

The United Nations Police Force (UNPOL) in Cote d'Ivoire plays an important role in the re-establishment of a police presence all over the country and in the reorganization of security services in the rural areas.

With approximately 320 senior police officers representing more than twenty different nationalities, the United Nations' Police Force also focuses on training members of the national police force and gendarmes as well as providing technical and professional advice.

This contribution of expertise is done through the deployment of its members close to various police authorities, such as the local police force, the air and borders police force, and police force's headquarters.

To assist in re-establishing the authority the State throughout Côte d'Ivoire

UNPOL also assists the authorities in reorganizing and restoring a civilian police presence throughout Côte d'Ivoire. It reviews, analyses and evaluates the structural situation and proposes ways in which the security situation can be improved.

In addition, within the framework of the efforts deployed by the UNOCI for the re-establishment of the State authority, security and democracy, UNPOL supports the disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration (DDR) process by carrying out sensitization programmes.

It forms part of the mixed patrols, which comprises of the impartial forces and the national security forces and provides legal advice to the Ivorian authorities.

UNPOL also intervenes in other fields, such as the monitoring of the embargo on weapons, the mixed patrols in Abidjan and joint patrols in the zone of confidence; it also provides assistance in humanitarian operations, the promotion and the respect of human rights by supporting the national authorities in investigating crime.



A civilian police officer comes to the aid of a victim of a road accident. © ONUCI / Ky Chung

Training in airport security

Since October 2004, more than 200 officers - both junior and senior- in the police gendarmes in Abidjan airport have been trained in airport safety, by UNOCI's civilian police force. In addition, elementary advanced courses in data processing were taught to about fifteen police officers of the Criminal Records Service Office in Abidjan.



A civilian police officer during a mixed patrol in Abidjan.
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