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Editorial

Y.J. Choi leaves the mission on 1 September 2011 as head of the UN mission after several ceremonies in which national and international partners paid homage to his remarkable leadership and meritorious service. Ivorian President Alassane Ouattara and the Ivorian government as well as the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Daniel Duncan Kablan with the diplomatic corps as special guests, gave Mr. Choi a farewell dinner. Through this, the Ivorian government wished to express the gratitude of the Ivorian people for a job well done by the former UNOCI Chief and his staff in re-establishing constitutional order in Cote d'Ivoire following the post-electoral crisis. In the weeks and months ahead, the Ivorian government will be busy with preparations for the forthcoming parliamentary election, the restoration of state authority, economic revival and national reconciliation; a task to which UNOCI would be lending its support. The parliamentary election billed for yearend would bring to a close the electoral calendar to a close. In order to achieve this, major decisions would have to be taken. These could depend

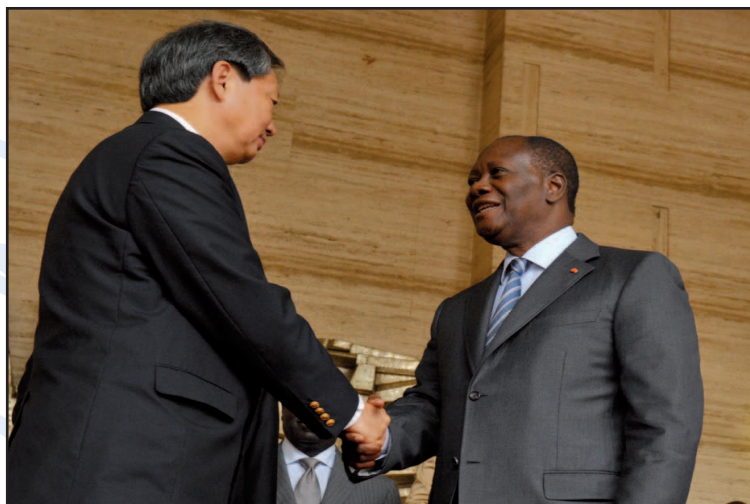
on policy or internal agreement. This was the case regarding the presidential election, its implementation and voters' turnout which was one of the highest in the world. Things are evolving at the level of the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC). As a matter of fact, on 29 August 2011, the new central commissioners of the IEC were sworn in before the Constitutional council. This would permit the Commission to function normally and the central commission to take appropriate decisions at this stage. Besides IEC Chairman, Youssouf Bakayoko on 26 August disbursed CFA1.4 billion francs to settle 17 printing houses selected from some 50 applicants who had tendered for contracts during the presidential election; a good sign for some of these companies who are still expected to play a role in the parliamentary election. Also on the ground, the authorities are mobilising for the return of refugees, supporting income generating projects in collaboration with the High Commission for Refugees as is the case in Zouan-Hounien. The security issue remains without doubt a determining factor for the stability of the country and by extension

the sub region and the profiling of ex-combatants of the former FAFN Forces, those absorbed by the Republican Forces (FRCI) and former pro-Gbagbo militia is still going on. The National Rehabilitation and Reinsertion Programme (PNRCC) has covered some 500 ex-combatants profiled in Duekoue and about 250 in Daloa from 22-27 August. Similar exercises are going on in different regions of the country and UNOCI's support is significant. Cote d'Ivoire is equally renewing ties with international organisations such as the 61st WHO regional conference which held at the Felix Houphouët Boigny Foundation in Yamoussoukro from 22 August to 2 September 2011. Other institutions like the IMF and the African Development Bank have held meetings in Abidjan recently as a sign of renewed support of the international community which is watching progress being made on the various projects announced by government. True reconciliation would also depend on this progress and UNOCI would stand by the Ivorian people to ensure that it becomes effective.

1 UNOCI in action

• IVORIAN PRESIDENT PAYS HOMAGE TO OUTGOING SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE

The Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Côte d'Ivoire, Y. J. Choi, on Wednesday 31 August said goodbye to Ivorian President Alassane Ouattara at the end of his mission in Côte d'Ivoire, which lasted almost four years. The SRSG said he was lucky to have served the Ivorian people throughout his mandate, which ended on that same Wednesday. Mr. Choi, who was head of the UN Operation in Côte d'Ivoire since 20 November 2007, monitored and accompanied the various phases of the Ivorian electoral process and made his mark in the certification of the results of the presi-



dential election, especially the second round, held on 28 November 2011. He told journalists that he had developed a wealth of experience during his stay in the country adding "God bless Côte d'Ivoire". Mr. Choi was accompanied by the new Deputy Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Côte d'Ivoire, Mr. Arnaud Akodjenou, whom he introduced to President Ouattara. He also handed over a copy of his book, « East and West. Understanding the rise of China », published in 2008, to the Ivorian head of state. Mr. Choi will be succeeded by former Dutch Foreign Minister Albert Gerard Koenders.

