

## **Bangladesh FPU extends free medical care to local population in Bouake and Yamoussoukro**



BANFPU Medical officers attending to patients from the local population

The Republic of Bangladesh has two Formed Police Units (BANFPUs) in ONUCI. Both units have a total of 250 personnel. BANFPU-1 with 125 personnel is located in Bouake whilst BANFPU-2 is based in Yamoussoukro, both in the interior part of Ivory Coast. Each unit runs a Level-1 Hospital since September 2006. A Level-1 Hospital is a Primary level Hospital which provides health care services of common diseases prevailing in the community. Each hospital, a five-bed facility, has two well trained medical officers and six medical Assistants who work tirelessly around the clock to provide quality health services to its contingent members and the local community. Besides, they each have a fully stocked dispensary in terms of medicine and equipments to boost efforts at quality health-care delivery. Also, each hospital has two well equipped ambulances that are always alert on standby to respond to all kinds of medical emergencies either arising from members of its contingent or the local population. The consultations, treatment, together with the supply of relevant drugs are absolutely free of any charge to the local people. This confirms the benevolent nature of the Republic of Bangladesh and further fulfils the core vision of the UNPOL to ***“keeping the peace with humanitarian spirit”***.

Between 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2007 and 10<sup>th</sup> January this year a total of about 140 members of the local community received treatment for various ailments and diseases from these two Ban-FPUs health facilities. BANFPU-1 alone attended to seventy-two (72) members of the local public at Yamoussoukro. The diseases treated here include mainly Malaria, water born diseases like diarrhoea, indigestion with other gastrointestinal disorders, helminthiasis, fungal infection, enteric and viral fever, hepatitis, peptic ulcer,

respiratory, urinary, sexually transmitted diseases, orthopedic and hypertension. Others are common diseases or infections of the skin, eye, ear, minor injuries as well as insect bites. Medical cases that appear beyond the handling of the hospital are promptly referred to the Government Secondary and Tertiary (specialized) level Hospital at Yamoussoukro for further investigation and treatment.