

NATIONAL DAILY PRESS REVIEW APRIL 1-30, 2014

American Embassy's National Daily Press Review

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U.S. Embassy Cote D'Ivoire National Daily Press Review

April 30, 2014

Today's Top Stories

1. UN lifts ban on diamonds from Cote d'Ivoire
2. Opposition leader announces intention to run for presidency
3. Population census to be extended in certain areas
4. USAID commits more than \$6 million to World Food Program in Cote d'Ivoire
5. World Press Freedom Day to begin today in Cote d'Ivoire

1. UN lifts ban on diamonds from Cote d'Ivoire

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/496322.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/496323.html>
- <http://www.fratmat.info/economie/item/15158-diamant-l%E2%80%99onu-l%C3%A8ve-l%E2%80%99embargo-sur-sa-commercialisation-en-c%C3%B4te-d%E2%80%99ivoire>
- <http://www.connectionivoirienne.net/98914/lonu-met-fin-lembargo-les-diamants-bruts-en-provenance-cote-divoire>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/l-onu-leve-l-embargo-sur-les-diamants-bruts-ivoiriens-et-assouplit-l-embargo-sur-les-armes-18365.html>
- <http://fr.africetime.com/cote-d-ivoire/articles/lonu-leve-lembargo-sur-les-diamants-bruts-ivoiriens>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6815-l-onu-leve-l-embargo-sur-les-diamants-bruts-ivoiriens.html>
- <http://www.koaci.com/cote-divoire-lonu-donne-vert-pour-vente-diamant-assouplit-lembargo-armes-91425.html>

The UN Security Council yesterday unanimously agreed to lift a ban on diamond exports from Cote d'Ivoire reports *Fraternite Matin* (p. 6). The reason for lifting the 2005 ban was due to "progress made by Cote d'Ivoire in the implementation of diamond certification under the Kimberly Process. However, the Security Council asked Ivoirian authorities to keep it informed on efforts to fight against diamond trafficking.

The Security Council also partially lifted the ban on arms in Cote d'Ivoire reports **Le Patriote (p. 4)**. This decision, according to the paper, was a testament to efforts made by President Alassane Ouattara. The paper also indicates that with this decision, the country can now import small arms to equip its police and gendarmerie.

2. Opposition leader announces intention to run for presidency

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/496285.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/496279.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/mamadou-koulibaly-annonce-sa-candidature-a-la-presidentielle-de-2015-18374.html>
- <http://www.koaci.com/cote-divoire-mamadou-koulibaly-veut-etre-candidat-presidentielle-mais-veut-gagner-91429.html>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6814-mamadou-koulibaly-annonce-sa-candidature-a-la-presidentielle-de-2015.html>
- <http://www.connectionivoirienne.net/98916/presidentielle-2015-lex-pdt-lassemblee-mamadou-koulibaly-annonce-candidature>

The leader of the LIDER political party and former president of the National Assembly, Mamadou Koulibaly, announced yesterday his intention to run for president in 2015 reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 7)**. According to the paper, in an interview yesterday Koulibaly denounced the government for not taking into account recommendations made by some opposition parties and members of civil society on reforms to the Independent Electoral Commission (CEI). Koulibaly also said that the government should have worked with all parties to reach a consensus before sending the bill on the reform of the CEI to the National Assembly. In addition, Koulibaly criticized the lack of progress made by the Commission on Dialogue, Truth, and Reconciliation (CDVR) saying that the results so far are "unsatisfactory." He also added that "There can be no reconciliation without justice." "The government did not provide the CDVR with the necessary means to function," Koulibaly is reported as saying in **Le Nouveau Reveil (pp. 1-12)**. Koulibaly also said in **L'Inter (p. 2)**, that he is willing to rejoin the government "if the president is willing to put in place a government that will instill more confidence in our people and that will focus more on bringing people together."

3. Population census to be extended in certain areas

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/496319.html>
- <http://www.koaci.com/cote-divoire-recensement-general-vers-report-date-butoir-91417.html>
- <http://www.connectionivoirienne.net/98908/cote-divoire-date-butoir-du-recensement-general-prolongee>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/496302.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/496295.html>

Minister of Planning and Development Albert Mabri Toikeusse yesterday announced plans to extend the time to complete the national census in certain areas reports **Soir Info (p. 7)**. According to the minister, the start of the operation was delayed a week or more in some areas necessitating the extension. **L'Intelligent d'Abidjan (p. 5)** reports that the committee overseeing the census has asked that the operation be extended by another 30 days to allow workers to finish.

Opposition paper **Le Quotidien d'Abidjan (p. 5)** says that the minister's request for the census to be extended is a sign that the census was "a failure." The paper also claims that the extension can be interpreted that the boycott by the opposition FPI party was "a success."

4. USAID commits more than \$6 million to World Food Program in Cote d'Ivoire

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/496320.html>

- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6803-2-6-milliards-de-f-cfa-pour-permettre-au-pam-de-continuer-ses-activites-en-cote-2-6-milliards-de-f-cfa-pour-permettre-au-pam-de-continuer-ses-activites-en-cote-d-ivoire.html>
- <http://www.linodrome.com/societe-culture/15584-cote-d-ivoire-l-usaid-offre-plus-de-2-milliards-fcfa-de-don-au-pam-pour-les-personnes-vulnerables>

A report in **Le Mandat (p. 7)** says that USAID has committed FCFA 3 billion (\$6.3 million) to the World Food Program (WFP) in Cote d'Ivoire. The funds will be used for refugees returning to their villages after the 2011 post-electoral crisis, reports the paper. The paper quotes country director of the WFP Gianluca Ferrera as saying, "This assistance comes at a good time given that the stock of food is very low."

According to a report in **Le Democrate (p. 3)**, USAID is the largest contributor to efforts to provide food to venerable populations in the country.

5. World Press Freedom Day to begin today in Cote d'Ivoire

Activities marking the 21st World Press Freedom Day begin today reports **Soir Info (p. 14)**. The report says that the celebration will be marked by a series of discussions during the next three days and a peaceful march by journalists and media leaders. Speaking at a press conference yesterday, Guillaume Gbato, the director of the National Union of Professional Journalists (SYNAPPCI) said that his organization will use the events as an opportunity to push for the application of an agreement signed by Ivorian news publishers to raise salaries for journalists. The head of the national press association (UNJCI) Habiba Dembele also announced a general assembly to be organized on May 10 to make recommendations on nominees for national journalism awards.

Assessing the media situation in Cote d'Ivoire, **Le Patriote (p. 9)** called for an end to the polarization of the media in the country. According to the paper, this will help elevate the level of professionalism among journalists.

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International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire

[Ivory Coast loses \\$700mn to racketeering annually
www.worldbulletin.net](#)

Ivory Coast loses \$700mn to racketeering annually ... Amidou Sani, a truck driver who transports cattle from Niger to Ivory Coast, told Anadolu Agency.

-

[Ivory Coast issues \\$250 mln bond for infrastructure financing
Reuters Africa](#)

ABID (Reuters) - Ivory Coast began the sale on Monday of an 8-year 120 billion CFA franc (\$253.14 million) bond with a 6.55 percent coupon, one of ...

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[Ivory Coast's Palmci reports fall in 2013 net profit
Reuters](#)

ABIDJAN, April 29 (Reuters) - Ivory Coast natural palm oil producer Palmci full year net profit fell to 11.03 billion CFA franc (\$23.28 million) in 2013, ...

-

[Exploration in West Africa looking up](#)

BusinessDay

Although Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Nigeria are likely to account for the bulk of exploration expenditure in the oil and gas upstream segment in West ...

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[UN Security Council removes ban on Ivory Coast diamond exports](#)

Reuters

UNITED NATIONS (Reuters) - The U.N. Security Council on Tuesday partially eased a decade-long arms embargo on Ivory Coast and removed a ban ...

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[These 2 Big Energy Finds Are in the Most Unlikely Places](#)

Motley Fool

Two energy companies, one from France and the other from Canada, teamed up to discover oil off the Ivory Coast in Africa. The Saphir-1XB wildcat in ...

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Media affiliation and circulation

(Newspaper circulation figures represent average number of copies sold daily. Latest numbers as of December 31, 2013.)

[Fraternite Matin](#)

Government-owned and controlled daily newspaper with the widest circulation

22,723 daily

[Soir Info](#)

Independent daily

17,378

[Le Nouveau Reveil](#)

Daily owned by the PDCI-RDA Party of former President Henri Konan Bedie

12,546 daily

Le Temps - (no current website)

Privately owned daily supportive of former President Gbagbo and his FPI party

11,883 daily

[L'Inter](#)

Independent daily that publishes mostly balanced news

10,457 daily

[Notre Voie](#)

Daily close to the FPI party of former President Laurent Gbagbo

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Daily close to National Assembly President Guillaume Soro

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Daily supportive of current president Alassane Ouattara

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Government-run news agency

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UN-owned radio operated by the UN Operation in Cote d'Ivoire

[RTI Television](#)

Government-run television and radio conglomerate

U.S. Embassy Cote D'Ivoire National Daily Press Review

April 29, 2014

Today's Top Stories

1. **Prime Minister speaks about government achievements and other projects**
2. **Prime Minister says people trafficking diamonds will be prosecuted**
3. **President of National Assembly urges opposition FPI to return to negotiations**
4. **First ordinary session of National Assembly to open tomorrow**
5. **New mining code welcomed by mining companies**

1. Prime Minister speaks about government achievements and other projects

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/496215.html>
- <http://www.fratmat.info/une/item/15131-vie-ch%C3%A8re-kablan-duncan-promet-l%E2%80%99am%C3%A9lioration-des-conditions-de-vie-en-2014>
- <http://www.linfordrome.com/economie/15574-lutte-contre-la-vie-chere-daniel-kablan-duncan-pm-baisser-la-fiscalite-n-est-pas-la-solution>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/496204.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/le-premier-ministre-duncan-fait-le-bilan-de-l-economie-ivoirienne-pour-l-annee-2013-18302.html>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6794-le-racket-coute-annuellement-350-milliards-de-f-cfa-aux-caisses-de-l-etat-ivoiri.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/496192.html>

Ivoirian Prime Minister Daniel Kablan Duncan yesterday met with the media to discuss achievements by the government during the last three years reports *Fraternite Matin (pp. 4-5)*. The paper reports that Duncan said that the objective of the government is to build a strong, durable and inclusive economy in order to reduce poverty in Cote d'Ivoire by 2015. Duncan is quoted as saying, "2013 saw the consolidation of economic stability and growth by making it possible to reduce the inflation rate by 2.6 percent." According to Duncan, economic growth was estimated at 8.7 percent in 2013. In addition, the private sector generated FCFA 1.6 trillion (\$3.2 billion). Duncan also reportedly spoke at the event about security and reconciliation.

The prime minister is quoted in *Le Jour Plus (p. 2)* as saying, "Racketeering is costing the government nearly FCFA 350 billion (\$740 million) annually." Duncan vowed that by the end of 2014, racketeering will be completely eradicated.

On the opposition side, *Notre Voie (p. 6)* expresses doubt about the prime minister's promises. According to the paper, Duncan's plan to eliminate racketeering by the end of the year "is not possible." Another opposition paper, *Le Quotidien d'Abidjan (p. 8)*, says that the figures provided by Duncan about economic growth in Cote d'Ivoire should be "justified by concrete actions." The paper also points out that, despite government promises, the prices of commodities such as gas and food are still very high.

2. Prime Minister says people trafficking diamonds will be prosecuted

Prime Minister Duncan also said at his meeting with the media yesterday that anyone found to be trafficking diamonds will be prosecuted reports *L'Inter (p. 10)*. Duncan said that an investigation is underway following a recent report by UN experts that former rebel leaders are involved in trafficking diamonds despite the current ban.

3. President of National Assembly urges opposition FPI to return to negotiations

At another press conference yesterday, President of the National Assembly Guillaume Soro urged the opposition FPI party to return to the negotiation table reports *Fraternite Matin (p. 6)*. Soro is

reported as saying, "It is very important for the FPI to continue the dialogue with the government." He acknowledged that the FPI represents an important political force in Cote d'Ivoire. Soro also used the opportunity to deny rumors that he and Minister of Interior and Security Hamed Bakayoko have been engaged in political posturing to succeed current President Alassane Ouattara. "There is no war between Hamed Bakayoko and me. It is indecent to talk about the successor to President Ouattara when he has not even finished his first term in office."

Addressing rumors of a potential arrest warrant for Soro by the International Criminal Court (ICC), **Le Patriote (p. 7)** reports that Soro said, "If I was suspected by the ICC for committing crimes, I would not have been invited to speak at a conference the court organized in the United States." According to **Nord-Sud Quotidien (p. 7)**, Soro reportedly said, "I cannot be prosecuted by the ICC. These rumors are lies by certain politicians who want me to be taken to The Hague."

4. First ordinary session of National Assembly to open tomorrow

Fraternite Matin (p. 6) reports that the first ordinary session of the National Assembly is set to open tomorrow in Abidjan. According to the report, members of the National Assembly will focus on the theme, "National Conscience and National Consensus." Speakers of Parliament and National Assemblies from other African countries such as Nigeria and Ghana are expected to attend the session. One of the major issues to be considered will be the government's bill to restructure the Independent Electoral Commission (CEI).

5. New mining code welcomed by mining companies

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/496194.html>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6793-le-nouveau-code-minier-ivoirien-va-attirer-de-nombreux-investisseurs-prives.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/cote-d-ivoire-appel-a-promulguer-le-nouveau-code-minier-18285.html>

A report in **Le Patriote (p. 15)** says that directors of mining companies operating in Cote d'Ivoire welcome the country's new mining code. The paper quotes the director of Rangold Resources, Mark Bristow, as saying that the new mining code will speed up economic progress in the country. Bristow also called on the government to enact the new code as soon as possible.

According to **L'Inter (p. 10)**, the new mining code will help reduce wait times for permits to begin mining in the country.

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[International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire](#)

[Ivory Coast Techies Solve Local Problems With Tablets And Apps](#)

AFKInsider

Apple is facing competition from the most unlikely places in the world. In Ivory Coast techies are coming up with local technology solutions for the ...

[Ivory Coast issues \\$250 mln bond for infrastructure financing](#)

Reuters Africa

ABIDJAN, April 28 (Reuters) - Ivory Coast began the sale on Monday of an 8-year 120 billion CFA franc (\$253.14 million) bond with a 6.55 percent ...

[Abidjan Focuses on Radio Training](#)

Radio World

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast — Félix Houphouët-Boigny University (previously Abidjan University), named after the first president of Ivory Coast, plays a vital ...

[Total makes 'very promising' oil find off Ivory Coast](#)

Energy Live News

In April last year, the oil giant announced its first find within Ivory Coast's eastern waters. Marc Blaizot, Senior Vice President for Exploration at Total ...