• BLUE HELMETS HAIL THE LEADERSHIP OF Y.J. CHOI

The Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Côte d'Ivoire, Y. J. Choi, was the guest of honour at a special ceremony organised on 29 August at the headquarters of the UN Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) by the mission's 11 contingents to mark his departure from the mission and celebrate his contribution to the resolution of Côte d'Ivoire's post-election crisis. He was flanked by Côte d'Ivoire's Defence Minister, Paul Kofi Koffi, and UNOCI Force Commander Gen. Gnakoudé Béréna. General Berena addressed Mr. Choi in these words: "You are leaving us with the cardinal values which guided your mission in Cote d'Ivoire and



which for us military men, are the cornerstone of our referential values. These are loyalty, courage in the face of all difficulties, determination and sincerity." Mr. Choi for his part, paid homage to UNOCI's military and police, praising in particular their conduct during the post-election crisis, which was marked, he said, by difficult moments full of challenges. "You saved our honour," Mr. Choi said, "you never fired a shot. Had you fired, it would have meant the end of the mission. It is a mark of determination for the whole world to see, that for the Blue Helmets, it is better to suffer at the hands of the population than to make the population suffer. You are the heroes of peace." Mr. Choi added that the use of force by UNOCI, supported by the Force Licorne, in the first operation of its kind in the UN's 60 years of existence, was justified. The Special Representative added: "It is time to go and I leave with a feeling of having accomplished my mission." Speaking on behalf of the Ivorian government, the Minister Delegate for Defence, Paul Koffi Koffi lauded the accomplishments of Mr. Choi, saying the farewell parade was a mark of recognition of the contribution of the UN Force to the resolution of the crisis. The ceremony, which included a fanfare and a march-past by the mission's military contingents, was also attended by the force commanders of UNOCI and the Republican Forces of Côte d'Ivoire (FRCI, the Ivorian defence and security forces), the Minister of Defence, the Diplomatic Corps and other invitees. Members of UNOCI's police, military and civilian staff also attended.

• UNOCI RECEIVES DELEGATION FROM US STATE DEPARTMENT

The Deputy Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General (DSRSG) for Côte d'Ivoire, Arnaud Akodjénou, on Friday 26 August received a delegation from the U.S. State Department, led by William Fitzgerald, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs. Mr. Akodjénou was accompanied by DSRSG N'Dolamb Ngokwey, who is also Humanitarian Coordinator, the commander of UNOCI's military force, General Gnakoudé Béréna, and other senior officials. The American diplomat recalled that the US and UNOCI had worked together before and during the post-electoral crisis and it was important to talk about the future and consolidate progress made so far in the political and social domains. He said the remaining tasks now concerned the parliamentary election which, he stressed, was important for the strengthening of democracy.



• UNOCI RENOVATES JUVENILE DETENTION CENTRE AT ABIDJAN'S MAIN PRISON

The Deputy Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Côte d'Ivoire in charge of Humanitarian Affairs, Ndolamb Ngokwey has said the issue of children in conflict with the law is a preoccupation of the entire UN system, especially mission components like Child Protection, Human Rights and Rule of Law as well as UNICEF. He was speaking on Wednesday 31 August 2011 at a ceremony to mark the reopening of the juvenile detention centre of Abidjan's main prison, MACA, which was closed during the post-election crisis.

The centre was renovated and its workshops re-equipped with funding estimated at CFA10.5 million francs under a UNOCI Quick Impact Project. Speaking on behalf of the Minister of Justice, his Chief of Staff Kodjo Foto said the rehabilitation of the Juvenile Observation Centre was a real relief to the government. "We are just emerging from a crisis and the government alone cannot do everything," he pointed out. The request for the rehabilitation of the Centre was submitted by the NGO AMIGO to UNOCI, which financed the entire project.



2 UNOCI meets the press :

UNOCI's spokesman Hamadoun Toure conducted last Thursday's weekly press conference which centred on the departure of UN Secretary-General's Special Representative for Cote d'Ivoire, Y.J. Choi at the end of a 4-year term of office, UN military patrols, the human rights situation, and the mission's sensitisation activities. Excerpts:

Special Representative Y.J. Choi leaves Abidjan Thursday 1 September at the end of 4-year mandate.

