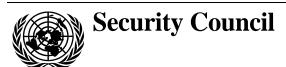
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Letter dated 1 February 2006 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 of Security Council resolution 1609 (2005) of 24 June 2005, by which the Council authorized me temporarily to redeploy military and civilian police personnel between the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) and the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) to deal with challenges that cannot be handled within the authorized personnel ceiling of either Mission.

Pending further consideration by the Security Council of the recommendations contained in my report S/2005/2 of 3 January 2006, and considering the current situation in Côte d'Ivoire, which was highlighted during the Council consultations on 19 and 26 January 2006, it is my intention to temporarily redeploy up to one mechanized infantry battalion and one formed police unit from UNMIL to UNOCI for an initial period of three months. The battalion, which would be deployed to Abidjan in phases beginning with the immediate transfer of one company, would provide extra security coverage for United Nations personnel and property and perform other tasks entrusted to UNOCI by the Council.

The relevant countries contributing troops and police personnel to UNMIL have indicated their agreement, in principle, to such temporary redeployment. The Government of Côte d'Ivoire has been notified. Accordingly, I am now seeking the consent of the Security Council for this proposed redeployment, in keeping with paragraph 6 (a) of resolution 1609 (2005).

I would be grateful if you would bring this request to the urgent attention of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kofi A. Annan