[Randgold hails new 'investor-friendly' mining code in Côte d'Ivoire](#)

ShareCast

Precious metals miner Randgold Resources has welcomed a new mining code in Côte d'Ivoire which it hopes will draw global investors and ...

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Media affiliation and circulation

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U.S. Embassy Cote D'Ivoire National Daily Press Review

April 28, 2014

Today's Top Stories

1. **Interior and security minister says debate over electoral commission reform is over**
2. **Government unveils plans to fight high cost of living**
3. **UN Security Council set to lift Cote d'Ivoire diamond ban**
4. **Cote d'Ivoire and Cameroon sign military cooperation agreement**
5. **U.S. Embassy holds cleanup activity in Yopougon to mark Earth Day**
6. **Public daily *Fraternite Matin* to map out strategies to boost sales**

1. Interior and security minister says debate over electoral commission reform is over

- <http://www.koaci.com/cote-divoire-renegotiation-pour-autre-gouvernement-lopposition-91357.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/et-hamed-bakayoko-decida-a-la-place-du-parlement-la-composition-de-la-cei-n-est-pas-negociable-18171.html>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6784-le-gouvernement-ivoirien-annonce-l-installation-de-la-nouvelle-cei-en-juin.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/hamed-bakayoko-en-vedette-a-la-une-des-journaux-ivoiriens-18165.html>

At a press conference Friday, Minister of Interior and Security Hamed Bakayoko said that there will be no future talks about new setup of the Independent Electoral Commission (CEI) reports ***Le Jour Plus (p. 2)***. "We have no intention of negotiating the structure of the CEI," Bakayoko is quoted as saying. The minister, according to the paper, was reacting to a recent proposal by opposition parties suggesting a 16-member panel over the government proposal of a 13-member commission.

Fraternite Matin (p. 6) also quotes the minister as saying that the reform proposed by the government will lead to a "perfectly-balanced coalition." The minister also noted that the government would have significantly less representation on the commission under the new proposal, compared to the past. In ***Le Nouveau Reveil (p. 8)*** Bakayoko notes that under the administration of Laurent Gbagbo, the government had nine representatives on the CEI compared to three in the current proposal.

The minister confirmed that the 2015 presidential election will be held in October, according to plan, reports ***L'Intelligent d'Abidjan (p. 7)***. ***Notre Voie (p. 3)*** reports that the legislation concerning the reform of the CEI will be discussed by the National Assembly before the end of April. The paper also says that the new electoral commission will be in place by the end of July. In addition, this paper quotes the minister as saying that former rebel groups have been "expelled" from the new commission.

2. Government unveils plans to fight high cost of living

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/496104.html>
- <http://www.connectionivoirienne.net/98797/cote-divoire-recherche-solutions-concretes-contre-cherte-vie-chomage>
- <http://www.koaci.com/cote-divoire-emploi-lutte-contre-chere-duncan-previent-decompte-fera-lheure-bilan-91346.html>
- <http://www.fratmat.info/economie/item/15029-s%C3%A9minaire-gouvernemental-l%E2%80%99emploi-et-la-lutte-contre-la-vie-ch%C3%A8re-au-menu>

The government on Friday held a seminar designed to map out strategies to combat the high cost of living in Cote d'Ivoire and to find employment opportunities for youth reports the weekend issue

of ***Fraternite Matin* (p. 4)**. According to government spokesperson Bruno Kone, from 2011 to 2014, more than 200,000 jobs have been created. Kone said that the government is also planning to launch 178 new projects that will help provide an additional two million additional jobs by 2015. Addressing the high cost of living, Kone said that the government plans to reduce the value added tax (VAT) on certain items from ten to five percent in the near future.

3. UN Security Council set to lift Cote d'Ivoire diamond ban

- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/l-onu-leve-en-partie-l-embargo-sur-les-armes-pour-la-cote-d-ivoire-18215.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/496162.html>
- <http://www.linfordrome.com/vie-politique/15546-vers-une-levee-partielle-de-l-embargo-de-l-onu-contre-la-cote-d-ivoire>
- <http://www.connectionivoirienne.net/98824/lonu-leve-partie-lembargo-les-armes-cote-divoire>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6788-l-onu-leve-en-partie-l-embargo-sur-les-armes-pour-la-cote-d-ivoire..html>

Meeting in New York, the Security Council of the United Nations (UN) is set to lift a nearly 10-year old diamond embargo on Cote d'Ivoire reports ***Fraternite Matin* (p. 15)** in its weekend issue. According to the paper, the 15 members of the Security Council should adopt a resolution lifting the ban tomorrow. The paper quotes a UN diplomat as saying that there is "consensus" on the issue to enable Cote d'Ivoire to start exporting diamonds again.

A report in ***Notre Voie* (p. 5)** claims that the decision to lift the ban shows "support for impunity" under the administration of President Alassane Ouattara. According to the paper, the UN Security Council is also set to lift the ban on the arms embargo imposed on the country since 2005. The paper believes that this decision may be a "blank check" to the government to continue "committing crimes and abuses."

The UN decision to lift the ban on diamonds and arms, according to ***Soir Info* (p. 3)** is a "victory" for President Ouattara.

4. Cote d'Ivoire and Cameroon sign military cooperation agreement

Cote d'Ivoire and Cameroon signed on Friday an agreement on military cooperation reports the weekend issue of ***Fraternite Matin* (p. 8)**. Ivoirian Minister in charge of Defense, Paul Koffi Koffi, traveled to Yaounde to sign the agreement with his Cameroonian counterpart Edgard Alain Mebe. The agreement, according to the paper, will help the training of military personnel in the two countries.

5. U.S. Embassy holds cleanup activity in Yopougon to mark Earth Day

- <http://www.rti.ci/detmediay-videojt-rti2-453067179-le-19-h-30-de-rti-2-du-26-avril-2014.html>

To mark the celebration of Earth Day, volunteers from the United States Embassy, local NGOs and the general public gathered on Saturday to clean a neighborhood in Yopougon reports ***Fraternite Matin* (p. 14)**. U.S. Ambassador Terence McCulley led the group of volunteers saying, "This cleanup operation is an example of the U.S. government commitment to help Ivoirians protect the environment."

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[International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire](#)

[Ivory Coast Former Ruling Party May End Boycott in 2015 Election](#)

Bloomberg

The Ivorian Popular Front, the party founded by former President Laurent Gbagbo, will drop its boycott of elections and may present a candidate for the ...

[Ghana, Ivory Coast Maritime Dispute To Be Resolved In June](#)

Bernama

ACCRA, April 25 (BERNAMA-NNN-GNA) -- The maritime dispute between the government of Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire would be resolved peacefully ...

[UPDATE 1-Ivory Coast to issue 8-yr, 100 bln CFA franc bond-central bank](#)

Reuters Africa

(Adds quote from head of treasury, details). ABIDJAN, April 25 (Reuters) - Ivory Coast will issue a 100 billion CFA franc (\$210.68 million) eight-year ...

[Ivory Coast army officer violates ban on diamond exports](#)

Diamond World Magazine

Amidst the UN embargo laid on Ivory Coast's rough diamond exports, a senior Ivory Coast army officer is violating the ban and using the profits to buy ...

[Technical cooperation with Ivory Coast agreed](#)

FIS

The Brazilian government, through the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture (MPA), entered into a technical collaboration agreement with Ivory Coast ...

[Ivory Coast lifts cocoa, coffee export ban on Ecom unit](#)

Business Recorder

Top cocoa grower Ivory Coast has reinstated the export licence of Swiss agricultural trader Ecom Agroindustrial Corp Ltd's local unit, rescinding a ban ...

[Envoy: Ivory Coast Keen to Boost Tourism Ties with Iran](#)

Tasnim News Agency

TEHRAN (Tasnim) – Ivory Coast's ambassador to Tehran called for the promotion of relations between the two countries in tourism fields. Print. Tweet.

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[Agence Ivoirienne de Presse](#)

Government-run news agency

ONU CI FM

UN-owned radio operated by the UN Operation in Cote d'Ivoire

RTI Television

Government-run television and radio conglomerate

U.S. Embassy Cote D'Ivoire National Daily Press Review

April 25, 2014

Today's Top Stories

1. **One reportedly killed as gunmen attack village on Ivoirian-Liberia border**
2. **Supreme court adjourns trial of former army officer to June 26**
3. **Interior Ministry launches campaign against racketeering**
4. **New students' association to promote non-violence**

1. One reportedly killed as gunmen attack village on Ivoirian-Liberia border

- <http://www.linfodrome.com/revue-de-presse-nationale/15534-jamais-deux-sans-trois-pour-dogbo-inquietudes-a-l-ouest>

One person was reportedly killed after unidentified gunmen attacked the village of Djimane in the southwestern region of Grabo, reports *Nord-Sud Quotidien* (p. 4). According to the paper, this was announced by the member of National Assembly from the region, Yaya Coulibaly. "On Tuesday unidentified gunmen who were heavily armed attacked the village creating panic among the population," Coulibaly is quoted as saying. Coulibaly also said, "More than 200 people fled the village to seek refuge in neighboring localities." The report also says that Tuesday's attack was the second one in the Grabo region within the last three months.

2. Supreme court adjourns trial of former army officer to June 26

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/495988.html>
- <http://www.fratmat.info/une/item/15001-affaire-dogbo-bl%C3%A9-la-cour-supr%C3%A0me-renvoie-sa-d%C3%A9cision-au-26-juin>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6769-cote-d-ivoire-le-proces-en-cassation-du-general-brunot-dogbo-ble-reporte-au-26.html>
- <http://www.linfodrome.com/vie-politique/15531-proces-dogbo-ble-le-verdict-encore-reporte>
- <http://www.connectionivoirienne.net/98749/cote-divoire-proces-lex-commandant-garde-gbagbo-en-delibere-26-juin>
- <http://www.lementor.net/?p=11532>
- <http://www.koaci.com/cote-divoire-nouveau-report-proces-cassation-general-dogbo--91330.html>

The Supreme Court yesterday in Abidjan adjourned the appeal trial of the former top army commander under Laurent Gbagbo, General Bruno Dogbo Ble, to June 26, reports *Fraternite Matin* (p. 7). The army officer is being tried together with other senior military officers in connection with

crimes committed during the 2011 post-electoral crisis in Cote d'Ivoire. Dogbo Ble was earlier sentenced to 15 years in prison for "ordering the killing of Colonel Dosso Adama." According to a report in **LG Infos (p. 10)**, this is the second time the court has adjourned the appeal trial of the former army officer. The paper also reports that the attorneys of the defendant accused the judge of "not being professional." On a similar tone, **Le Nouveau Courrier (p. 5)** accuses the Supreme Court of "playing" with the case of the former army officer.

3. Interior Ministry launches campaign against racketeering

- <http://www.koaci.com/cote-divoire-hamed-bakayoko-policiers-resultats-recompenses-promotion-91334.html>

Interior and Security Minister Hamed Bakayoko has warned police personnel against racketeering, reports **L'Intelligent d'Abidjan (p. 7)**. According to the paper, the minister was speaking yesterday during a visit to a police station in Abidjan to evaluate a project financed by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) aimed at reconciling the police and the population. "Security should not a hindrance to people's freedom," Bakayoko is reported as telling the police personnel. "Police officers who refuse to change will be found and fired," **Le Patriote (p. 4)** also quotes the minister as saying. According to **Fraternite Matin (p. 11)**, the project is being implemented in eight police stations in Abidjan and will be extended to cities across the country in the near future.

4. New students' association to promote non-violence

- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/etudiants-et-eleves-de-cote-d-ivoire-une-nouvelle-federation-est-nee-18067.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/495968.html>
- <http://www.koaci.com/cote-divoire-nouvelle-association-detudiants-veut-dompter-fesci-91336.html>

A report in **L'Expression (p. 5)** says a group of students from Felix Houphouet Boigny University in Abidjan yesterday launched a new association aimed at promoting non-violence among the student population. According to the paper, eight student associations have come together to form *Renaissance Estudiantine et Scolaire de Cote d'Ivoire* (RETS).

-

[International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire](#)

[Ivory Coast Urged To Hold Broad Consultations On Reforming Electoral Commission](#)

RTT News

A United Nations human rights expert on Wednesday called on authorities in Ivory Coast, also known as Côte d'Ivoire, to undertake broad ...

-

[UN: IVORY COAST EX-REBEL IN BREACH OF DIAMOND EXPORT BAN](#)

Tacy

A senior Ivory Coast army officer is violating a rough diamond export embargo and may be using profits to buy arms, reports Reuters, citing United ...

['No tension' in Ghana-Ivory Coast maritime negotiations](#)

GhanaWeb

Negotiation between Ghana and La Cote d'Ivoire to settle a maritime dispute over oil-rich areas in the Gulf of Guinea is progressing steadily, ...

-

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U.S. Embassy Cote D'Ivoire National Daily Press Review

April 24, 2014

Today's Top Stories

1. UN experts say former warlord profiting from illegal diamond trading
2. Opposition alliance proposes new structure for National Electoral Commission
3. Reconciliation commission to launch public hearings today
4. Experts say more than 1.6 million children involved in child labor in Cote d'Ivoire

1. UN experts say former warlord profiting from illegal diamond trading

- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/les-ex-rebelles-pro-ouattara-accuses-de-violer-l-embargo-sur-le-diamant-experts-onu-17941.html>
- <http://www.connectionivoirienne.net/98683/cote-divoire-wattao-sekou-niangadou-accuses-violer-l-embargo-diamant-onu>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/cote-d-ivoire-l-ex-comzone-quot-wattao-quot-dans-le-viseur-de-l-onu-17946.html>
- http://webplus.imatin.net/lebabi.net/74321_les-ex-rebelles-pro-ouattara-accuses-de-violer-l-embargo-sur-le-diamant-experts-onu
- <http://www.linfordrome.com/vie-politique/15514-trafic-de-diamants-wattao-dans-le-collimateur-de-l-onu>

A senior Ivoirian army officer is suspected of violating the ban on diamonds and potentially using the funds to purchase arms reports **L'Inter (p. 10)**. This information was released in a report from UN experts investigating the issue. The report identified the suspect as Lt. Colonel Issiaka "Watto" Ouattara. The report also identified a Malian national, Sekou Niangadou, as the principal buyer of the diamonds from the region of Seguela, in northern Cote d'Ivoire. The UN experts found that Niangadou has made cash payments to two senior army officers, including Ouattara. In a separate commentary, the paper says that if the accusations are confirmed, the country may not see its ban on diamond trading and arms purchases lifted.

Lt. Col. Ouattara could be targeted for charges by the UN reports **Soir Info (p. 3)**. The paper also notes that a report released last year, the UN denounced the increasing power and influence that former Comzones, or regional warlords, were enjoying after their reintegration into the national army. A report in opposition paper **Le Nouveau Courrier (p. 4)** explains how Ouattara and his followers smuggled gold and diamonds out of the country, using military officers in Liberia and Guinea.

