UNOCI – 971

PRESS RELEASE

UNOCI REAFFIRMS ITS MILITARY IMPARTIALITY

Abidjan, 21 February 2011.... The United Nations Operation in Côte d’Ivoire (UNOCI) reaffirms the impartiality of its military within the framework of its efforts to help find a peaceful solution to the post-electoral crisis in the country.

Allegations made by President Laurent Gbagbo’s camp that UNOCI is supporting ex-belligerents by transporting troops and allowing the presence of armed non-UN elements on its premises are without foundation.

UNOCI would like to reassure Ivorians that it remains committed to carrying out the tasks it has been entrusted with by the United Nations Security Council, while observing strict military neutrality.

******************************************************************************

For further information, please contact:

Hamadoun Touré, Spokesman
Tel.: +225-06203305 ; Cell phone: + 225-05990075 ; Fax: +225-020235107
Email: hamadoun@un.org.

http://www.onuci.org