



UNOCI

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Editorial

« The President of the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire, His Excellency Alassane Ouattara is delighted with the decision of UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon to solicit support from UN member states for a second term of office as Secretary-General. Coming to the end of a mandate which permitted the world body to play a crucial role in the resolution of crises throughout the world, the President of the Republic hails the commitment of Mr. Ban Ki-Moon to serve the United Nations, peace and development and endorses his candidature for a second term as head of the organization. The President of the Republic pays tribute to all the efforts of the Secretary-General of the UN and encourages him to assist the promotion of democracy, rule of law wherever people are aspiring for greater freedom and justice, the modernization of the functioning of the UN through just and equitable reforms of its organs especially the Security Council." This was the content of a communiqué of the presidency of Cote d'Ivoire on the subject of the candidacy for a second term of office of UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon. The support of UN HQ to its mission, the UN Operation in Cote d'Ivoire (UNOCI) was decisive in resolving the post-electoral crisis and the results are evident.

In a few months, Ivorians would be

going to the polls again, this time for legislative election to choose their representatives to parliament where they would defend bills for the welfare of their constituents. In this regard, UNOCI has already held three meetings with the Chairman of the Independent Electoral Commission to examine ways in which the UN mission can better assist in the organization of the legislative election.

On the humanitarian front, the situation remains a cause for concern. On 14 June, the UN High Commission for Refugees announced there were still more than 300,000 displaced persons in Cote d'Ivoire more than two months after the post-electoral crisis. Most of these persons found refuge in camps or families in the west of the country (162,188) as well as in the north (62,676) and in the economic capital, Abidjan (55,912). Once again, all good will is focused on relieving the suffering of these people in real difficulty.

National reconciliation and the consolidation of peace must equally take into account the situation of children in this post-crisis period. As a vulnerable component of society, children pay a heavy price during crisis. The International Day of the African Child celebrated on 16 June was an opportunity to draw attention to their plight.

In Cote d'Ivoire, the choice of the theme: "all together for urgent action for street children" was not by chance. It was also a question of sensitising politicians about the respect for the rights of the child especially in times of conflict.

The road map for the Commission on dialogue, truth and reconciliation presided over by former Prime Minister Charles Konan Banny is awaited with much expectation in this period when the desire to see justice prevail, to forgive one another and to rebuild is widely shared among the citizens of this leading country of the sub region. The willingness expressed for the handling of burning issues by the Ivorian authorities is positive and UNOCI has reaffirmed at the highest level its attachment to certain principles and commitment to stand by the Ivorian people for an inclusive and lasting resolution of the crisis. There are obviously certain preconditions but as the Special Representative of UN Secretary-General for Cote d'Ivoire, Y. J. Choi has reiterated, "it is Ivorians themselves who brought the crisis to an end." Ivorians would know how to rebuild a durable peace, a common heritage which was lost, by their will power, determination and the shared values of yesteryears.

1 *UNOCI in action*

- **Y.J. Choi and Alassane Ouattara discuss important matters related to peace process.**

The Special Representative of UN Secretary-General for Cote d'Ivoire, Y.J. Choi met President Alassane Ouattara on 14 June 2011 at state house to discuss the post-crisis situation in Cote d'Ivoire and shortcomings in the security situation in the country. Regarding security, the head of the UN mission observed it was generally in order throughout the country except in the West of the country. "We spoke of national reconciliation for which a commission chairman has been appointed (Charles Konan Banny)," the UNOCI Chief said. The next course of the electoral process and the multiple support of UNOCI in this area, and the relaunching

of the economy, a prerequisite for all development, were all part of this high level discussion. At the end of the meeting, Mr. Choi said he had equally raised the question of increasing UN troop presence in the troubled areas of the Western regions and the means at the disposal of UNOCI to urgently assist Prefects deployed to the zone and their involvement in the process. "Without the commitment of Prefects, UNOCI cannot accomplish the task alone. It is a question of cooperation between Prefects and the military and civilian components of the UN mission. Its success depends on that.