Fraternite Matin (p. 7) says that Ouattara is denying the accusations against him. "I don't know what the report is talking about. I am not associated with anything to do with diamond trafficking. They should produce evidence that I sell diamonds," the paper quotes Ouattara as saying.

2. Opposition alliance proposes new structure for CEI

- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/apres-son-adoption-au-gouvernement-12-partis-de-l-opposition-juge-la-nouvelle-cei-17993.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/495878.html>
- http://www.imatin.net/article/politique/presidentielle-2015-composition-de-la-cei-voici-la-proposition-de-l-opposition_19046_1398268149.html

The new opposition alliance comprised of 12 opposition parties met yesterday in Abidjan to offer alternative structures for the Independent Electoral Commission (CEI) reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 8)**. Spokesperson for the group, Daniele Boni Claverie, is quoted as saying that the structure of the commission should ensure a balance between the ruling coalition and the opposition. The opposition alliance also wants the chair of the CEI to be elected by consensus.

Le Nouveau Reveil (p. 2) features a statement by the group after its meeting outlining its proposal. Under its proposal, the CEI would be made up of 16 members with 13 of them possessing the right to vote. **Le Patriote (p. 2)** offers that there is a need to keep the structure of the electoral commission to 13 members as proposed by the government and that the justification for the opposition coalition's proposal does not make sense.

On the opposition side, **Notre Voie (p. 6)** says that the alliance has "rejected" the government's proposal for a 13 member commission. Quoting the statement from the alliance, the paper says, "To guarantee the independence of the new commission, the government and the opposition should have equal membership." According to the paper, the coalition is also demanding that the current chair of the CEI be replaced by an "honest person capable of leading the commission."

Le Nouveau Courrier (p. 5) reports that UN special investigator, Doudou Diene, allegedly has said, "Political stakeholders have to reach a consensus on electoral reforms including the register of voters and the composition of the electoral commission."

3. Reconciliation commission to launch public hearings today

- <http://www.fratmat.info/une/item/14988-audition-des-victimes-la-cdvr-lance-la-phase-nationale-aujourd%E2%80%99hui>
- <http://www.fratmat.info/une/item/14974-cdvr-la-phase-nationale-de-recherche-de-v%C3%A9rit%C3%A9-lanc%C3%A9-ce-jeudi>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/495892.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/cote-d-ivoire-debut-de-l-audition-des-victimes-de-la-crise-post-electorale-17997.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/deposition-des-victimes-de-la-crise-charles-konan-banny-la-paix-viendra-des-ivoiriens-eux-memes-ou-ne-sera-pas-17991.html>

The Commission on Dialogue, Truth and Reconciliation (CDVR) today is launching nationwide hearings for victims of crimes committed during the last 15 years of crisis in the country reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 8)**. The announcement came from CDVR president Charles Konan Banny yesterday during an event where he announced the results of pilot hearings held earlier this month in Adzope, Agboville, Bouake, Bondoukou, Duekoue, Ganoa, Korhogo and Yopougon.

A report in **L'Inter (p. 6)** says that more than 2,000 people testified during the pilot phase of the hearing process. The report also says that the pilot stage enabled the CDVR to identify problems that it could face during the national exercise.

Opposition paper **Notre Voie (p. 6)** alleges that government forces, including the gendarmerie and police, refused to provide security during the pilot phase. The paper quotes members of the CDVR as saying that only UN forces offered to provide security at that time.

4. Experts say more than 1.6 million children involved in child labor in Cote d'Ivoire

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/495891.html>

A report in **Le Jour Plus (p. 6)** cites the director of the Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs and Professional Training, Germain Aguié Amaffon, as saying that more than 1.6 million children are engaged in child labor in Cote d'Ivoire. He said this during a training organized by the ministry for members of the child labor monitoring committee. According to the paper, the training also involved members of SOSTECI, another government body tasked with overseeing projects aimed at fighting child labor in the country. The story also quotes a representative of First Lady Dominique Ouattara as saying that only through parents and organizations involved in the fight against child labor working together can child labor be curbed in Cote d'Ivoire.

International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire

[UN expert calls for consultations on reforming Côte d'Ivoire's electoral commission](#)

UN News Centre

23 April 2014 – A United Nations human rights expert today called on authorities in Côte d'Ivoire to undertake broad consultations on the reform of the ...

[MTN partners with Jumia in Ivory Coast](#)

ITWeb Africa

African e-commerce website Jumia has partnered with mobile operator MTN, to enable customers in the Ivory Coast to use mobile money to pay for ...

-

[I. Coast defiant on plastic bags ban; traders upset](#)

Turkish Press

ABIDJAN – Lifestyles are expected to change in Ivory Coast as of August, when an official ban on sachet-type plastic bags – widely used for water ...

-

[Supporting cocoa farming communities](#)

Confectionery Production

Cargill has strengthened its programme with CARE in Côte d'Ivoire to launch a \$2.4 million partnership with the Conseil du Café-Cacao and 14 cocoa ...

-

[Asking Africans About Democracy](#)

AllAfrica.com

Most support: Zambia, Mauritius, Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire, Uganda, Botswana, Senegal and Liberia:
(Support ranges from 78 percent in Zambia to 61 ...

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U.S. Embassy Cote D'Ivoire National Daily Press Review

April 23, 2014

Today's Top Stories

1. **Head of UN mission in Cote d'Ivoire urges opposition FPI to resume dialogue with government _**
2. **Iran deputy foreign affairs minister in Cote d'Ivoire to increase ties**
3. **IMF and West African Economic and Monetary Union to meet in Abidjan**
4. **Government launches African vaccination week_**
5. **U.S. Embassy to hold cleanup activity in Yopougon to mark Earth Day _**
6. **Wild Chimpanzee Foundation to help protect animal reserve in Cote d'Ivoire**

1. Head of UN mission in Cote d'Ivoire urges opposition FPI to resume dialogue with government

- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/reprise-du-dialogue-direct-avec-le-gouvernement-aichatou-mindaoudou-fait-des-promesses-au-fpi-17880.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/495767.html>
- <http://www.koaci.com/cote-divoire-lonuci-tente-convaincre-reprendre-dialogue-avec-gouvernement-91293.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/495760.html>
- <http://ks200371.kimsufi.com/?q=comment/86789>
- http://www.aip.ci/regions.php?pageNum_RsDepeches=1&totalRows_RsDepeches=2283&ID=5963&page=ABJ

The dialogue between the government and the opposition FPI party, suspended after FPI's leaders boycotted the discussions, was again a major issue of discussion between UN Special Representative Aichatou Mindaoudou and FPI president Pascal Affi N'Guessan. According to a report in ***Fraternite Matin (p. 7)***, Mindaoudou urged Affi N'Guessan at a meeting yesterday to resume dialogue with the government. Mindaoudou is also quoted as saying, "This dialogue is essential to resolve the different concerns facing people in Cote d'Ivoire." Mindaoudou also offered that the UN would work with leaders of the opposition party "to find the ways for this dialogue to resume."

A report in ***Le Nouveau Reveil (p. 2)*** quotes Affi N'Guessan as welcoming the efforts by the head of the UN mission in Cote d'Ivoire to help the two sides resume the dialogue. "We are waiting for a new schedule of meetings and a proposed format for this new round of dialogue," the paper quotes the leader of FPI as saying. "The dialogue with the government may resume," Affi N'Guessan is quoted as saying in ***Le Patriote (P. 3)***.

Reporting on the meeting between Mindaoudou and Affi N'Guessan, the second one in the last two weeks, ***Le Nouveau Courrier (p. 5)*** suggests that through these meetings, the UN is trying to put pressure on President Alassane Ouattara to resume the dialogue with the main opposition party ahead of the 2015 presidential elections.

2. Iran deputy foreign affairs minister in Cote d'Ivoire to increase ties

- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/charles-koffi-diby-recu-par-son-homologue-iranien-17871.html>

Iran's deputy minister of foreign affairs, Dr. Amir Abdollahian Houssein, is in Cote d'Ivoire this week in order to strengthen bilateral relations between the two countries reports ***Fraternite Matin (p.***

8). Dr. Houssein met yesterday with Prime Minister Daniel Kablan Duncan where they discussed plans

to start a joint commission on cooperation. Dr. Houssein is reported as saying that trade between the two countries is lower than expectations and that the joint commission will help develop new avenues of partnership in sectors such as health, agriculture, industry and vehicle production.

3. IMF and West African Economic and Monetary Union to meet in Abidjan

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/495801.html>

Members of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) will be meeting tomorrow with officials from the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA) to discuss the region's economic growth reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 26)**. The meeting will also enable the two delegations to find strategies to improve the economy of the region.

A report in **Le Nouveau Courrier (p. 3)** says that the IMF delegation will use the meeting to present conditions for improved economic growth in the region. The conditions will include strategies to consolidate progress made so far in regional security and investment in public infrastructure.

4. Government launches African Vaccination Week

Minister of Health and the Fight against HIV/AIDS Raymonde Coffie Goudou yesterday launched African Vaccination Week in Abidjan reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 10)**. The purpose of the campaign is to encourage mothers across the country to vaccinate their children to fight the spread of preventable diseases. The report also says that vaccinations during the week are free and will ensure greater vaccination rates among children.

This is the fourth annual observation of African Vaccination Week in Cote d'Ivoire reports **Nord-Sud Quotidien (p. 6)**. The paper notes that the minister yesterday called on all mothers to take their children to clinics and health centers to receive their shots. The story adds that a representative from the World Health Organization, Dr. Souley Kalilou, commended the government for efforts that have led to no new reported cases of polio in the country during the last three years.

5. U.S. Embassy to hold cleanup activity in Yopougon to mark Earth Day

- <http://www.fratmat.info/societe/item/14970-protection-de-lenvironnement-terence-mcculley-propose-un-travail-densemble>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/protection-de-l-environnement-terence-mcculley-propose-un-travail-d-ensemble-17885.html>
- <http://www.lebanco.net/banconet/bco21910.htm>
- <http://www.aip.ci/regions.php?ID=5931&page=ABJ>
- <http://www.aip.ci/regions.php?ID=5955&page=ABJ>

The U.S. Embassy yesterday hosted a conference on climate change to mark the celebration of Earth Day reports **Le Jour Plus (p. 6)**. According to the paper, Ambassador Terence McCulley used the occasion to announce a cleanup activity on Saturday in the Abidjan neighborhood of Yopougon. The paper also reports Ambassador McCulley as saying that the cleanup is an effort "to demonstrate our commitment to help Ivoirians clean up the environment."

"We need to work together to fight climate change," **Fraternite Matin (p. 11)** quotes the Ambassador as saying. The paper also reports the Ambassador as saying that President Obama has made the protection of the environment a top priority of his administration.

6. Wild Chimpanzee Foundation to help protect animal reserve in Cote d'Ivoire

The Society for Forest Development (SODEFOR), an Ivoirian NGO, yesterday signed an agreement with the Wild Chimpanzee Foundation to better protect the Cavally Animal Reserve in western Cote d'Ivoire reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 25)**. Under this agreement, reports the paper, the two groups will work together to oversee the animals' activities and also to help rehabilitate the animal reserve.

[International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire](#)

[Ivory Coast Says Abidjan Commuter Train to Cost 1 Billion Euros](#)

Bloomberg

A planned commuter train for Ivory Coast's commercial capital of Abidjan will cost as much as 1 billion euros (\$1.4 billion) to build and will be ready in ...

[African Petroleum extends licenses in Ivory Coast](#)

UPI.com

African Petroleum extends licenses in Ivory Coast. French energy company Total said it made an oil discovery while drilling in the deep waters ...

[AIH, MTN partnership kicks-off with big Jumia ecommerce push in Ivory Coast](#)

Ventureburn

For now, the deal between MTN and Jumia allows customers from Ivory Coast to make purchases using MTN's Mobile Money system. Customers are ...

[Acqua for Life goes continental, providing safe drinking water in Africa, Latin America and Asia](#)

PR Web (press release)

The aim of the campaign's 4th edition will be to support the development of water systems in new communities in Africa (Ghana, Ivory Coast and ...

-

[UN Boss Renews Call On Gbagbo's Party To Re-Open Dialogue With Govt](#)

Leadership Newspapers

Ms Aïchatou Mindaoudou, Head, UN Operation in Cote d'Ivoire (UNOCI) on Tuesday in Abidjan renewed call on the Ivorian Popular front (FPI) to ...

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April 17, 2014

Today's Top Stories

1. **Opposition party meets with UN**
2. **Vatican envoy assures President Ouattara of Pope's support of reconciliation process**
3. **Emergency services of Abidjan central hospital to be closed for three months for rehabilitation**
4. **Good governance: Ivoirian civil servants to declare assets**
5. **Population in the western Cote d'Ivoire call for closure of border with Liberia to prevent Ebola**
6. **Government to reactivate committee fighting gender violence**

1. Opposition party meets with UN

- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/cote-d-ivoire-le-fpi-est-pret-a-reprendre-le-dialogue-sous-conditions-17488.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/dialogue-avec-le-gouvernement-le-fpi-annonce-son-retour-17558.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/495377.html>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6697-le-fpi-se-dit-pret-a-reprendre-le-dialogue-avec-le-gouvernement.html>
- http://www.imatin.net/article/politique/dialogue-avec-le-gouvernement-le-fpi-annonce-son-retour_18870_1397716505.html
- <http://www.connectionivoirienne.net/98516/cote-divoire-parti-gbagbo-se-dit-etre-pret-reprendre-dialogue>
- <http://presse.ivorian.net/informations/?p=9121>

The president of the opposition FPI party, Pascal Affi N'Guessan, met yesterday with the UN special representative Aichatou Mindaoudou, to explain the party's position on current issues reports ***Fraternite Matin (p. 7)***. According to the paper, the meeting mainly focused on the decision by the FPI to boycott the ongoing dialogue with the government. "We discussed current political issues and we explained that we are fully ready to resume the dialogue with the government in a more efficient framework," Affi N'Guessan is quoted as saying.

L'Inter (p. 5) quotes Affi N'Guessan as saying that one of the conditions for the party to return to the dialogue is for the government to take steps to ensure that the discussions are "constructive and not just empty words."

2. Vatican envoy assures President Ouattara of Pope's support of reconciliation process

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/495381.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/le-chef-de-l-etat-a-eu-un-entretien-avec-le-president-du-conseil-pontifical-pour-la-justice-et-la-paix-du-vatican-17551.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/495365.html>
- <http://lebanco.net/banconet/bco21860.htm>
- <http://www.nordsudquotidien.com/reconciliation-nationale-le-vatican-encourage-le-dialogue/>

The envoy of the Vatican, Cardinal Peter Kodjo Appia Turkson, continues meetings in the country reports ***Fraternite Matin (p. 6)***. Yesterday, Turkson met with President Alassane Ouattara where he took the opportunity to assure the president of the Vatican's support in reconstruction and reconciliation efforts. Turkson is also quoted as saying, "Only dialogue will help achieve peace and reconciliation."

