

PRESS RELEASE

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Graduation of the 5th DIS class of 127 officers and official hand-over of 94 vehicles

N'Djamena, February 5, 2010 -- On Friday 05 February 2010, the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT) organized a solemn ceremony to mark the end of training for the 5th class of officers and agents of the Détachement Intégré de Sécurité (DIS), in cooperation with the Coordination Nationale d'Appui au déploiement de la Force Internationale à l'Est du Tchad (CONAFIT).

This ceremony was presided over by the Special Representative of the Chadian President with responsibility for MINURCAT, General Oki Yaya Dagache, and was attended by the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General, Mr. Victor ANGELO, along with Chadian dignitaries, senior members of the diplomatic corps, the Commissioner of UN Police (UNPOL) and representatives of various UN agencies in Chad.

Eleven (11) women; three (03) officers and eight (08) agents are among the 127 new officers and agents of the DIS who were selected by the UNPOL in September 2009. During their eight weeks' training, members of the 5th DIS class were guided through advanced police concepts including weapons, shooting and driving. The training that these new officers and agents underwent is aimed at enhancing their capacities to maintain order and promote respect for human rights in the refugee camps and IDP sites of Eastern Chad.

This new class will also complement staff in the 6 Commissariats and 13 police stations manned by DIS.

During the graduation ceremony, ninety-four (94) new vehicles (4 x 4 pick-ups) were also officially handed over to DIS.

According to Resolution 1778 (2007), the mandate of MINURCAT is to select, train, advise and provide support to DIS elements.

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Mobile: +235 690 0126/ 690-0029