the Sector East Commander with a briefing on the UNOCI military strength in the sector and also on the various demonstrations organised by the population since the start of the post-election crisis.

In his discussions with UNOCI civilian and military staff, UN agency officials and NGO representatives, Mr Le Roy conveyed the congratulations and support of UN Secretary-general Ban Ki-Moon. He then recalled the mandate of UNOCI which, he said, had not changed. “It entails ensuring the protection of civilians, personalities, including elected President Alassane Ouattara and Prime Minister Guillaume Soro, as well as the Golf Hotel,” he explained.

Mr. Le Roy encouraged “the UN officials to continue fulfilling their mission with professionalism so that all the human, material and financial efforts deployed are not jeopardized”. He also reassured them that the United Nations had made all arrangements necessary to ensure their safety in the event of a deterioration of the situation.

Mr. Alain Le Roy was accompanied by the Principal Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General, Abou Moussa, and UNOCI’s Deputy Force Commander, General Freeman Benjamin Kusi.

For further information, please contact:

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