He asked me to tell you how honoured he was to serve the Ivorian people during his term of office and also that he implored God to bless Cote d'Ivoire.

General Niang Talla of Senegal replaces General Benjamin Kusi of Ghana as UN Deputy Force Commander. Gen. Kusi's term of office has ended.

UNOCI conducted 1364 land and air patrols in the week just ended to protect the population and lend logistic support to refugee camps, especially in Duékoué.

De-mining teams have been dispatched to the National Gendarmerie School in Abidjan and the political capital, Yamoussoukro, to defuse explosive devices and unex-



ploded missiles that might be found there.

UNOCI is encouraging the government to carry out investigations of reports of human rights violations, including cases of forced disappearances, in Duékoué and bring its perpetrators to book so as to put an end to impunity.

UNOCI welcomes the evacuation of the premises of Notre Voie and Le Temps newspapers, occupied by units of the Republican Forces (FRCI) since the end of the post-

electoral conflict and urged the government to continue to maintain favourable conditions for freedom of expression throughout the country.

UNOCI organised sensitisation activities in Duékoué and San Pedro under its grassroots campaign programme dubbed 'ONUCI Tour'.

3 Sensitisation :

• Jordanian Special Forces assist schools and communities

The Jordanian Special Forces in Abidjan have provided humanitarian assistance to schools and other institutions in the Abidjan area, including the Port Bouet-1A Primary School, the Nour Al Hidaya school, the Makan Traoré Secondary School in Adjame-Bramakoté, as well as other institutions in the Aboisso region – in collaboration with the Mafere Hospital –, in Attecoubé – in partnership with the Islamic Association – and in the

village of Adjin. The assistance has taken the form of free medical consultations and medication, food kits, school kits, hot meals, mineral water, clothing, shoes, blankets and mats. The global cost of the donations is estimated at FCFA 30 million. These actions are aimed at bringing the peacekeeping force closer to local populations, in addition to the work done by the Blue Helmets to provide security for the return of stability in Côte d'Ivoire.



• Daoukro's women take ownership of the reconciliation process

Hugs, cries of joy and songs were the order of the day on Saturday 27 August 2011 at the Daoukro Cultural Centre, when hundreds of women took part in a special day of sensitization focussing on reconciliation and forgiveness, organised by the UN Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI). Speaking on behalf of the women, who came from the town of Daoukro and surrounding villages, their spokesperson, Allah Brou Florence, said the expressions of joy and togetherness were their way of marking, through reconciliation, their

total adherence to the peace process. The encounter, which was also attended by local authorities, featured two presentations aimed at helping the participants to have a better idea of their role in the reconciliation process and to exchange ideas with the UNOCI representatives. The Deputy Chief of UN Police (UNPOL) for the area, Motumbo Kabéa Placide, spoke on the contribution of women to security, while Désiré Dago of the Public Information Office gave a presentation on cultivating the values of peace.



• Tour visit ONUCI Kongouanou

The United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) in collaboration with a local NGO, Espoir des enfants de paysans de Côte d'Ivoire, organised, on 31 August 2011, an information and awareness-building session on peace, social cohesion and tolerance for villagers of Kongouanou, 27 km from Yamoussoukro. Speaking during the session, the NGO's spokesman, Djé Koffi William, urged his interlocutors not to allow themselves to be manipulated by politicians. "Dear young people of Kongouanou, do not allow yourselves to be used by politicians," he said. "Let us come together and move towards development". Kadizatou Ibrahim Cissé of the Public Information Office urged her hosts to do everything they could to make social cohesion a reality. "Social cohesion requires tolerance and reconciliation," she said. "Without understanding between its inhabitants your village will not be able to achieve harmonious development." For her part, Mrs Obianuju Nwobi of the Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration Division explained the work of her section and how it supports security. Speaking in particular to the women, she said cohesion among them was necessary for the security of the village as a whole. At the end of the discussions,



village chief Yoboué Loukou Joseph thanked UNOCI for its support to the country and promised to help the population to pursue true reconciliation. Some 150 persons took part in the activity, which was aimed at getting the villagers to commit to the peace process, which they decided to do.

UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1820

**SEXUAL VIOLENCE CONSTITUTES A THREAT
TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY**

Together we say NO!

To impunity for the perpetrators of sexual violence



Let's advance on the road to peace



CÔTE D'IVOIRE

4 *Messages of peace...*

Mr. Inza Fofana (chairman of the IEC for the Worodougou Region) at the maracana tournament.

