



UNOCI – 965

PRESS RELEASE

Y.J.CHOI RESPONDS TO QUESTIONS ON THE POST-ELECTORAL CRISIS FROM THE MEDIA IN NEW YORK

Abidjan, 18 January 2011... The Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Côte d'Ivoire, Y.J. Choi, on Tuesday, 18 January 2011, gave an update on the post-electoral crisis during a video conference with journalists accredited to the United Nations headquarters in New York.

The exchanges which were described as “useful” by Mr. Choi, focused on the 2000 additional peacekeepers that have been requested for the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) and the humanitarian situation regarding the 17,960 internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the west of the country, among other issues.

Mr. Choi told the journalists that the additional 2000 peacekeepers, as well as the air transportation, will be used by the Mission to protect civilians all over the country. “We must be able to intervene and respond quickly and efficiently to help the population,” he said. In this regard he said that transportation, especially aerial transportation, was essential to carry out this mission.

The Special Representative also responded to questions on the certification of the second round of the presidential election. Mr. Choi explained the three methods that were used to carry out an impartial and professional certification in accordance with the will of the Ivorian people.

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