The visit by the cardinal, according to **Le Nouveau Courrier (p. 4)**, allows the Vatican to evaluate the political situation on the ground. The paper also reports that Turkson pressed the president to give priority to actions that help bring Ivoirians together.

3. Emergency services of Abidjan central hospital to be closed for three months for rehabilitation

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/495403.html>
- <http://www.fratmat.info/une/item/14817-sant%C3%A9-le-gouvernement-%E2%80%98ferme-temporaire-les-urgences-du-chu-de-cocody%E2%80%99>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/fermeture-temporaire-du-bloc-des-urgences-du-chu-de-cocody-pour-des-travaux-17552.html>
- http://www.imatin.net/article/societe/urgence-des-chu-on-ferme-a-cocody-on-rouvre-a-treichville_18877_1397718095.html
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/fermeture-temporaire-des-urgences-du-chu-de-cocody-pour-travaux-conseil-des-ministres-17524.html>

The government yesterday announced the closure of emergency services at the Cocody Teaching Hospital (CHU) in order to allow for rehabilitation work to take place reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 4)**. According to the paper, the closure begins on May 1 and is scheduled to last three months. The report also says that the decision was made to rehabilitate the emergency services on the recommendation of the Minister of Health and the Fight against HIV/AIDS, Raymonde Coffi Goudou. At the same time, the government reopened a similar teaching hospital in the neighborhood of Treichville.

Le Nouveau Reveil (pp. 8&9) features a statement from the union of health professionals that welcomes the government's decision to rehabilitate the emergency rooms of the country's main hospitals. The paper also published another statement signed by a group of Ivoirians that denounces the dysfunction in the Ivoirian health system that led to the recent death of an Ivoirian model.

4. Good governance: Ivoirian civil servants to declare assets

Nord-Sud Quotidien (p. 6) reports that the president's cabinet decided yesterday to take new steps to ensure good governance and prevent illicit activities by government workers by requiring all civil servants to declare their assets. According to the paper, anyone hired as a civil servant will be required to declare his or her assets before taking office. Government spokesperson Bruno Kone is quoted as saying, "This measure will help fight embezzlement of public funds."

5. Population in the western Cote d'Ivoire call for closure of border with Liberia to prevent Ebola

The population of the Cavally region in western Cote d'Ivoire, has called on the government to close the border between the country and Liberia, in order to prevent the spread of Ebola reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 14)**. The paper quotes a driver in the region as saying that authorities in Liberia have taken measures to prevent movement between the two countries and they want the Ivoirian government to do the same by closing the border. In a related story, the paper announces that the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has temporarily decided to stop the repatriation of refugees from Liberia to stop the spread of the disease. The paper quotes a UNHCR representative in the region, Serge Ruso, as saying, "Discussions are underway about how best to resume repatriations." Ruso also is quoted as saying that the decision to stop the repatriation came from the Ivoirian government.

6. Government to reactivate committee fighting gender violence

- http://www.imatin.net/article/societe/lutte-contre-les-violences-faites-aux-femmes-et-aux-enfants-de-nouveaux-textes-en-faveur-des-femmes-et-des-enfants-annonces_18821_1397633559.html
- http://ivoireactu.net/?page=article&id_actu=13559

The Minister of Solidarity, Family, Women and Children, Anne Desiree Ouloto, yesterday announced that a defunct committee on gender violence would be reactivated reports ***Fraternite Matin (p. 40)***. According to the paper, the committee will be tasked with finding strategies to combat gender violence across the country. _

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[Exclusive: UN should halt arms shipments via Ivory Coast after China breach - panel](#)
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Ivory Coast's main port of Abidjan has been a primary transit point for cargo shipped to landlocked Mali's mission, known as MINUSMA. However, the ...

- [French, Korean consortium to build \\$1.4 bln Abidjan rail line](#)

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Though Afriland's arrival in Cote d'Ivoire is its first in the UEMOA zone, it is unlikely to be the last as the company, which was the number two banking ...

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Receiving the gavel, a symbol of office from Ambassador Bamba Youssoufou of La Côte d'Ivoire at a ceremony at the African Union Secretariat, ...

- [Media affiliation and circulation](#)

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U.S. Embassy Cote D'Ivoire National Daily Press Review

April 16, 2014

Today's Top Stories

1. Government negotiator rejects opposition party's conditions for dialogue
2. Civil society makes recommendations on electoral reform
3. Vatican envoy holds talks with head of CDVR
4. Global Fund pledges FCFA 125 billion to fight HIV in Cote d'Ivoire
5. Ten year anniversary marked in case of mission Canadian journalist

1. Government negotiator rejects opposition party's conditions for dialogue

The representative of the government in the ongoing dialogue between the government and opposition, Jeannot Kouadio-Ahoussou, has rejected the opposition's conditions, reports ***Fraternite Matin* (pp. 4&5)**. The conditions the FPI party announced earlier this month to participate in talks includes the use of a mediator in the dialogue. Kouadio-Ahoussou said that this demand would only make sense if the country did not already have functioning institutions. "President Ouattara has put into place three structures for dialogue in order to enable all Ivoirians to express themselves," Kouadio-Ahoussou is quoted by the paper as saying. He also mentioned specifically the Dialogue, Truth and Reconciliation Commission (CDVR) as one of these venues. "Now that the situation has normalized in Cote d'Ivoire, there is no need to have a mediator to facilitate dialogue with the opposition," he is quoted as saying.

At the same time, the FPI has proposed that Ghanaian President John Dramani Mahama, the current chairman of ECOWAS, serve as the mediator reports ***L'Intelligent d'Abidjan* (p. 2)**. The paper says that this proposal has been rejected by President Ouattara given that there is no crisis and that institutions are now functioning normally.

2. Civil society makes recommendations on electoral reform

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/495300.html>

A report in ***Fraternite Matin* (p. 6)** says that a coalition of civil society groups has made recommendations for the reform of the Independent Electoral Commission (CEI). According to the paper, the coalition has accepted the 13 members commission proposed earlier this month by the government. However, the coalition proposed that the new electoral commission be comprised of three members from the RHDP ruling coalition, three from the opposition, two from religious leaders, three from civil society and one from the judicial sector.

The recommendations of civil society will help put in place a more "balanced" electoral commission says ***L'Inter* (p. 4)**. The paper quotes a statement from the coalition as calling on the international community to support all efforts aimed at helping Cote d'Ivoire have an impartial, credible and professional electoral commission.

Opposition paper ***Notre Voie* (p. 5)** suggests that through this recommendation, civil society has "rejected" the government's reform of the electoral commission.

3. Vatican envoy holds talks with head of CDVR

An envoy of the Vatican, Cardinal Peter Kodjo Appia Turkson, met this week with the head of the CDVR, Charles Konan Banny reports ***Fraternite Matin* (p. 7)**. "We are here to express our support, solidarity and encouragement for the enormous task undertaken by the reconciliation commission," Turkson is quoted as saying. Turkson also said that Pope Francis gives his congratulations the CDVR and its chairman for achievements made thus far.

The Vatican is encouraging Ivoirians political stakeholders to continue to dialogue reports ***Nord-Sud Quotidien (p. 5)***.

4. Global Fund pledges FCFA 125 billion to fight HIV in Cote d'Ivoire

Global Fund, a non-profit organization that fights HIV/AIDS worldwide, has pledged FCFA 125 billion (\$264 million) to fight the disease in Cote d'Ivoire reports ***Fraternite Matin (p. 9)***. According to the paper, this assistance is part of the organization's commitment to help Cote d'Ivoire fight HIV, tuberculosis and malaria. The three year program was announced yesterday by Global Fund official Sonia Florisse. According to Florisse, Cote d'Ivoire has to meet conditions before receiving this assistance. One of those conditions, she is quoted as saying, is proof of matching funds, "The country will have to prove its ability to pay its share, which is 20 percent of the total." She also said, "This money must be invested in financing concrete actions designed to fight the three diseases."

5. Ten year anniversary marked in case of mission Canadian journalist

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/495310.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/495298.html>
- <http://www.fratmat.info/une/item/14777-disparition-de-kieffer-reporters-sans-fronti%C3%A8res-appelle-%C3%A0-la-mobilisation>
- <https://www.eburnews.net/index.php/la-une/124-securite-faits-divers/1179-dix-ans-plus-tard-la-mobilisation-doit-continuer-dans-l-affaire-guy-andre-kieffer>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/10-ans-apres-la-disparition-de-guy-andre-kieffer-un-casse-tete-17476.html>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6689-disparition-de-kieffer-dix-ans-apres-l-enquete-pietine-selon-rsf.html>

Today marks the tenth anniversary of the disappearance of Guy-Andre Kieffer, a French-Canadian journalist who went missing under suspicious circumstances in April 2004 reports ***Fraternite Matin (p. 11)***. The paper recalls that an investigation in the case led to the implication of Michel Legre, the brother-in-law of former first lady Simone Gbagbo, as playing a role in Kieffer's disappearance. Legre was the last known person to see Kieffer alive. He was arrested and questioned after the disappearance, but was released without being charged. Another investigation, by a French investigator, found that the entourage of former president Laurent Gbagbo was likely involved with the disappearance.

A report in ***L'Expression (p. 5)*** says that NGO Reporters without Borders issued a statement criticizing the fact that the investigation has gone cold. According to ***L'Inter (p. 16)***, the same organization has called on authorities to take steps that will lead to solving the case.

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[Amara Mining: Investors tuning in to world-class potential of Ivory Coast project](#)

Proactive Investors UK

It follows the publication of the preliminary economic assessment of the 6.3mln-ounce Yaoure deposit in the Ivory Coast, and the unveiling of plans to ...

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It took U.S. Ambassador Deborah R. Malac about six months to consider traveling to Buutuo, a town bordering Ivory Coast, where ex-Liberian ...

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[Air Cote d'Ivoire Upbeat On Operations](#)

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Toussaint said their company was dealing with the National Air Carrier from Cote D'ivoire to Liberia but now their new airline is Air Cote D'ivoire with ...

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A high-level delegation will attend the ceremony from Côte d'Ivoire, the country in which the AfDB has its head office. All of this is leading up to the ...

[Ivory Coast PM: 'We Can Astonish the World'](#)

Voice of America

Ivory Coast - or Cote d'Ivoire as it is known in French - is best known as the world's largest producer of cocoa beans, but it also is a major producer of ...

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U.S. Embassy Cote D'Ivoire National Daily Press Review

April 15, 2014

Today's Top Stories

1. U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission speaks on gender issues in Yamoussoukro
2. Opposition parties comment on government's electoral commission reform
3. Parliamentarians explain laws on nationality, marriage and land tenure to the population
4. State media regulatory body suspends five newspapers

1. U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission speaks on gender issues in Yamoussoukro

A report in **Le Jour Plus (p. 10)** says that U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission Cheryl Sim called for campaign against gender violence. According to the paper, Sim was speaking on Friday in Yamoussoukro at a conference on the "empowerment of women as an efficient way to curb gender violence." The conference was organized by the Coalition of NGOs for Democracy and Peace (CODDH) and was designed to raise awareness on gender violence in Cote d'Ivoire. The paper quotes Sim as saying, "The laws in place to prevent gender violence are not applied." She also spoke against the method of settling problems relating to gender violence "amicably," saying that this "does help empower women."

2. Opposition parties comment on government's electoral commission reform

- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/cote-d-ivoire-des-organisations-de-la-societe-civile-contre-une-commission-electorale-reformee-a-quot-coloration-politique-quot-17409.html>
- <https://www.eburnews.net/index.php/la-une/94-societe-vie-des-ong/1141-declaration-de-la-coalition-de-la-societe-civile-pour-la-reforme-electorale-sur-le-projet-de-loi-du-gouvernement-relatif-a-la-reforme-de-la-commission-electorale-independante-cei>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/495252.html>

The Alliance of Democratic Forces (AFD), a new coalition formed recently by the opposition FPI party and other smaller parties, has commented on the reform of the Independent Electoral Commission (CEI) announced a few days ago by the government, reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 6)**. Meeting yesterday in Abidjan, members of the coalition criticized the fact that opposition parties were not consulted before the government's decision to adopt a bill on the reform. "We deplore the unilateral manner by which the bill was crafted," the paper quotes AFD spokesperson Daniel Aka Ahizi as saying. "We will continue the examination of this bill and come out with a position," Ahizi added. A report in **Le Patriote (p. 6)** says the alliance has rejected the government's electoral reform bill. According to the paper, the coalition is set to meet again this week to propose amendments.

3. Parliamentarians explain laws on nationality, marriage and land tenure to the population

- <http://www.aip.ci/regions.php?ID=5610&page=BKE>

Members of the National Assembly from the ruling RHDP coalition have embarked on a campaign aimed at explaining new laws on nationality, marriage, and land tenure in Cote d'Ivoire, reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 8)**. According to the paper, the campaign was launched recently in the central city of Bouake in the presence of traditional and religious leaders, representatives of political parties and the civil society and the general public.

4. State media regulatory body suspends five newspapers

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/495218.html>
- <http://www.connectionivoirienne.net/98472/cote-divoire-suspensions-en-cascade-quotidiens-proches-lopposition-cnp>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/5-journaux-suspendus-par-l-organe-de-regulation-de-la-presse-ivoirienne-17371.html>

- <https://www.eburnews.net/index.php/la-une/121-medias-communications/1177-cote-d-ivoire-5-journaux-suspendus-par-l-organe-de-regulation-de-la-presse-ivoirienne>

Reports in the media today say that five newspapers have been suspended by the National Press Council (CNP), the government-run print media regulatory body. According to ***Fraternite Matin* (p. 40)**, the newspapers suspended include *Aujourd'hui*, *Le Quotidien d'Abidjan*, *Le Temps*, which are all close to the opposition. Independent daily *Soir Info* and the pro-opposition satirical weekly newspaper *Bol-Kotch* have also been suspended. The article also says these newspapers have been suspended for various reasons including, "serious violations" of media law in Cote d'Ivoire. Reacting to the CNP's decision, the publisher of *Soir Info*, Vamara Coulibaly, expressed "surprise" reports ***L'Inter* (p. 16)**. A report in opposition paper ***Notre Voie* (p. 7)** says these suspensions constitute "a danger" for press freedom in Cote d'Ivoire; while ***Le Nouveau Courrier* (p. 4)** says the decision by the CNP to suspend the papers came from orders given by the office of the president.

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[International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire](#)

[Côte d'Ivoire - Campaign must go on 10 years after French journalist's disappearance](#)

Thomson Reuters Foundation

He pursued the case with determination and made several trips to Côte d'Ivoire and issued an unsuccessful summons to Simone Gbagbo to submit to ...