« Peace is fundamental for organising the next legislative elections. The coming elections will contribute to the development of Côte d'Ivoire. We approve of such sporting events. This match will contribute to social cohesion. Let everyone take this salutary work further so that legislative elections can be held in calm in the next few months. »

Colonel Ganhi, commander of the Third Bangladeshi Battalion (BANBAT 3) and head of the UNOCI delegation to the sensitization session on Social cohesion in Man

« UNOCI is happy that social cohesion and reconciliation are a reality in Teisson. »

General Gnakoudé Béréna, UNOCI's Force Commander, at a ceremony in honour of Y.J. Choi.

« It is with this heritage that we intend to pursue our mission by continuing to contribute to the protection of the civilian population and give support to the organisation of, and provision of security at, the upcoming elections, pursuant to our mandate. »

Bahoré Barou, Mayor of Tabou, at the UNOCI awareness-building session for the handing over of weapons in Tabou.

« While our fellow citizens are still in exile in Liberia, fearing for their security, it is important for us to sensitize our populations on the voluntary disarmament scheduled by UNOCI for 9 September 2011 so that peace can return as soon as possible. »

Visit our website :
www.onuci.org

ONUCI FM's FREQUENCIES

ABENGOUROU **94.7** • ABIDJAN **96.0** • ADZOPE **96.0**
BANGOLO **91.1** • BONDOUNKOU **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**

5 *Postelectoral situation:*

On 10 December 1948, the 58 member states who made up the General Assembly at the time adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights at the Chaillot Palace in Paris. This founding document continues to be a source of inspiration for each of us and a tool for promoting the universal practice of human rights. Below are some articles of the declaration:

Article 27

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.

2- Everyone has the right to the protection of the moral and material interests resulting from any scientific, literary or artistic production of which he is the author.

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.

Article 29

1- Everyone has duties to the community in which alone the free and full development of his personality is possible. sa personnalité est possible.

2- Dans l'exercice de ses droits et dans la jouissance de ses libertés, chacun n'est soumis qu'aux limitations établies par la loi exclusivement en vue d'assurer la reconnaissance et le respect des droits et libertés d'autrui et afin de satisfaire aux justes exigences de la morale, de l'ordre public et du bien-être général dans une société démocratique.

3- Ces droits et libertés ne pourront, en aucun cas, s'exercer contrairement aux buts et aux principes des Nations Unies.

6 *Portrait : Police officer Njikam Moussa, head of the UNPOL unit in Man,*

«I have faith in peace and I believe very sincerely that our contribution will bring lasting peace to Côte d'Ivoire»

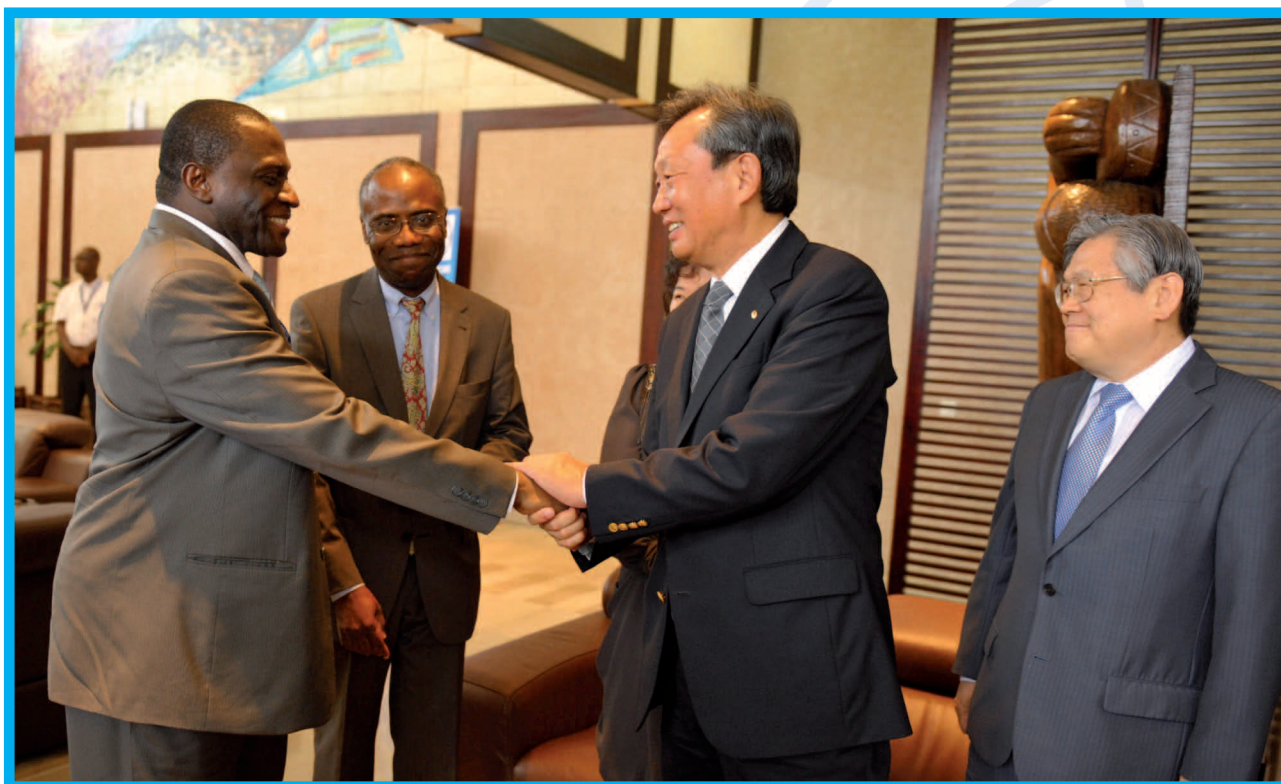
Njikam Moussa, a 50-year-old father of 10, is head of the UN Police (UNPOL) unit of the UN Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) in the western town of Man. He comes from the town of Fouban, located in Noun Department in western Cameroon. After completing his secondary and university studies, at the end of which he obtained a law degree, the Capacité en Droit, from the University of Yaoundé II, he joined the Cameroonian police. A graduate of the Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Police, Njikam Moussa has served for over 30 years in the national police of his country, holding the posts of Commander of the State Guard and Chief of the Second Central Police Precinct in Yaoundé, before serving at the Presidency of the Republic within the framework of VIP Protection. "Because of my training in first aid at the Red Cross and my attachment to the ideals of its



