

**RELEASE IN
FULL**

From: Sullivan, Jacob J <SullivanJJ@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2011 2:17 PM
To: H
Subject: FW: UNOCI

Per your question on UNOCI, from a very strong member of my staff.

From: Walsh, Matthew P
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2011 12:18 PM
To: Sullivan, Jacob J
Cc: Crocker, Bathsheba N
Subject: RE: UNOCI

Jake, I hope this helps. I consulted with USUN and AF to fact check this:

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) has given the UN Mission in Cote d'Ivoire (UNOCI) a very clear chapter 7 mandate. UNSC Resolution 1933 (June 2010) is the most recent confirmation of this. UNOCI's mandate includes the responsibility to "protect civilians...within its capabilities and...in high risk areas of deployment," monitor the arms embargo, facilitate the flow of humanitarian assistance, and other responsibilities. Last week, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), in which Nigeria is a driving force, released a communiqué that called on the UNSC to strengthen UNOCI's mandate. However, our view and the view of the UK and France is that the UNSC has already given UNOCI the strongest mandate possible. It's UNOCI's rules of engagement (ROE), which are drafted by the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), and not the Mission's UNSC mandate that should be strengthened and clarified. We're working in New York to push the DPKO to clarify UNOCI's ROE.

AF and USUN's view is that UNOCI should do a better job in carrying out the civilian protection component of its mandate. USUN is working with the French to make this clear in the current UNSC resolution that is being negotiated in New York today, including inserting language that "stresses [the UNSC's] full support given to UNOCI to use all necessary means to carry out its mandate to protect civilians." Nigeria, as a non-permanent member of the UNSC, is an active part of these discussions. To help enable UNOCI, we are working with other donors to train and equip new troop contributors to bring UNOCI's force level from its current deployment of approximately 9,000 soldiers to the mandated level of 11,150.

Matt