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[Vocational Training for the Employment of Youth - A Leading Priority for African Countries](#)

AllAfrica.com

The countries were Angola, Benin, Burundi, Cape Verde, Cameroon, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, ...

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[Reinsurance firm plans new acquisitions to drive growth](#)

The Standard Digital News

The company, which already has a presence in Nigeria, Kenya, Cameroon and Cote d'Ivoire underwrites businesses across 43 African countries.

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U.S. Embassy Cote D'Ivoire National Daily Press Review

April 14, 2014

Today's Top Stories

1. Ivoirian government to reinforce security ahead of Easter festivities
2. Members of parliament trained on national security reform
3. Opposition youth leader announces anti-government demonstration
4. Prime Minister Duncan seeks more assistance from World Bank and IMF for Ivoirian economy

1. Ivoirian government to reinforce security ahead of Easter festivities

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/495113.html>

The Minister in charge of Defense, Paul Koffi Koffi, announced on Friday a nationwide operation to increase security in advance of this weekend's Easter celebration reports *Fraternite Matin (p. 4)*. According to the paper, the minister made the announcement during a series of visits to cities in the central part of the country including Toumodi, Dimborkro, Doukro, M'Bahiakro and Brobo. "We will deploy security forces nationwide as part of these important security measures." He promised that the government is committed to stopping armed gangs that operate on highways from attacking travelers.

According to a report in *Le Nouveau Reveil (p. 6)*, the minister said that the government had the necessary means to stop any armed robbers operating in the country. In *Soir Info (p. 6)*, the minister also announced the destruction of a village in the central region believed to be a den for armed robbers. The minister also warned several groups to refrain from violence and undermining security during the holiday including the Peuhle population, traditional hunters known as Dozos, and former combatants.

2. Members of parliament trained on national security reform

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/495023.html>

Members of the National Assembly's Security and Defense Committee received training last week on security reform reports *Fraternite Matin (p. 7)*. According to the paper, the training was a joint effort between the UN Mission to Cote d'Ivoire and German NGO, the Friedrich Ebert Foundation. According to the paper, the training was organized to help the members of the National Assembly acquire a better understanding of security reforms taking place in the country. The report also says that the capacity building training focused on other issues such as good governance, public security, leadership and techniques of mediation.

3. Opposition youth leader announces anti-government demonstration

Justin Koua, the leader of the opposition FPI party youth branch, announced over the weekend public demonstrations to be held on June 5 to press President Alassane Ouattara to guarantee democracy in Cote d'Ivoire reports *L'Inter (p. 4)*. Koua, speaking at a meeting on Saturday said, "We have tried everything. The only thing left is to take to the streets." According to Koua, the demonstration, to be held in the heart of downtown Abidjan, will express "the indignation at the deportation of former president Laurent Gbagbo and former youth leader Charles Ble Goude, who are now facing trial at the International Criminal Court."

On the opposition side, *Le Temps (p. 4)* reports that Koua said, "Our demonstration is not designed to overthrow the government, but rather to express our discontent with the government which has established a brutal dictatorship during the past three years."

4. Prime Minister Duncan seeks more assistance from World Bank and IMF for Ivoirian economy

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/495141.html>

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/495126.html>
- <http://www.fratmat.info/economie/item/14658-printemps-du-fmi-bm-kaba-nialé-fait-le-point-des-réformes-devant-la-sfi>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/apres-duncan-aux-reunions-du-groupe-de-la-banque-mondiale-le-president-alassane-ouattara-au-prochain-sommet-usa-afrique-17307.html>

A report in ***Fraternite Matin* (p. 14)** says that Prime Minister Daniel Kablan Duncan met last week with representatives from the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund in Washington, D.C. to discuss economic reforms in Cote d'Ivoire. According to the paper, Duncan used the opportunity to brief those in the meeting on the country's economic performance and to seek new investment to support the growing economy. The report also said that the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency, a part of the World Bank, has committed \$700 million to support the country's national development plan for 2012 to 2015. However, the prime minister asked the World Bank for double this investment to help the country finish projects that include the privatization of public companies. In the weekend issue of the same paper (**p. 15**), the prime minister is reported as having met with U.S. officials in advance of the Africa-U.S. summit planned for August. According to the paper, Duncan met with Ambassador Michael Battle, Ambassador to the African Union, to discuss bilateral relations between the two countries. Ambassador Battle is quoted as saying, "The U.S.-Africa forum is the first of its kind and will mark the beginning of a new era between the continent and the United States."

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[International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire](#)

[Health system criticized in I. Coast model's death](#)

Modesto Bee

Awa Fadiga was attacked at night in a taxi that was taking her home to an upscale neighborhood in Ivory Coast's capital. Two witnesses say they saw ...

[Ivory Coast 'one of Africa's best bets', says investor](#)

BDlive

DAKAR — Three years after disputed elections led to bloodshed, Ivory Coast has emerged as one of the most exciting opportunities for private equity ...

[Aggreko aims to double its power output in Ivory Coast](#)

Reuters Africa

ABIDJAN, April 11 (Reuters) - Aggreko, the world's leading temporary power provider, aims to double its output in Ivory Coast to around 400 ...

[Gold or Cocoa? West Africa's cocoa future threatened](#)

The Africa Report

A month ago, Bouafu Kouassi dug a neat circular hole in the middle of his one-hectare cocoa plantation in western Ivory Coast, and, sifting through the ...

[UN commends Cote d'Ivoire for reconstituting Election Commission](#)

Daily Sun

The UN operations in Cote d'Ivoire (UNOCI) has described the government's decision to reconstitute the country's Independent Electoral Commission ...

[World Tourism Organization UNWTO Africa organizes training on Tourism and Policy Strategy](#)

eTurboNews

The UN World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), the UNWTO Themis Foundation, and Cote d'Ivoire organized a training seminar on Tourism Policy ...

[Africa's fast growth transforming commodity flows](#)

Reuters

... swathes of Africa's geography became synonymous with the main commodity they exported: Gold Coast, Ivory Coast, the Spice Island of Zanzibar.

[West African Currency Union On Pace For 7% Growth: Central Bank](#)

AFKInsider

Economic growth in the eight-nation West African currency union is on track to reach 7 percent this year, lifted by a resurgent Ivory Coast as the region ...

-

Media affiliation and circulation

(Newspaper circulation figures represent average number of copies sold daily. Latest numbers as of December 31, 2013.)

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Daily close to the FPI party of former President Laurent Gbagbo

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[Le Mandat - \(no current website\)](#)

Daily close to the PDCI-RDA Party of former President Henri Konan Bedie

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[L'Expression](#)

Daily supportive of current president Alassane Ouattara

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[L'Intelligent d'Abidjan](#)

Privately-owned daily with mostly balanced news

2,571 daily

Le Jour Plus - (no current website)

Privately owned daily supportive of President Ouattara's Rally of the Republicans Party

2,221

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[Agence Ivoirienne de Presse](#)
Government-run news agency

[ONUCI FM](#)
UN-owned radio operated by the UN Operation in Cote d'Ivoire

[RTI Television](#)
Government-run television and radio conglomerate

American Embassy's National Daily Press Review

APRIL 11, 2014

Today's Top Stories

1. Country marks three year anniversary of former president Laurent Gbagbo's arrest
2. FPI denounces reforms of electoral commission
3. Health workers union protests government decision to remove head of Abidjan hospital
4. Leaders of the RHDP ruling coalition meet
5. President Ouattara meets with UN envoy Aichatou Mindaoudou to discuss 2015 election

1. Country marks three year anniversary of former president Laurent Gbagbo's arrest

- <http://www.fratmat.info/une/item/14644-comm%C3%A9moration-du11avril-2011-la-c%C3%B4te-d%E2%80%99ivoire-lib%C3%A9r%C3%A9>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/494835.html>
- <http://eburnienews.net/commemoration-du-11-avril-2011-lincroyable-temoignage-dun-frci-sur-le-premier-jour-de-gbagbo-a-lhotel-du-golf/>
- <http://www.connectionivoirienne.net/98366/cote-divoire-11-avril-gbagbo-capture-du-bunker-conduit-au-golf-hotel>
- <http://www.lebanco.net/banconet/bco21799.htm>

Today's third anniversary of the arrest of former president Laurent Gbagbo is widely reported upon in today's newspapers. *Fraternite Matin* (pp. 4-8) features a variety of articles reviewing what led to the post-electoral crisis of 2011, including the lead-up to the disputed elections in October 2010. The paper calls April 11, 2011, the day that Cote d'Ivoire was "liberated" as it opened a new "era of hope" for the country and allowed President Alassane Ouattara to officially take power and begin implementing his programs. The paper reports that throughout the post-electoral crisis, "massive" human rights abuses were committed throughout the country. To avoid impunity, the paper also notes, it is important that all people involved in these abuses are tried for their crimes.

In *L'Intelligent d'Abidjan* (p. 4), Gbagbo supporter Watchard Kedjebo, is quoted as saying that April 11 is a very sad day in the country's history. "Democracy was buried in Cote d'Ivoire that day," Kedjebo is quoted as saying. *Soir Info* (pp. 2-6) runs the text of the final interview given by Gbagbo, done from his headquarters just a few days before he was arrested. During the interview, Gbagbo said he was "upbeat" that his forces would triumph and that he would be able to find "common ground" with then president-elect Ouattara.

Former French president Nicolas Sarkozy is mentioned in opposition newspaper *Le Quotidien d'Abidjan* (pp. 2-3) as having helped President Ouattara succeed. Since that time, the paper claims, the country has been under a "dictatorial regime." While Gbagbo was requesting a recount of the vote, another opposition paper, *Le Nouveau Courrier* (p. 4), says that instead, French troops shelled his residence. The paper also suggests that there were efforts to assassinate the former president.

Pro-government newspaper *Le Patriote* (pp. 2-5) claims that three years after his arrest, Gbagbo's FPI party is "trying to distort the truth." "Gbagbo is the only one to blame for what happened to the country," the paper adds.

2. FPI denounces reforms of electoral commission

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/494943.html>
- <http://eburnienews.net/nouvelle-cei-le-fpi-rejette-les-propositions-de-ouattara/>
- <http://www.connectionivoirienne.net/98347/nouvelle-commission-electorale-parti-gbagbo-rejette-les-propositions-ouattara>

- <http://eburnienews.net/amani-nguessan-le-fpi-nacceptera-pas-cette-dictature/>
- http://www.ladepechedabidjan.info/la-Coalition-de-la-3e-voie-rejette-les-propositions-de-Ouattara-sur-la-nouvelle-CEI_a17400.html

FPI secretary general and spokesperson, Laurent Akoun, is quoted by **L'Inter (p. 3)** as denouncing the government's recent decision to reshuffle the Independent Electoral Commission (CEI). According to Akoun, the government is "forcing its way into controlling the commission" the paper reports. "We want the CEI to regulate the election but not under this structure," Akoun is quoted as saying. "We need to first meet to discuss and build confidence in the process." If the changes move forward, Akoun suggests that the FPI would not take part in the coming presidential election.

According to **Soir Info (p. 9)**, Akoun complained that the decision to reshuffle the commission was not discussed with the FPI in advance and that now is not a good time to make the changes. He said that instead of elections, the government should be focusing on national cohesion.

The FPI has decided to continue to boycott the national census reports **Notre Voie (p. 7)**. The party has also called on its supporters to "stay on alert."

3. Health workers union protests government decision to remove head of Abidjan hospital

- <http://www.connectionivoirienne.net/98357/cote-divoire-synacass-ci-veut-les-demissions-ministres-sante-linterieur>
- <http://www.linodrome.com/societe-culture/15381-affaire-awa-fadiga-le-personnel-du-chu-s-oppose-aux-sanctions-du-gouvernement>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/manifestation-contre-le-limogeage-du-dg-du-chu-de-cocody-17124.html>
- <http://www.linodrome.com/societe-culture/15381-affaire-awa-fadiga-le-personnel-du-chu-s-oppose-aux-sanctions-du-gouvernement>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/494953.html>

After the dismissal this week of the head of the national teaching hospital in Cocody (CHU), members of the health workers union have gone on strike and blocked access to the hospital in protest reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 12)**. The head of the hospital and two others were fired by the government after the death of an Ivoirian model blamed in part on negligence by the hospital. In addition to the strike, the workers have called on the Minister of Health to resign her position because the firing was "baseless" and that it was not his fault because the hospital is not well-equipped. They point to the fact that the government has recently announced the purchase of new medical equipment for all of Abidjan's teaching hospitals as recognition of this shortcoming. According to the paper, those on strike will not resume work until all their conditions are met.

In addition to the Minister of Health, the union is also calling on the resignation of the Minister of Interior reports **Nord Sud Quotidien (p. 11)**. The paper reports that the union is meeting again this morning in the hospital.

4. Leaders of the RHDP ruling collation meet

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/494950.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/494951.html>

In order to strengthen their coalition in advance of the 2015 presidential election, member parties of the ruling RHDP coalition met this week. **Le Patriote (p. 7)** says that representatives from the RDR party of President Ouattara, the PDCI party of former president Henri Konan Bedie as well as representatives from the UDPCI, UPCI and MFA met in Daoukro, Bedie's hometown. According to the paper, since the inception of the RHDP in Paris in 2005, the coalition has been working to gain power and despite many challenges, has been successful. At the meeting, the paper reports, the group

discussed ways to improve the ruling coalition and the importance of being unified. The group also announced that it is not closed and is open to other parties.

According to opposition paper ***Aujourd'hui (p. 8)***, a dissident faction of the PDCI has said that they are against the candidacy of President Ouattara under the banner of the RHDP. Leaders of this group say that if Ouattara runs on behalf of the PDCI, it will destroy their party.

5. President meets with UN envoy to discuss 2015 election

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/494983.html>
- <http://www.lebanco.net/banconet/bco21797.htm>
- <http://www.presidence.ci/actualite/713/>
- <http://news.ivoirecanal.com/fr/autres-journaux-locaux/le-president-alassane-ouattara-a-eu-un-entretien-avec-la-representante-des-nations-unies.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/l-onu-salue-la-reforme-de-la-cei-et-souhaite-des-elections-quot-credibles-et-libres-quot-en-2015-17122.html>
- <http://news.ivoirecanal.com/fr/autres-journaux-etrangers/lalliance-des-houphouetistes-relancee-a-daoukro.html>

A meeting yesterday between President Alassane Ouattara and the UN Envoy to Cote d'Ivoire, Aichatou Mindaoudou, focused on the 2015 presidential election reports ***Fraternite Matin (p. 9)***. After the meeting, Mindaoudou is quoted as saying, "We discussed recommendations of measures to take to ensure peaceful and credible elections." The two also discussed the announcement this week about the reformation of the CEI. In addition, the two discussed the security situation in the western region of the country.

