TURKISH UNPOL CONTINGENT CELEBRATES NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE DAY
ABIDJAN: 29.10.2007

The UNPOL Turkish contingent in UNOCI on 29.10.2007 celebrated its 84th National independence anniversary in Abidjan. The contingent, comprising four members, including a woman, marked the day with visits and generous donations to three public institutions in Abidjan; namely the Abobo District Police HQ (15th Arrondissement d’Abobo), the SOS Children's Village of Abobo and the Kindergarten/Day Nursery of South Cocody.

At the Abobo District Police HQ, the contingent had earlier donated several quantities of paint for the renovation of the building. The Turkish contingent which was accompanied by a
large number of UNPOLs and FPU was gracefully met by the Abobo District Police Chief, Principal Commissioner Michel N'Guessan Konan and his officers and conducted round the beautifully painted edifice of offices (external and internal). The contingent further donated office equipments, which included file covers, registers, rims of printing papers, writing materials to facilitate the duties of the police officers. In a speech, the commander of the Turkish UNPOL contingent, Commissioner Ersin Aktas, reiterated the existing solidarity between his government and its Ivorian counterpart and thanked the authorities of UNOCI for making it possible for this act of humanitarian gesture.

At the SOS Children's Village of Abobo, the contingent had similarly volunteered to paint one of the ten houses of the children village called 'Ahundwo House' which accommodates ten children. The contingent commander cut the sod to open into the refurbished house which the authorities said had not seen such a facelift for years. The contingent also presented foot and basket balls, school bags as well as various school kits to the children. The principal of the school Mr. Gbato Paul and Mother of the Ahundwo House, Madam Adjua, expressed their sincere gratitude for the kindness and generosity of the Turkish government and UNPOL Contingent.
Morale and esprit-de-corps went high during the last phase of visits at the Kindergarten/Nursery School at South Cocody when the Acting UNPOL Commissioner Col. Pierre Campiche joined the team to lend his moral solidarity and fatherly support to the proud celebrants of the day. In a brief comment the Acting Commissioner advised the teachers to endeavor to mould children to grow up to recognize the police officer as a friend ...

"Children, the police are your friends and not your enemies, you hear" he emphasized. In all a slide/flyover, swing/pendulum and swivel play materials as well as various toys were presented to the children by the contingent. The Director of the School, Madam Armande Koffie Ahou expressed her gratitude on behalf of parents of the children and the Ivorian authorities to the contingent for the kind gesture.
The Turkish Contingent at the Nursery at South Cocody

The Turkish contingent crowned the day with a cocktail in Sebroko at about 17.30hrs which was attended by senior officials of UNOCI including the Acting Special Representative of the Secretary-General, H.E Abou Moussa, the DSRSG Mr. Georg Charpentier, the Acting Commissioner UNPOL, Col. Pierre-Andre Campiche and the UNPOL Chief of Staff Mr. Gilbert Adolphe Hessou, as well as numerous UNPOLs and staff of UNOCI.