On 11.01.08 the UNOCI held a medal awards parade ceremony at Guiglo, in the Moyen Cavally Region, in honor of the selfless sacrifices and contributions of 125 officers and men of the Pakistan FPU who arrived in the mission a year ago. Guiglo, located about 515 kms North-West of Abidjan within UNPOL Sector-West is the Base of the Pak-FPU. The event was co-ordinated jointly by the PIO/UNPOL and Pak-FPU.

The unique and impressive ceremony started at about 11.30hrs with the Anthems of the United Nations and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and followed by a one-minute silence in honor all
those who have fallen in the service of peace with the UN. In attendance was the Acting Commissioner of the UNPOL, Col. Pierre-Andre Campiche who was the Special Guest of Honor. Also in attendance were other high profile dignitaries who included the RAO for Sector-West, Mrs KANZA, Jasmin, the prefect of Guiglo Lt. Col Danon Djedji, the sous-prefet of Guiglo Kone Christian, the Commanders of the Battalions of Benin, Senegal,Bangladesh, Jordan FPU, the Police Commissioner for Guiglo, the Commander of Gendarmerie of Guiglo as well as large representations from the UNPOL, FPUs, the military and the Refugee Camps in Guiglo.

In a welcome address the Commander of Pak-FPU, Lt. Col Rizwan Amin, thanked the ONUCI for the honor and recognition done them. He pledged the readiness of the Pak-FPU to continue to offer its best in the search for durable peace for Ivory Coast. He stated that based on the cherished belief of the founding fathers of his country, that international peace and security is a collective responsibility, Pakistan is always willing to make her outmost contribution for the promotion and restoration of peace among all nations.

In his key note address, the Special Guest of Honor, Col. Pierre-Andre Campiche, praised the commitment, handwork and discipline of the Pakistan FPU in the mission “……your distinction today is the culmination of your hard work, dedication, discipline and professionalism within the framework of UNSC resolutions 1609 and 1765 and the Integrated Security Plan (ISP) of ONUCI even in circumstances of grave operational risks”. He also commended their exemplary lifestyle, compassion and care for the community of Guiglo and said “these have not only confirmed the growing role of the FPU in contemporary global policing but have further reinforced the confidence of the local population in the role of UNOCI and the UNPOL”.

Col. Campiche used the occasion to call on all officers of UNPOL and FPUs to gear up and rededicate themselves to the tasks ahead. He emphasized that the ongoing mobile public hearings, the ensuing compilation of electoral register and the expectant elections place more demands on the role of the UNPOL than ever before.

The Guest of Honor was later assisted by the RAO Mrs KANZA, Jasmin and the Chief of Military Personnel/FHQ/UNOCI Col Shamim to decorate the joyous recipients with the covetous UN medals.
The medal recipients alert on parade

The Acting UNPOL Commissioner and RAO decorating recipients with UN Medals

The Acting UNPOL Commissioner in a group photograph with officers of Pak-FPU

Pak-FPU Parade Band
The ceremony came to a successful end at about 12.30hrs and immediately followed by a grand luncheon offered by the recipients.