Development issues and UN support for the National Program for Development (PND) were also discussed between the two reports ***L'Inter (p. 4)***.

International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire

[Piracy and other key maritime security concerns in West Africa to be addressed at the WAOGS ... DigitalJournal.com](#)

Although there have been attacks in Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea and Togo amongst others, to date most attacks in the region have taken ...

[Majlis Al-Shura Delegation Visits Côte d'Ivoire](#)

Saudi Press Agency

Riyadh, Jumada II 10, 1435, Apr 10, 2014, SPA -- A delegation of Saudi-Ivorian Parliamentary Friendship Committee headed by Member of Majlis ...

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Government-run news agency

[ONUCI FM](#)
UN-owned radio operated by the UN Operation in Cote d'Ivoire

[RTI Television](#)
Government-run television and radio conglomerate

U.S. Embassy Cote D'Ivoire National Daily Press Review

April 10, 2014

Today's Top Stories

1. U.S. Ambassador meets with journalists
2. Government announces reform of electoral commission
3. Minister of planning meets with political stakeholders over census
4. Main opposition youth leader returns home from exile
5. ICC maintains arrest warrant against former Ivoirian first lady
6. Interior minister launches anti-racketeering hotline
7. Head of Abidjan main hospital fired after death of Ivoirian model

1. U.S. Ambassador meets with journalists

- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/boycotts-tous-azimuts-l-ambassadeur-des-usa-desaprouve-les-positions-du-fpi-sa-position-sur-le-transferelement-de-ble-goude-17074.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/l-ambassadeur-des-usa-fortement-impressionne-par-les-progres-realises-en-cote-d-ivoire-17058.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/494905.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/494903.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/494867.html>
- <http://www.aip.ci/depechesv.php?ID=5473>

U.S. Ambassador to Cote d'Ivoire Terence McCulley met yesterday with a group of newspaper editors and publishers reports **L'Inter (p. 3)**. The paper reports that the Ambassador "disapproves" of the opposition FPI party's boycott of the national census and of the government-opposition dialogue. According to the paper, Ambassador McCulley said, "I have always told the FPI to participate in the discussions. Politics is based on participation and mobilization of all citizens. All the political parties should participate in the dialogue because a boycott does not serve anyone's interests. I understand the FPI's argument, but I do not support it."

On the transfer of Charles Ble Goude to the International Criminal Court (ICC), the paper quotes the Ambassador as saying, "We want Ivorian authorities to work with institutions such as the ICC. Cote d'Ivoire had an obligation to transfer Ble Goude because of the arrest warrant issued by the ICC. If the Ivoirian government refused to transfer Ble Goude, this would have been a violation of its commitment to the Rome Statute."

A report in **Le Jour Plus (p. 4)** quotes the Ambassador as saying that the government has made significant progress in sectors such as infrastructure development, judicial reform and dialogue with the opposition. The paper also says Ambassador McCulley expressed hope that the economic recovery in Cote d'Ivoire will continue to enable the government to improve the climate of investment.

Opposition paper **Le Temps (p. 2)** says that Ambassador McCulley would like to see the full disarmament of former combatants take place before next year's election. "The demobilization of former combatants is key to national reconciliation but will also guarantee equitable and transparent elections in 2015." The paper also quotes the Ambassador as saying that the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants are conditions that need to be met for sanctions to be lifted on Cote d'Ivoire. The Ambassador also reportedly urged the government to create conditions to facilitate the return of refugees.

According to *L'Expression* (p. 5), Ambassador McCulley underscored the importance of the reform of the independent electoral commission (CEI). The paper quotes the Ambassador as saying, "The electoral commission is an essential tool for a transparent, credible and peaceful election."

2. Government announces reform of electoral commission

- <http://www.fratmat.info/politique/item/14590-conseil-des-ministres-un-projet-de-loi-modifiant-la-composition-de-la-cei-adopt%C3%A9>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/494880.html>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6632-cote-d-ivoire-le-gouvernement-annonce-la-composition-de-la-nouvelle-cei.html>
- <http://www.koaci.com/cote-divoire-membres-passent--91053.html>

The government yesterday agreed to work to reform the independent election commission (CEI) reports *L'Inter* (p. 4). According to the paper, the measure was adopted during a cabinet meeting. If the bill is made law by the national assembly, reports the paper, the new electoral commission will be made up of 13 members compared to the current 30 members. The 13 members would include four government representatives, three members of civil society, three representatives of the ruling party, and three members of the opposition.

In a commentary in *Fraternite Matin* (pp. 4&5), the decision by the government to reform the CEI is an important step to make ahead of the 2015 presidential election. The paper also says that the reformed commission will be tasked with the revision of the electoral list and the organization of all future elections in the country. The proposed reform, the paper notes, comes in response to demands made by the Ivoirian opposition.

According to opposition paper *Notre Voie* (p. 5), yesterday's announcement indicates that President Alassane Ouattara has taken "full control" of the electoral commission. The paper claims that out of the 13 members of the proposed commission, 10 of them would be favorable to the president, leading the paper to conclude that the "so-called" reform will give the majority to the ruling party.

3. Minister of planning meets with political stakeholders over census

- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6636-mabri-toikeusse-le-recensement-est-un-instrument-pertinent-de-planification-d.html>

Ivoirian Minister of Planning and Development Albert Mabri Toikeusse yesterday met with representatives of various political parties about the on-going population census reports *L'Inter* (p. 6). According to the paper, the meeting was held to better explain to opposition parties, the rationale behind the operation in order to encourage participation. The paper notes that all political parties took part in the meeting except for the main opposition FPI party.

According to *Fraternite Matin* (p. 7) Toikeusse called on political parties to assist the government by informing their supporters about the reasons to take part in the census. The minister reiterated that the government has "no hidden agenda" in carrying out the census. The reason for the operation is to assist in the country's future development. He also said that the census cannot be suspended as has been demanded by the opposition.

4. Main opposition youth leader returns home from exile

- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/apres-trois-ans-d-exil-konate-navigue-est-rentre-hier-17075.html>
- <http://www.linodrome.com/vie-politique/15366-politique-nationale-konate-navigue-rentre-d-exil>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/494886.html>
- <http://news.educarriere.ci/news-9078-konate-navigue-est-rentre-d-exil-hier.html>
- <http://re.ivoire-blog.com/archive/2014/04/09/kone-navigue-rentre-d-exil-443541.html>

Former FPI youth leader Navigue Konate yesterday returned to Cote d'Ivoire from Accra, Ghana, where he had sought refuge after the 2011 post-electoral conflict reports **L'Inter (p. 2)**. According to the paper, Konate returned with no fanfare, leading the paper to wonder if his return was an agreement with the government or his own decision.

In opposition paper **LG Infos (p. 9)**, Konate is quoted as saying, "My decision to return home is not a betrayal of my party. My decision is to return and play my part instead of abandoning my supporters."

5. ICC maintains arrest warrant against former Ivoirian first lady

The arrest warrant issued by the ICC for former first lady Simone Gbagbo remains in force reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 8)**. The paper attributes the headline to a statement issued by the court this week. The paper quotes the statement as saying, "The warrant has been delayed but is still in force." The paper also notes that the warrant was issued in February 2012, charging Gbagbo with crimes against humanity.

Nord-Sud Quotidien (p. 2) claims that the ICC has "rejected" the request by the government of Cote d'Ivoire to try Gbagbo in the country rather than sending her to The Hague. According to the paper, the government has noticed "inconsistencies" in the warrant.

6. Interior minister launches anti-racketeering hotline

A story in **Fraternite Matin (p. 11)** reports that the Minister of Interior and Security, Hamed Bakayoko, yesterday inaugurated a new hotline for Ivoirians to report suspected racketeering. According to the paper, the CFA 250 million (\$528,000) communications center to operate the hotline was financed by the World Bank.

7. Head of Abidjan main hospital fired after death of Ivoirian model

- <http://www.fratmat.info/une/item/14591-affaire-awa-fadiga-le-directeur-du-chu-de-cocody-et-le-chef-des-urgences-d%C3%A9mis>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/494913.html>
- <http://www.koaci.com/cote-divoire-affaire-fadiga-ouattara-limoge-cocody-91051.html>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6629-apres-la-mort-du-mannequin-awa-fadiga-l-etat-ivoirien-decide-de-rehabiliter-les.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/494848.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/le-dg-du-chu-de-cocody-releve-de-ses-fonctions-apres-la-mort-d-un-jeune-mannequin-17045.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/affaire-awa-fadiga-le-directeur-et-le-chef-du-service-des-urgences-du-chu-de-cocody-relevés-de-leurs-fonctions-conseil-des-ministres-17041.html>

The director of the Cocody Teaching Hospital (CHU), Dr. Jean-Claude Kouassi, and two other medical personnel have been fired after a controversy regarding the death of an Ivorian model two weeks ago, reports **L'Inter (p. 13)**. According to the paper, the decision was made after an investigation called for by President Ouattara into the death of the model, Awa Fadiga. The report indicates that Fadiga was robbed and beaten by a taxi driver and when she was taken to the hospital, she was not treated by personnel for several hours, eventually succumbing to her injuries.

[International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire](#)

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[Fuel smuggling from Ghana to Ivory Coast on the rise](#)

GhanaWeb

Smuggling of refined petroleum products from Ghana to Ivory Coast through the Dormaa West District of the Brong Ahafo Region is regarded as the ...

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[Air France serves up big ambitions for Abidjan](#)
Routes News

Air France confirms Ivory Coast's largest city will be served by an A380. ... itself to take advantage of the unique opportunity the Ivory Coast presents.

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[Chronic malnutrition dogs Côte d'Ivoire's north](#)
IRINnews.org

Côte d'Ivoire's northern region is mostly arid and on the fringes of the Sahel. Malnutrition levels here compare to Niger's 40 percent and are slightly ...

[MTN and Airtel forge remittance partnership](#)
BDlive

MTN Group chief commercial officer Pieter Verkade said MTN had reached a "great level" of adoption of Mobile Money in Côte d'Ivoire, and Airtel has ...

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Le Jour Plus - (no current website)

Privately owned daily supportive of President Ouattara's Rally of the Republicans Party

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[Agence Ivoirienne de Presse](#)

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U.S. Embassy Cote D'Ivoire National Daily Press Review

April 9, 2014

Today's Top Stories

1. Opposition party calls for consultations about population census
2. Government announces application of new law on nationality
3. Ivoirian main opposition party to mark arrest of Gbagbo
4. National commission collects more than 2,000 small arms in Cote d'Ivoire
5. Prime Minister expected to meet DAS Williams in Washington today
6. "Stay away from politics," Minister tells students

1. Opposition party calls for consultations about population census

- http://www.imatin.net/article/politique/cote-d-ivoire-recensement-de-la-population-le-pit-s-oppose-au-fpi-et-demande-une-quot-pause-quot-au-gouvernement-voici-les-raisons_18560_1396971431.html
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6612-les-24-ans-du-parti-ivoirien-des-travailleurs-pit-sous-le-sceau-de-la-solidarit.html>

The Ivoirian Workers Party (PIT) has called for meetings between the government and opposition parties regarding the national census reports ***Fraternite Matin (p. 10)***. Speaking at a press conference yesterday, PIT president Daniel Aka Ahizi said, "The PIT is not in favor of the boycott of the process." However, Ahizi called for a break in the census to help the government engage with political parties and civil society groups in order to better explain the goals and the methods of the census. A report in ***Nord-Sud Quotidien (p. 3)*** describes the PIT position as "constructive" in comparison to that of the opposition FPI party which has called for a boycott of the census. The paper quotes Ahizi as saying that "The meeting will help the government reach its goals for the census." ***L'Inter (p. 3)*** quotes Ahizi as saying that the reason for the meeting will be to repair the "breach of trust" between opposition parties and the government.

On the opposition side, a report in ***Le Nouveau Courrier (p. 6)*** claims that the PIT was "demanding" that the government stop the census. This paper reports Ahizi as saying that due to the current political situation, the census will only lead to "biased" results that will not reflect the realities on the ground.

2. Government announces application of new law on nationality

The implementation has begun on the law approved last year by the National Assembly on nationality reports ***Le Patriote (p. 6)***. Minister of Justice Mamadou Gnenema Coulibaly yesterday issued a statement making this announcement and outlined the new rules for acquiring nationality. According to the paper, the law allows people to acquire nationality if they were born in Cote d'Ivoire to foreign parents and were 21 years old before 1961 or were born to foreign-born parents between December 1961 and January of 1973. The paper also reports that people who have had permanent residence in the country since August of 1960 will benefit from this law.

On the opposition side, ***Le Temps (p. 3)*** claims that President Ouattara has started implementing his plan to "use foreigners" as voters for the 2015 presidential election. The paper also accuses the president of using a "rubber stamp national assembly to violate the Ivorian constitution" with this law.

3. Ivoirian main opposition party to mark arrest of Gbagbo

- http://www.imatin.net/article/politique/affi-anime-une-conference-sur-gbagbo_18539_1396944003.html
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/494690.html>
- http://www.panafricain.com/?page=detail_article&art=89948&lang=fr&pi=11

Friday, April 11, marks the third anniversary of the arrest of former Ivoirian president Laurent Gbagbo reports **Le Temps (p. 3)**. Gbagbo's party, the FPI, has planned an event to observe the anniversary. The paper quotes party leaders as saying that the ceremony will include testimony from supporters on what happened on the day Gbagbo was arrested. **Notre Voie (p. 5)** reports that the event will focus on several topics including the issues of reparations and reconciliation after the post-electoral crisis in 2011.

4. National commission collects more than 2,000 small arms in Cote d'Ivoire

Leon Apauls Djokouehi, the secretary general of the national commission fighting the proliferation and circulation of small arms (COMNAT-ALPC), says in a report in **Fraternite Matin (p. 4)** today that more than 2000 small arms have been collected in Cote d'Ivoire since 2009. In addition, more than 2000 grenades and more than 300,000 rounds of ammunition have been removed from circulation. Djokouehi was speaking to the paper on the current situation in the fight against small arms. The paper adds that more than 800 million small arms are produced worldwide, out of which 30 percent are circulated illegally. The report also claims that the West African region has become a hub of illicit weapons due to the number of armed conflicts in recent years.

5. Prime Minister expected to meet DAS Williams in Washington today

Ivoirian Prime Minister Daniel Kablan Duncan is expected today in Washington D.C. where he plans to take part in a meeting between the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund focusing on economic policies reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 26)**. During the trip, Duncan also plans to meet with the U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary for African Affairs, Bisa Williams, who was in Cote d'Ivoire in January to participate in an economic forum organized by the government.

