UNOCI CALLS ON THE FDS AND FAFN TO SHOW RESTRAINT

Abidjan, 24 February 2011....The United Nations Operation in Côte d’Ivoire has received disturbing information on clashes between the Defence and Security Forces of Côte d’Ivoire and the Armed Forces of the Forces Nouvelles in the Dix-huit montagnes region.

UNOCI believes that such confrontation could lead to the resumption of armed conflict and is therefore in violation of the ceasefire. It could have serious consequences for Ivorians and even for the sub-region. It is adding to the tension which has existed since mid-December 2010, and which has increased in the last few days with the use of heavy weapons.

UNOCI reiterates its appeal for calm in order to prevent the country from going up in flames. It urges all parties to use peaceful means to resolve the current post-electoral crisis.

For further information, please contact:

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

http://www.onuci.org