PRESS RELEASE

UNOCI CHIEF MEETS THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE AU COMMISSION

Abidjan, 17 December 2010...The Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Côte d’Ivoire, Y.J. Choi, had a meeting in Abidjan on Friday with the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Jean Ping, who had arrived a few hours earlier in the Ivorian capital.

Their discussions focused on ways to resolve the current political impasse resulting from the second round of the presidential election, held on 28 November 2010 and won by Alassane Ouattara. The Special Representative issued no statement to the press after the meeting.

“At this stage, we have nothing to say,” said Mr. Ping, whose visit to Côte d’Ivoire comes at a time of heavy tension, amid demonstrations by the Rassemblement des Houphouëtistes pour la Démocratie et la Paix (RHDP).

The head of the United Nations Operation in Côte d’Ivoire (UNOCI) has been stepping up initiatives aimed at finding a peaceful and democratic solution to the current crisis with due respect for the will of the Ivorian people as expressed on 28 November 2010.

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