- **UNOCI participates in rehabilitation of certain penitentiary establishments**

The judicial apparatus paid a heavy price in the post-electoral crisis experienced by the country. A good number of courts and prisons were sacked during this period and thousands of prisoners escaped and disappeared into thin air. With regard to prisons, UNOCI's Rule of Law Office is mobilising funds through the Quick Impact Project to contribute to the rehabilitation of penitentiary establishments. Confirming this, the head of Rule of Law, Francoise Simard, said: "During the crisis, several courts were sacked and looted and there were massive prison escapes and damages done to most of the 22 penitentiary establishments in former government zones. We are taking stock with the Ministry of Justice of 34 jurisdictions at the level of the courts. About a dozen or so are functioning while prisons have to be rehabilitated. UNOCI has been able to mobilize funds through its Quick Impact Projects for work on 4 prisons since the end of the crisis including the minors' section at Abi-



djan's main prison (MACA), the Daloa, Dimbroko and Agboville prisons.

These are ongoing projects estimated at CFA 7-8 million francs.” UNOCI supports the Ivorian government at different levels and this assistance comes at a timely

moment for the judiciary sector which was not spared during the post-electoral crisis.

2 *UNOCI meets the press :*

UNOCI's weekly press conference took place in Mbahiakro where UNOCI Days are holding. Deputy UNOCI Spokesman, Kenneth Blackman opened the conference and fielded questions. Some excerpts:

- UNOCI Force carried out free medical consultations and treatment of 315 patients and provided 103,000 litres of drinking water within the past week.
- UNOCI Force conducted 912 land and air patrols in the past week
- UNOCI troops continue to provide security for displaced persons' camp in Duekoue
- Weekly meeting of generals of Impartial forces and Republican Forces of Cote d'Ivoire (FRCI) was held last week to find solutions to current security related problems.
- The Generals also discussed the demilitarization of Abidjan, the deployment of the national police and gendarmerie to ensure security at the Ports of Abidjan and San Pedro.
- UNOCI Force continued its daily independent and joint patrols with the Republican forces (FRCI) in Abidjan and other towns.



- UNOCI reaffirmed its commitment to continue assisting the Independent Electoral Commission in the electoral process by providing technical and logistic support as it did for the presidential election.
- UNOCI is pleased to note the general consensus for national reconciliation and encourages and supports all efforts to support this reconciliation.
- UNOCI continued its sensitization campaign for peace and reconciliation throughout the country

3 *Sensitisation :*

Mbahiakro population and UNOCI together for peace

« The population of Mbahiakro and UNOCI for the strengthening of social cohesion and national reconciliation » was the theme of UNOCI Days held from 15 to 17 June 2011 in this locality. This 15th edition of the event took off with free medical consultations provided to some 33 persons and a working session between the visiting UNOCI delegation and local administrative authorities during which the head of the UNOCI delegation, Kenneth Blackman explained the concept of UNOCI Days: “We encourage the population to adopt the values of peace and at this moment, the most important thing for you and UNOCI is national reconciliation,” Mr. Blackman said. The divisional Prefect, Julien Gueu

Ngbe made a geographical and socio-economic presentation of his administrative area, highlighting the advantages and difficulties of Mbahiakro. A onetime prosperous town, Mbahiakro has within the past several years become a poor area. Some of the difficulties facing his people are poor drinking water facilities, the education of girls, shortage of teachers and nurses. The Chairman of the General Council of Mbahiakro, Eugene Asale Koffi and the Mayor, Delphin Kouadiokpli Kouassi expressed satisfaction with UNOCI's initiative which, they stressed, would permit the population to better understand the mandate of the UN mission.

Following these discussions, “the population would begin to see things differently,” Mr. Assale Koffi noted. Sporting activities that were planned for the afternoon of the 15th went on smoothly in a festive atmosphere. On 16 June, the traditional weekly press conference was an occasion for journalists and correspondents to ask questions related to the present state of the crisis-resolution process. This was followed by workshops for traditional leaders, women, youth and media practitioners to exchange ideas on specific themes and the adoption of resolutions which would be presented in a public forum bringing together administrative, political and military authorities the following day. The UNOCI Days were

closed with performances by popular Ivorian artistes of international fame.

It would be recalled that UNOCI Days were initiated in 2009 and provide occasion for interaction with the population for three consecutive days. Every member of the society is free to air his or her views and discuss directly with members of the UNOCI delegation who are there to respond to their concerns. The 15th edition was opened with sporting activities including male and female football competitions, a cycling and cross-country race. The next edition of UNOCI Days will take place in Sassandra from 28 to 30 June 2011.



