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UNITED NATIONS United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire

## **UNOCI - 947**

## PRESS RELEASE

## **UNOCI INTENSIFIES ITS PATROLS**

**Abidjan, 14 December 2010...** ... The United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) has increased its air and ground patrols throughout Côte d'Ivoire. The measure, initiated by the Force Commander, Major-General Abdul Hafiz, is aimed at dealing with the security situation which has prevailed in the country since the second round of the presidential election held on 28 November and preserving peace.

As part of their strategy to anticipate confrontations between the parties and reinforce the security situation, UNOCI peacekeepers have increased their night and day patrols in Abidjan. In this regard, they carried out some 2,630 patrols between 2 and 11 December 2010.

"The presence of UNOCI's troops in hotspots and on all the roads will ensure the free movement of UN staff, protection of the Mission's equipments and facilities, assist victims under threat and reassure the population," said General Hafiz.

The mobilization of quick reaction forces, emergency medical services and ambulances on the basis of information from various sources, will help to save lives and contribute to defuse tension.

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