6. "Stay away from politics," Minister tells students

- <http://www.fratmat.info/une/item/14577-r%C3%A9ouverture-des-r%C3%A9sidences-universitaires-la-liste-des-premiers-b%C3%A9n%C3%A9ficiaires-disponible>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6615-gnamien-konan-veut-redonner-le-pouvoir-a-la-pr-sidence-de-l-universit-de-cocody.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/494747.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/universite-de-cocody-gnamien-konan-veut-quot-redonner-le-pouvoir-quot-a-la-presidence-pour-le-reglement-des-problemes-17006.html>

New Minister of Higher Education Gnamien Konan yesterday toured the campus of Felix Houphouet Boigny University to meet with the administration and students reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 13)**. During the visit, the minister deplored the fact that for some time now, education in Ivoirian universities has been "taken hostage by demonstrators." The minister also called on both teachers and students to "stay away from politics" in order to create an environment conducive to peace and learning on the campus. Responding to the minister, the spokesperson for the teachers, Professor Virginie Konandri, pointed out that universities lack equipment, libraries and information resource centers. According to Konandri, there is not even a telephone line, internet connection or computer room on the campus.

A report in **L'Intelligent d'Abidjan (p. 5)** says that the university dormitories, which were supposed to open yesterday, remain closed. The report decries the "utter confusion" surrounding the university housing. **Le Patriote (p. 10)** reports however that the first list of students, who will benefit from the renovated housing, when it opens, was published yesterday.

Opposition paper **Aujourd'hui (p. 8)** says that the minister did not respect his promise to open the dormitories as planned.

International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire

[Ivory Coast probes 5000 school pregnancies](#)

Turkish Press

Ivory Coast probes 5000 school pregnancies. By Kingsley Kobo, Monday, April 07, 2014. ABIDJAN – Ivorian authorities are probing thousands of ...

[Reconciliation falters in Ivory Coast as Ouattara is slow to welcome back exiles](#)

The Guardian

Ivory Coast president Alassane Ouattara has tried to patch up relations with Ivorian Popular Front supporters in exile. Photograph: Issouf Sanogo/AFP.

[Mobile money boost for Ivory Coast, Burkina Faso](#)

ITWeb Africa

Transferring cash between West African neighbours Ivory Coast and Burkina Faso could become easier thanks to mobile giants MTN and Bharti Airtel ...

[IMF review says Côte d'Ivoire's economic progress 'on track'](#)

Out-Law.com

The IMF mission visited Abidjan last month for talks on the agency's fifth review of Côte d'Ivoire's economic and financial programme, which is ...

[The military use of schools](#)

The Nation

In Abidjan, in neighbouring Cote d'Ivoire, during the post-election crisis in 2010 and 2011, rival forces destroyed, damaged, looted or took over almost ...

[Air France to serve Abidjan with A380](#)

Aviation Tribune

After operating a special flight by A380 on 28 January 2014 for the International Forum for Investments in Côte d'Ivoire, Air France confirms its ambition ...

[Why the ECOWAS Malaria Campaign Must Prioritise Media Involvement](#)

GhanaWeb

The construction of three strategic factories in Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana and Nigeria, for the production of the anti-malarial substance is underway. The first ...

Media affiliation and circulation

(Newspaper circulation figures represent average number of copies sold daily. Latest numbers as of December 31, 2013.)

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[L'Expression](#) _

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U.S. Embassy Cote D'Ivoire National Daily Press Review

April 8, 2014

Today's Top Stories

1. Ivoirian Prime Minister calls on French businesses to invest in Cote d'Ivoire
2. University residences reopen today after three year closure
3. Ebola virus prompts health officials to reinforce monitoring

1. Ivoirian Prime Minister calls on French businesses to invest in Cote d'Ivoire

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/494651.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/494673.html>

Prime Minister Daniel Kablan Duncan is in France this week, meeting with French business leaders to encourage investment in Cote d'Ivoire, reports ***Fraternite Matin* (p. 4)**. The paper reports that Duncan met with members of the French Council for Investment in Africa (CIAN). Alexandre Vilgrain, head of CIAN, is quoted as saying, "I was impressed by the Prime Minister's presentation. We are happy to see that Cote d'Ivoire is back on the international scene and we are ready to support their efforts." The paper quotes Duncan as saying, "The government has enacted many reforms to help the country become an emerging economy by 2020." Duncan added that CFA 11 trillion (\$23 billion) of private-public funds will be mobilized from 2012 to 2015 for projects to develop and advance the country. He also said that the country is an "open market" where investors should feel welcome.

***L'Intelligent d'Abidjan* (p. 6)** features the text of the Prime Minister's address to CIAN, which includes a description of changes made in the judicial sector to make the country more open to doing business. "The judicial reforms we have made are meant to facilitate the creation of companies, to promote fiscal incentives and also to renew the country's code of investment."

2. University residences reopen today after three year closure

- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/le-gouvernement-annonce-la-reouverture-des-cites-universitaires-16882.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/494622.html>
- <http://lagune24.net/axps/?p=1982>

Housing for students at Felix Houphouet Boigny will reopen today after being closed since the post-electoral crisis of 2011 reports ***Fraternite Matin* (p. 13)**. The first phase of opening the dormitories includes 3,800 rooms that have been refurbished on the campus in Abidjan. Students will have to apply for and qualify to move into the housing. The paper also reports that new security measures have been announced for the housing which includes a ban on irons, heaters and refrigerators in the rooms.

A single person room will cost CFA 10,000 (\$20) per month while a double occupancy will be CFA 6,000 (\$13) per person reports ***Le Patriote* (p. 9)**. The paper notes that the first phase will start today, with additional housing opened gradually during the coming weeks as renovations are completed.

3. Ebola virus prompts health officials to reinforce monitoring

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/494700.html>
- <http://www.linodrome.com/sante-bien-etre/15340-menace-de-la-fievre-d-ebola-en-cote-d-ivoire-les-premieres-analyses-de-suspects-livrent-leur-secret>

Around 200 kg (440 pounds) of meat from wild game or "bush meat" was incinerated yesterday near Yamoussoukro reports the ***Ivorian Press Agency (AIP)***. The government has called on Ivoirians to avoid eating the meat in an effort to prevent transmission of the Ebola virus. According to a report in ***Fraternite Matin* (p. 11)**, the effort has been met with mixed opinions from the population

while **Nord Sud Quotidien (p. 7)** confirms that despite the risks, many people are still consuming rats, bats and other prohibited animals.

The government continues to increase its monitoring of the spread of the disease reports **Le Patriote (p. 7)**. The paper notes that a bus full of passengers was turned around in Yamoussoukro on Sunday after authorities learned that the passengers included Guinea nationals from Ouaninou, a town along the Ivorian border with Guinea, where the virus has been confirmed. The bus was forced to return to its point of departure under police escort, the paper adds. In a separate development, the paper notes that Ivorian Minister of Water and Forest Mathieu Babaud, at an event in Daloa over the weekend, warned against Ebola, calling it a "very dangerous virus not to be taken lightly."

Aujourd'hui (p. 8) notes that a suspicious case was reported yesterday in Man. A Guinea national visiting the town died after he was put in quarantine for an acute fever. Man health officials will not confirm if the deceased was suffering from Ebola, the paper adds. **L'Inter (p. 13)** notes that law enforcement agents in Man were also called upon to seize and incinerate wild game meat found in a main market.

[International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire](#)

[YooMee launches LTE network in Ivory Coast](#)

HumanIPO

Mobile internet provider YooMee Africa has launched operations in Ivory Coast, providing West Africa's first TD-LTE network for internet services.

[Cement to Beer: Emerging Markets Still In CEOs' Sights](#)

Wall Street Journal (blog)

A general view in February of the construction site for a new bridge in Abidjan, the commercial capital of Ivory Coast, West Africa. Reuters. Shifting U.S. ...

[Malaria: ECOWAS Calls for Regional Sensitization](#)

Patriotic Vanguard

By Dan Parkinson, reporting from Abidjan, Cote D'Ivoire. A-two day regional sensitization meeting by the ECOWAS Commission for the extensive use ...

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American Embassy's National Daily Press Review

APRIL 7, 2014

Today's Top Stories

1. FPI youth meeting broken up by soldiers
2. FPI president reiterates call to boycott government actions
3. UN human rights expert calls on authorities to settle the case of ex-first lady Simone Gbagbo before the 2015 elections

1. FPI youth meeting broken up by soldiers

- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/port-bouet-un-meeting-de-la-jeunesse-du-fpi-disperse-16822.html>
- <http://www.linfodrome.com/vie-politique/15328-politique-nationale-un-meeting-du-fpi-disperse>
- <http://www.connectionivoirienne.net/98193/cote-divoire-meeting-jeunesse-du-parti-gbagbo-violemment-disperse-abidjan>
- <http://nouvelles.abidjantv.net/actualite.php?id=20829-cote-d-ivoire-un-meeting-de-la-jeunesse-du-fpi-violemment-disperse-a-abidjan.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/un-meeting-de-la-jeunesse-du-parti-de-gbagbo-violemment-disperse-a-abidjan-16800.html>
- <http://www.rfi.fr/afrique/20130216-cote-ivoire-une-manifestation-pro-gbagbo-dispersee-police/>

A meeting over the weekend of the youth branch of the opposition FPI party was broken up by soldiers from the Republican Forces of Cote d'Ivoire (FRCI) reports **L'Inter (p. 5)**. According to FPI youth leader Justin Koua, soldiers pretending to be supporters attacked the group during the meeting. "One of our members recognized three FRCI soldiers in the crowd and when our security went to confront them, they started fighting and the violence escalated." The report also alleges that the soldiers were armed with knives. According to organizers, police response was limited and the UN troops monitoring the event did not react at all.

Koua is quoted in **Soir Info (p. 6)** as denouncing the attacks and saying that the RDR party of President Alassane Ouattara is "against democracy." In response, RDR spokesperson Joel N'Guessan is quoted as saying that, "We do not need to attack a rally by the FPI youth branch. We have more important things to attend to."

L'Intelligent d'Abidjan (p. 5) says that the atmosphere was "combustible" in the suburb of Yopougon on Saturday, where the rally was planned. After the scuffle broke out, the area of the rally was "ransacked" and the event cancelled. **Nord Sud Quotidien (p. 2)**, says that this was the first FPI youth meeting of 2014 and given what took place, "it does not bode well for future meetings." From the opposition side, **Notre Voie (p. 5)**, reports that three FPI supporters were injured, one critically. According to the paper, Koua called on the Minister of Interior, Hamed Bakayoko, to take measures to avoid similar events in the future. **Le Nouveau Courrier (p. 4)** adds that the meeting location was close to an FRCI base, making it easy for soldiers to attack.

2. FPI president reiterates call to boycott government actions

- <http://www.rfi.fr/afrique/20130215-cote-ivoire-le-fpi-refuse-participer-elections-locales-21-avril/>
- <http://www.connectionivoirienne.net/98200/cote-divoire-pro-gbagbo-prets-boycotter-recensement-lappel-du-parti>
- http://www.rumeursdabidjan.net/?parcours=actualite_politique&article=36336#onglet_article

President of the FPI, Pascal Affi N'Guessan, was in Bonoua over the weekend to meet with supporters where he reiterated his call to boycott the government reports **Le Nouveau Courrier (p. 5)**. At the event, N'Guessan specifically called on FPI supporters to boycott the national census. "If the census agent comes to your home, ask them first to release former President Laurent Gbagbo, his wife and Charles Ble Goude before you will register," he is quoted as saying. He also called on the group to "boycott all government initiatives because they have no intention of reconciling Ivoirians."

Notre Voie (p. 6) adds that there was a large crowd at the rally including many top FPI dignitaries. Bonoua, the paper reports, is the hometown of former first lady Simone Gbagbo. Affi N'Guessan is quoted as saying that "We see the government does not want national reconciliation," reports **L'Intelligent d'Abidjan (p. 3)**. "We have been calling for it for three years now but to this point, nothing has happened."

In **L'Inter (p. 6)**, Affi N'Guessan is quoted as saying that "there are two Cote d'Ivoires today. One for the rebellion which is now in power and the other is the Cote d'Ivoire of freedom, dignity and truth which is the opposition." He also recommitted the FPI to reconciliation despite the government's refusal to do so.

3. UN human rights expert calls on authorities to settle to case of ex-first lady Simone Gbagbo before the 2015 elections

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/494551.html>
- <http://www.ivoirebusiness.net/?q=articles/avant-les-%C3%A9lections-pr%C3%A9sidentielles-2015-doudou-di%C3%A8ne-invite-les-autorit%C3%A9s-ivoiriennes-%C3%A0>
- http://www.rumeursdabidjan.net/?parcours=actualite_politique&article=36342#onglet_article

On Saturday, Doudou Diene, an independent United Nations expert on human rights said that the case against Simone Gbagbo, should be "settled" before the presidential election in 2015 reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 7)**. Diene is quoted as saying that it is crucial that the case be settled before the elections because, "it is absolutely urgent that these elections are peaceful and credible." He also reiterated that all people involved in the post-electoral crisis be brought to justice in order to put an end to impunity.

The UN is pressing Ivoirian authorities to address the case of Simone Gbagbo ahead of the election reports **Soir Info (p. 3)**. "Cote d'Ivoire went through a significant crisis and massive human rights abuses were committed. The country needs to address impunity and insure that those who were granted bail should not be excluded from justice," the paper quotes Diene as saying. The paper adds that Cote d'Ivoire has decided not to transfer Gbagbo to the International Criminal Court (ICC) to face charges of crimes against humanity, instead opting to try her in the country.

In a report from last month, adds **Nord Sud Quotidien (p. 2)**, Diene said that while the human rights situation has improved in Cote d'Ivoire, more work needs to be done.

[International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire](#)

[Ivory Coast unfreeze opposition leaders' funds](#)

www.worldbulletin.net

11:40, 04 April 2014 Friday. Africa. 11:13, 04 April 2014 Friday. Tweetle · Share. Ivory Coast unfreeze opposition leaders' funds ...

[Côte d'Ivoire: Children Rescued From Trafficking And Exploitation](#)
Eurasia Review

In an operation against child trafficking and exploitation, law enforcement authorities in Côte d'Ivoire operating with INTERPOL support have rescued ...

[Cote d'Ivoire: ECOWAS rallies support for regional investment code, policy](#)

African Manager

The ECOWAS Commission has urged the organised private sector and other stakeholders to make quality input into the draft ECOWAS Investment ...

[Cote d'Ivoire: Private-sector operators validate ECOWAS investment code, policy](#)

African Manager

Representatives of regional organized private sector and other stakeholders rose from their three-day meeting in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, on Saturday, ...

[Red Rock Applies For Three Exploration Licences In Ivory Coast](#)

London South East

LONDON (Alliance News) - Red Rock Resources PLC said Friday that it had applied for three exploration licenses in the southeast Ivory Coast, West ...