• The Prefectural corps and mayors of the Lagunes region at a seminar for capacity building on conflict prevention, management and resolution organised by UNOCI.

L'Opération des Nations Unies en Côte d'Ivoire (ONUCI) a organisé en coopération avec le Ministère d'Etat, ministère de l'Intérieur, un séminaire de renforcement des capacités des membres du corps préfectoral et des maires de la région des Lagunes les 15 et 16 juin 2011. Le séminaire qui s'est déroulé dans un complexe hôtelier à Grand-Bassam avait pour thème : « les mécanismes de prévention, de gestion et de résolution des conflits ». Durant deux jours, la quasi-totalité des préfets, sous-préfets et maires de la région des lagunes a été informé sur les techniques pacifiques de



résolution de conflit. Pour la cérémonie d'ouverture, M. Ndolamb Ngokwey, Représentant spécial adjoint du Secrétaire général des Nations Unies, en charge de la coordination humanitaire, représentait la mission onusienne.

A ses côtés, Monsieur Bamba Cheick Daniel, Directeur de cabinet du Ministre d'Etat, Ministre de l'intérieur, Hamed Bakayoko, M. Amichia François, Président de l'Union des villes et communes de Côte d'Ivoire (UVI-COCI) et le maire de la commune de Grand-Bassam, M. Jean-Michel Moulod. Tous ont dans leurs différentes allocutions, unanimement salué les efforts faits par les autorités préfectorales et les maires dans le processus de réconciliation des populations. Ils ont également émis le vœu que cette rencontre contribue efficacement à l'enrichissement des méthodes utilisées pour la prévention et la gestion des conflits. Pour les besoins de la cause, deux consultants nationaux, experts en gestion des conflits ont été mis à contribution, il s'agit du Docteur Essis Essoh Jean-Mathieu et du Professeur Amodio Koidio Urbain qui ont présenté des communications en plénière et ont ensuite fait plancher les participants sur un cas pratique lors de travaux en atelier. De l'avis unanime des participants, ce séminaire a été très riche en enseignements et les outils partagés soutiendront leurs initiatives de consolidation de la cohésion sociale et la paix dans leurs circonscriptions administratives respectives. A l'issue des travaux du séminaire, de pertinentes recommandations ont été adressées par les participants au représentant du Ministre d'Etat, Ministre de l'Intérieur dont : la mise en place d'un cadre permanent de concertation composé essentiellement de l'administration déconcentrée, des élus locaux, des chefs de villages et de communautés, des représentants des partis politiques, des représentants de jeunes et de femmes.

• UNOCI celebrates the International Day of the African Child

The whole world celebrated 16 June as the Day of the African Child established after the 1976 massacre in Soweto of South African children. The Day was instituted by the Organisation of African Unity (OAU now AU) in 1990. In Cote d'Ivoire, this year's theme was "Everyone together for urgent action for street children aimed at :

- Advocating the ratification of two additional protocols
- Sensitise politicians on the rights of the child especially during crisis
- Provide a recreational occasion for Ivorian children especially after the violent events of March and April 2011

As everywhere else, the UN Operation in Cote d'Ivoire organised this event dedicated to the African child. From Agou to Bondoukou to Dabakala, Kong and Issia, Odienné and San Pedro, children took an active part in the celebrations. Wherever it took place, the children's



representatives urged authorities to look into the problems of street children, poorly treated or children deprived by certain customs. They were urged to promote the education of children and presented with other demands that were depicted in dramatic sketches and messages on child protection.

• UNOCI's school caravan for peace visits the Fromager region

The school caravan for peace initiated by the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) on 14 June arrived in the Lycée Moderne of Oumé. The UN mission in partnership with the educational and administrative authorities in the Fromager region organized this activity which is part of its multifaceted contribution to the peace process. Under the theme : "the involvement of Oumé in the promotion of peace, unity and national reconciliation", this caravan, attended by the Secretary-General of the District of Oumé who was accompanied by the deputy prefect of Guepaho and different chiefs of service brought together thousands of school children from different colleges and lycees in the division. The Principal, the students' representative, the Mayor of the municipality of Oumé, UNOCI and the Secretary-General in the prefecture took turns to mount the podium and sensitise the youth on the promotion of cohesion and reconciliation. Let us note that the speech by Mrs. Kakou