creator, Henry Dunant, I have always wanted to provide technical assistance in this area – in harmony with my profession – because I like to put myself in the place of those who are suffering," he said. Njikam adds: "I am at home in the exercise of my new function in UNOCI because I am accomplishing my calling." These words justify his presence in UNOCI where he has been based in Man since 2 April 2010, and, as head of the UNPOL unit there, since 27 February 2010. "This is the first time that I am working in a peace-keeping mission, and I can tell you I have faith in peace and I sincerely believe that our contribution here in Côte d'Ivoire will bring lasting peace to this beautiful country which all Africans respect," he says. The head

of UNPOL-Man said he learnt a great deal in the UN's multicultural climate and that he would like to place his experience, once again, at the service of the UN.

7 *Image of the week*



8 *What's new on ONUCI FM...?*

On Friday 2 September, ONUCI FM offers you live and direct a variety of lively programmes. At 740 a.m. ONUCI FM Culture features the musician Brando who, with his guitar, plays at marriages in Odienné. At 9.10, Unis dans nos différences [United in our differences] shares with you the population's suggestions to the Dialogue, Truth and Reconciliation Commission. At 10.30 Woro Woro Tour invites us to use information properly and to avoid processing it in a partisan manner. At 14.30, Enjeu Santé, your health programme, focuses on hypertension, the silent killer as it is called, because its symptoms are often difficult to notice. On Saturday 3 September, from 7 to 12, it's time for Samedi chez vous, including our Special Guest, at 8.12, who, this week, is the Director General of Taxes, and who will speak on the impact of the post-election crisis on fiscal activities. On The Week in Review at 9.10, an invited guest comments on current affairs for you. In the afternoon, it's Zikculture at 5 p.m, followed by Destination musique, your rendez-vous with news from the world of culture and the best of contemporary music.

On Sunday, from 8 to 12 noon, ONUCI FM offers you Dimanche chez vous. In the afternoon, from 5 to 6 p.m., Dimanche Sport provides you with a summary of all the major sports encounters of the previous week. On Monday 5 September, from 7 to 12, it's the 7-to-12, your daily appointment with news and discussions. Monday's 7-to-12 offers you, at 740 a.m., a Day in the Life of a Restaurant Owner who, for 26 years now has been spicing up the lives of her clients in Yamoussoukro. At 9.40, Garbadrome warns about teenage pregnancy. Then, at 10.30, ONUCI FM Reportage features testimonies and information on diabetes. On Tuesday 6 September, 7-to-12 offers you at 7.40, ONUCI-FM Culture, where you can hear Les Messagers, a musical group, as they place the zouglou musical genre at the service of reconciliation. ONUCI-FM Reportage at 10.30 takes us to Man to hear of the activities of an agricultural cooperative. On Wednesday 7 September, ONUCI FM Action features ONG Espoir et Vie, a non-governmental organisation in Bondoukou. And at 10.30 it's Enfants en Action [Children in Action] time.

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