



UNOCI – 987

PRESS RELEASE

UNOCI CONDEMNS PLUNDERING OF UNHCR GUIGLO OFFICE

Abidjan, 25 March 2011...The United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) vigorously condemns the attack on, and subsequent plundering of, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Guiglo, 500 km from Abidjan.

On Wednesday 23 March 2011, young militiamen went into the headquarters of the UNHCR in Guiglo, forced staff there to give them the keys of cars, then drove off in the vehicles. Young Liberians carried out a similar operation about an hour later.

Such acts against a humanitarian agency show the degree of violence attained in certain regions of Côte d'Ivoire as a result of the post-election crisis. They deprive the population of the assistance it urgently needs.

UNOCI appeals to all parties to take adequate measures to prevent such incidents and enable humanitarian workers to carry out their noble tasks for the benefit of the Ivorian people.

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