Lou Akouassi, Mayor of Oumé to the youths called on them to do everything to make reconciliation effective and allow the authorities to work for development. In this regard, the prefect said: "the authorities want UNOCI to orient its actions on capacity building for the members of our different sensitization, reconciliation and surveillance committees set up by the Ivorian government". Like the former caravans, the school children got acquainted with human rights, electoral issues, the UN police and Public Information. Through their rich and varied artistic contributions, the students stigmatized the spirit of revenge prevailing predominant among some members of the population as well as intolerance. The school caravan ended with a game won by the Lycee Moderne of Oumé and promotional items were donated to the participants. After Oumé, the School caravan will continue its tour of the Fromager region, especially with a visit to the town of Gagnoa on 23 June.



- **Social cohesion and reconciliation: community leaders in Bangolo reinforce their capacities.**

How do we make opinion leaders in the Bangolo district promote peace and reconciliation in their respective communities? How will they be able to piece together social cohesion that was damaged by the post-election crisis? This was the focus of the seminar held on Tuesday 14 June 2011 in Bangolo with some sixty opinion leaders from women's groups, youth associations, traditional leaders and the media in this locality. Having been initiated by the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) based in Duekoué, according to Mr. Pierre Aby, Public Information Officer, this workshop was aimed at reinforcing the knowledge of the participants and give them the technical tools with a view to succeeding in their mission in this post-crisis period. UNOCI's Human Rights and Civil Affairs sections also took part in this activity and gave interesting presentations. After the workshop, Mr. Traoré Souleymane, the Secretary-General of the Prefecture of Bangolo who was also presiding over the ceremony, congratulated this action of UNOCI. "This workshop is salutary because I



am convinced that with what you learnt, hand in hand we will resolve this crisis that made the country fragile" he said. He also invited the media professionals to avoid sensational articles by looking for credible information and publish them only after they have been checked.

- **Women in Diarabana want to promote forgiveness.**

The atmosphere in the market of Diarabana situated 660 km north of Abidjan was particular on Monday 13 June, Whit Monday. In fact the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) supported by the local authorities organized a sensitization session for forgiveness and reconciliation in the market. This weekly market day in the town, which welcomes all the population in the Worodougou region, was chosen with the aim of creating a new dynamics. More than 60 volunteers, known as "workers for peace", distributed, alongside the initiators, 1,600 peace messages to market vendors and their customers. In this regard they travelled through the market of Séguéla to give the messages

of forgiveness and reconciliation. "No to quarrels, yes for reconciliation", "war is over, it is time for forgiveness and peace" were some of the messages shared with the population on that day. The Chief of the village of Diarabana, Fofana Tiemo, welcomed this common initiative to promote reconciliation. "Be assured that the population of Diarabana will stay on the road to peace by accepting to forgive everyone" he said. The chairwoman of the association of women in Diarabana, Mrs. Koné Makourani asked the women to mobilize to use reconciliation as a tool for development. "We say yes for reconciliation" she added.



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- **UNOCI sensitizes the opinion leaders in Tiébissou to promote social cohesion and national reconciliation.**

Social cohesion and national reconciliation are current issues everywhere in Côte d'Ivoire. The United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) which supports the Ivorian government in this context has increased its activities in the field. Fifty members from civil society, representatives of political parties, community and religious leaders in the municipality of Tiébissou, situated 270 km north of Abidjan, on 10 June 2011 participated in a sensitization workshop for social cohesion and reconciliation. Opening the workshop, the Deputy-Prefect Abo Kouadio Kpan Anderson, who was representing the Prefect of the Tiébissou district called on the population to reconquer peace in order to wipe out rancour and bitterness, to disarm hearts and minds. He also congratulated UNOCI for its contribution to the resolution of the post-electoral crisis and its different initiatives aimed at promoting peace and reconciliation in Côte d'Ivoire. Charles MUSABYIMANA of the Public Information office in the Lacs region reaffirmed the mission's commitment to accompany Côte d'Ivoire on the road to reconciliation after a post-electoral crisis which affected social cohesion. According to Mr. Bamba Lassina, Deputy-Chairman of the local Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) in Yamoussoukro, human rights should be at the heart and the key of every process of construction of a genuine social peace. He



also invited the civil society to fully play its role of counterweight to the public authorities and to draw the attention of the latter when there are abuses that can affect social peace. After the workshop the opinion leaders gave several recommendations. The major recommendation revolved around security without which cohesion and reconciliation cannot be consolidated in the district. The participants also said they want such forums to be organized throughout their region to reach more people.

5 *Postelectoral situation:*

article 26, 27 and 28 of the universal declaration of human rights.

Article 26

1. Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit.
2. Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace.
3. (Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children.

Article 2

1. Everyone has the right freely to participate in the cultural life of the community, to enjoy the arts and to share in scientific advancement and its benefits. Everyone has the right to the protection of the moral and material interests resulting from any.

Article 28

Everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration can be fully realized.

4 *Message of peace...*

Touré Souleymane, Chief of village of MARABADIASSA on the occasion of UNOCI's sensitization day.

« These good words of peace and reconciliation you are giving have been well understood. We will do everything to transmit them to our local authorities to sow the seed of peace in the hearts of the population of Marabadiassa »

6 *Portrait :*

Captain Zakaria CHAFI, Commandant of the Moroccan battalion in San Pedro
"I want the country to recover peace and that Ivorians benefit from it".



Formerly Chief of the MORBATT Section in Grabo from 2004 to 2005 while he was a Lieutenant, Zakari Chafi was appointed since 15 February 2011 as the Commandant of the Company in charge of the Basassandra region. He is responsible for 134 soldiers who assure the protection of the United Nations personnel and the civil population as well as the security for properties. With Captain Chafi and the MORBATT, UNOCI marks its presence through long and short

patrols, the escort of personalities and United Nations personnel, provides security for two strategic points in San Pedro, the port and the airport and the facilitation of the movement of UN vehicles. The execution of these tasks is not always easy. In fact during the post-electoral crisis, the units under Captain Chafi were often victims of movement obstruction, blocking of convoys of food for the troops and many other hassles. In spite of all this, Captain Chafi and his units remained exemplary. Three months before his final departure from Côte d'Ivoire - he leaves the mission in late September - the Captain welcomes the population's recognition of the MORBATT's actions, especially when the ex-Defence and Security Forces left during the post-electoral crisis. During this difficult period, the MORBATT under the leadership of the Captain prevented the plundering of property and served as a bridge between the Forces Republicaines de Côte d'Ivoire (FRCI) and the ex-FDS who stayed but who needed a neutral force to reassure them. MORBATT gave medical and logistical assistance to the population and created an exchange platform between the FRCI and the Prefect's office. On the issue to know what his feelings are after this success, Captain Chafi simply and humbly said he only did his job.

ONUCI FM's FREQUENCIES

ABENGOUROU 94.7 • ABIDJAN 96.0 • ADZOPE 96.0 • BANGOLO 91.1 • BONDOUKOU 100.1 •
BOUAKÉ 95.3 • BOUNA 102.8 • BOUNDIALI 90.0 • DABAKALA 93.9 • DALOA 91.4 • DANANÉ 97.6
DAOUKRO 94.7 • DUEKOUÉ 91.1 • FERKESSEDOUGOU • 104.4 • GUIGLO 93.7 • KORHOGO 95.3
• MAN 95.3 • ODIENNÉ 101.1 • SAN-PEDRO 106.3 • SEGUELA 101.8 • TABOU 95.3 • TOULEPLEU 93.7 •
YAMOUSSOUKRO 94.4 • ZUENOULA 95.3

7 *Image of the week*



8 *On ONUCI FM ...*

ONUFI FM, the Radio of Peace whose first objective is to inform Ivoirians on the peace and national reconciliation process brings you information everyday; a full newscast at 7.00 am, 8.00 am, 12 am and 6.00 pm and new briefs each hour from 9.00 pm.

The radio of peace will bring you special reports and magazines on society, health, culture and sport. This week we invite you to follow the following reports from 7.40 am: on the occasion of the International Day for Refugees, on Monday 20 June, ONUFI FM visits the IDPs in

the camp of Bingerville. On Tuesday 21 June, the radio of peace participates in the Abidjan Music Festival. On Wednesday 22 June you will know more on the situation of the talibés children in Odienné.

On Thursday 23 June we discover the festival of urban music to be held from 23 to 26 June and finally on Friday 24 June, ONUFI FM talks with the organizer of “Prix Ivoire” and will let you know the conditions to participate in the literary competition.

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