[Lukoil drills its first wildcat offshore Côte D'Ivoire](#)

Offshore Oil and Gas Magazine

HOUSTON – Lukoil Overseas (operator of Lukoil Group's overseas upstream projects) has completed drilling its first offshore exploration well, ...

[Fiji, Cote d'Ivoire establish diplomatic ties](#)

Authint Mail

SUVA — Fiji and Cote d'Ivoire have established diplomatic relations, the Fijian government announced Saturday. In a ceremony at the Fiji Mission to ...

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[RTI Television](#)

Government-run television and radio conglomerate

American Embassy's National Daily Press Review

APRIL 4, 2014

Today's Top Stories

1. U.S. Embassy sponsors training on corruption and good governance
2. Ivoirian government unfreezes assets of 43 people close to former president
3. Opposition coalition calls on government to take steps toward more candid dialogue

1. U.S. Embassy sponsors training on corruption and good governance

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/494347.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/l-ambassadeur-america-in-felicite-la-cote-d-ivoire-dans-ses-efforts-de-lutte-contre-la-corruption-16619.html>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6554-l-ambassadeur-america-in-felicite-la-cote-d-ivoire-dans-ses-efforts-de-lutte-contre-la-corruption.html>
- <http://www.aip.ci/regions.php?ID=5248&page=ABJ>
- <http://www.5minutesinfos.net/lethique-lutte-contre-corruption-bonne-gouvernance-lambassadeur-usa-terence-p-mcculley-se-prononce-discours/>

A workshop promoting ethics, good governance and the fight against corruption was held yesterday at the U.S. Embassy in Abidjan reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 16)**. Personnel from the body tasked with collecting taxes in Cote d'Ivoire (DGI) took part in the event, led by Eric Lisann, an attorney and former U.S. federal prosecutor. The paper reports that U.S. Ambassador Terence McCulley gave opening remarks at the event saying, "This training demonstrates the U.S. commitment to Cote d'Ivoire as it works to rebuild confidence in the government and increase economic opportunities." The Ambassador also is quoted as saying, "Corruption hinders economic growth by increasing cost and decreasing productivity."

According to **Soir Info (p. 9)**, Cote d'Ivoire is "one step" away for qualifying for funds through the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC). The paper quotes Ambassador McCulley as saying that the MCC is a U.S. program that provides funds to countries that promote policies encouraging good governance, open markets and public investment. The paper adds that fighting corruption is one of the criteria to qualify for the MCC and that while Cote d'Ivoire has been focused on the fight, more needs to be done.

On the opposition side, **Aujourd'hui (p. 8)** says that the U.S. government has threatened to end financing to Cote d'Ivoire if corruption is not addressed. According to the paper, Ambassador McCulley emphasized the need for the Ivoirian government to capitalize on efforts to fight corruption or face "losing its ranking" in terms of qualifying for the MCC. The paper adds that 50 people attended the training. **Le Temps (p. 8)** notes that the issue of corruption was also mentioned in the U.S. 2013 Human Rights Report. The paper offers that corruption is evident in the judicial system and that it affects the independence of the courts.

2. Ivoirian government unfreezes assets of 43 people close to former president

- <http://www.fratmat.info/une/item/14422-d%C3%A9crispation-le-d%C3%A9gel-des-comptes-bancaires-de-43-personnalit%C3%A9s-annonc%C3%A9>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/494357.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/43-comptes-de-pro-gbagbo-degeles-par-la-justice-ivoirienne-16623.html>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6559-43-comptes-de-pro-gbagbo-degeles-par-la-justice-ivoirienne.html>

- <http://www.linfodrome.com/vie-politique/15292-cote-d-ivoire-les-comptes-de-43-personnalites-pro-gbagbo-degeles-hier>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/cote-d-ivoire-degel-des-comptes-bancaires-de-personnalites-proches-de-laurent-gbagbo-16653.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/494318.html>

After months of having their assets frozen, **Fraternite Matin (p. 6)**, reports that the Ivoirian government has unfrozen the accounts of 43 supporters and allies of former president Laurent Gbagbo. Richard Christophe Adou, a federal prosecutor, ordered the unfreezing of the accounts yesterday after the conclusion of investigations. The government's actions followed similar decisions by the European Union, the paper adds. The decision was welcomed by the opposition. FPI party spokesperson Laurent Akoun is quoted as saying, "We have been discussing this possibility with the government and we are pleased to see it come to fruition." The spokesperson for the RDR political party of President Alassane Ouattara, Joel N'Guessan, is quoted as saying however that this is "a legal decision and not a political one."

L'Inter (p. 2) notes that no details have been provided about who the 43 people are whose assets have been unfrozen, but according to "insiders," this measure was for bank accounts with less than 50 million CFA (\$105,000). Further investigations, the paper reports, may lead to additional actions to unfreeze other accounts. **Soir Info (p. 4)** adds that this move appears to be in response to a call by the FPI for the government to take more concrete actions towards reconciliation.

In opposition paper **Aujourd'hui (p. 7)**, government spokesperson Bruno Kone is quoted as confirming the move by the government, adding that some of the people whose assets are still frozen are using their resources to fund "destabilization efforts" in Cote d'Ivoire. **Le Nouveau Courrier (pp. 3-4)** accuses the government of "blackmailing" supporters of former president Gbagbo adding that the decision of whose assets to unfreeze appears to be "arbitrary." 300 people, according to the paper, still have accounts frozen by the government.

3. Opposition coalition calls on government to take steps toward more candid dialogue

After boycotting the most recent round of reconciliation talks hosted by the government, **L'Inter (p. 2)** reports that the opposition FPI party and the coalition it leads has called on the government to work towards a "more candid" dialogue. The paper reports that the coalition is demanding that the government "remove all hindrances" to reconciliation talks. At an event yesterday, the coalition outlined additional requests including the designation of a mediator for dialogue between the government and opposition and the establishment of a body to monitor and follow up on the talks. The talks have been ongoing for three years now, the coalition said in the statement, but there has been no forward movement. The time has come now, the statement says, to address real concerns in order to achieve national reconciliation.

Opposition paper **Aujourd'hui (p. 4)** reports that the opposition coalition will be meeting with the government, diplomats and the international community to involve all parties in this new approach. The paper reports that the opposition will also continue to fight for the release of all political prisoners still incarcerated and campaign for the return of those still in exile.

In a related story, former president Henri Konan Bedie is quoted in **Le Patriote (p. 4)** as calling on the FPI party to abandon the call for street demonstrations against the government. He is also quoted as asking the FPI to take part in the on-going national census and forego the current boycott, saying, "We should focus on dialogue to negotiate peace and avoid the violence of the past."

[International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire](#)

[China EximBank lends I.Coast \\$210 mln to upgrade transport fleet](#)

Reuters

ABIDJAN, April 2 (Reuters) - Export-Import Bank of China (EximBank) will lend 100 billion CFA francs (\$210 million) to Ivory Coast to overhaul its ...

[Lukoil completes exploration well offshore Ivory Coast](#)

Oil & Gas Journal

The Capitaine East-1x well penetrated through 140 m of sandstone from a Turonian formation, Lukoil reported. The survey confirmed the presence of ...

[ECOWAS Set a Deadline to Finalise EPA With EU](#)

AllAfrica.com

During its 44th summit meeting held in Yamoussoukro, Cote d'Ivoire last week, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) set itself a ...

[Equity investors eye Singrobo hydro](#)

Project Finance Magazine (subscription)

The private investors in the 44MW Singrobo hydropower project in Cote d'Ivoire are in discussions with an international bank and a foreign corporate ...

Media affiliation and circulation

(Newspaper circulation figures represent average number of copies sold daily. Latest numbers as of December 31, 2013.)

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Privately owned daily supportive of former President Gbagbo and his FPI party

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Independent daily that publishes mostly balanced news

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Government-run television and radio conglomerate

U.S. Embassy Cote D'Ivoire National Daily Press Review

April 3, 2014

Today's Top Stories

1. CDVR to launch a nationwide public hearing soon
2. Government to spend more than US \$210 million to acquire vehicles for public transportation
3. Government to reopen students' residents next week
4. New companies join effort for oil survey in Cote d'Ivoire
5. Mixed reactions after change of price of newspapers
6. Identification of Burkina Faso nationals underway in Cote d'Ivoire

1. CDVR to launch nationwide public hearings

The head of the Dialogue, Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Charles Konan Banny, announced yesterday that the CDVR will begin holding hearings soon reports ***Fraternite Matin (p. 7)***. Banny, speaking at a ceremony in Abidjan, used the opportunity to urge the public not to boycott the effort. According to Banny, the public hearings will offer a unique opportunity for victims of the post-electoral crisis to tell the truth to the public about what they went through. He also said that the public hearings will be held in 37 regions across the country. According to the paper, Banny also mentioned that from March 8 to March 18, the CDVR organized pilot hearings in eight areas, including Yopougon, a suburb of Abidjan.

On the opposition side, ***Le Temps (p. 4)***, reports that the pilot hearings last month were boycotted by the victims. The paper also claims that those who turned out for the hearings were only victims close to President Alassane Ouattara. The paper also asks who will be interviewed in the west given that many people in the region have fled their homes. They conclude by suggesting the CDVR be dissolved because, "it does not add anything to the reconciliation process.

2. Government to spend more than US \$210 million to acquire vehicles for public transportation

- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6538-100-milliards-de-f-cfa-pour-renouveler-le-parc-auto-ivoirien.html>
- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/494277.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/100-milliards-fcfa-pour-le-renouvellement-du-parc-auto-16568.html>

The government yesterday announced that it will spend CFA 100 billion (\$210 million) to acquire 50,000 new vehicles to streamline transportation across the country according to ***Fraternite Matin (p. 4)***. The paper quotes Gaoussou Toure, Minister of Transportation, as saying that the money for the project will be financed by China. Toure said that the current public transportation system is outdated. The newspaper also quotes the president of the association of public transportation drivers, Adama Toure, as saying that through this investment, the public transportation sector will be significantly improved in Cote d'Ivoire.

3. Government to reopen students' residents next week

- <http://www.connectionivoirienne.net/98069/cote-divoire-gouvernement-annonce-reouverture-cites-universitaires>
- <http://letitrologue.com/titre/61616/cte-d-ivoire-le-gouvernement-annonce-la-rouverture-des-cits-universitaires>

The government announced yesterday that refurbished and newly-constructed university housing will soon be opened to students reports ***L'Intelligent d'Abidjan (p. 9)***. According to the paper, the

decision was made to open the dorms as a result of pressure from the Ivoirian League of Students and Schools Association (LIGES).

A report in **Soir Info (p. 8)** says that hundreds of students organized a demonstration on the country's largest campus – University Felix Houphouet Boigny – to demand the residences be opened. “We want our residences to be reopened immediately,” the paper quotes one of the demonstrators as saying. The director of the regional center of the university, Houssein Ouattara is quoted as saying “You will have your rooms by Monday of next week.”

4. New companies join effort for oil survey in Cote d’Ivoire

A report in **Fraternite Matin (p. 16)** says that a planned offshore survey for oil will be accelerated after two new companies joined partners for the project. According to the paper, Foxtrot International and SECI have now acquired 27.5 percent each of the total capital needed to conduct the survey. The report also says that the two signed the agreement with Ivoirian energy company Petroci, which holds an additional 25 percent of the capital. The agreement, the paper says, was signed yesterday by Minister of Oil and Energy Adama Toungara and Oliver Bouygues, a representative of Foxtrot.

5. Mixed reactions after change of price of newspapers

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/494275.html>
- http://www.imatin.net/article/societe/augmentation-des-journaux-ce-mercredi-les-quotidiens-changent-de-prix_18348_1396426589.html
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6537-cote-d-ivoire-les-prix-des-journaux-grimpent-d-au-moins-50.html>
- <http://koaci.com/cote-divoire-prix-journaux-augmentent-titrologie-prospere-90913.html>

After the increase in the price of newspapers from CFA 200 to CFA 300 (\$.42 to .63) this week, **Nord-Sud Quotidien (p. 10)** reports that sales have dropped as a result. The story quotes a newspaper vendor who says that while there are complaints about the new prices, customers will eventually accept the new prices. **Fraternite Matin (p. 40)** reports that customers were surprised by the decision while vendors expressed concerns. According to Amedee Assi, the president of the Ivoirian newspaper publishers association (GEPCI), readers have not changed their minds and will continue buying papers. Assi also said that he believes the decision to increase the price of the newspapers has been welcomed by Ivoirians.

7. Identification of Burkina Faso nationals underway in Cote d’Ivoire

136,449 nationals of Burkina Faso have been identified in Cote d’Ivoire since the start of an identification program launched in November reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 7)**. According to Adama Bictogo, head of the national association of identification, workers have traveled to villages all over the country as well as throughout the suburbs of Abidjan in order to identify and enroll Burkinabe so that they may obtain government services. Bictogo says that more than 100,000 identification cards have been distributed so far.

[International Stories on Cote d’Ivoire](#)

[Benin, Ghana, Nigeria, Togo Sign Treaty to Establish Abidjan-Lagos Corridor](#)

Daily Times Nigeria

Leaders of Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria and Togo have signed a treaty formally establishing the ECOWAS Abidjan-Lagos corridor.

[First State Witness Trips in 'Mercenary' Case](#)

AllAfrica.com

The 18 Grand Geddeans are accused of involvement in the cross-border attack into Cote d'Ivoire in 2010-2011, which resulted in the deaths of several ...

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UN-owned radio operated by the UN Operation in Cote d'Ivoire

[RTI Television](#)

Government-run television and radio conglomerate

American Embassy's National Daily Press Review

April 2, 2014

Today's Top Stories

1. U.S. report on human rights in Cote d'Ivoire
2. Ivoirian main opposition party boycotts dialogue
3. An association of victims wants to play a part in ICC's procedure on Ble Goude
4. Daily says ICC issues warrant against five Ivoirians close to President Ouattara
5. Prime Minister Duncan in Brussels to attend Europe-Africa Summit
6. Ivoirian journalist says he has been threatened

1. U.S. report on human rights in Cote d'Ivoire

An article in *L'Inter* (p. 2) pulls excerpts from the Human Rights Report from the U.S. government, without commentary, on the situation in Cote d'Ivoire. The paper quotes the report as saying, "Significant progress has been made in the areas relating to protection of human rights in Cote d'Ivoire." The paper, however, also quotes the report as also saying that serious violations have been committed by security forces. The report notes the government's inability to establish rule of law in Cote d'Ivoire, but it says that the release of 14 supporters of former president Laurent Gbagbo in August of 2013 was "an important step forward in the respect of human rights."

According to the paper, the report also deplores corruption in the judicial system, restrictions on freedom of the press and the difficult living conditions of internally displaced people, as well as violence against women and discrimination against ethnic groups and the LGBT community.

2. Ivoirian main opposition party boycotts dialogue

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/494185.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/cote-d-ivoire-le-parti-de-gbagbo-dans-la-quot-dynamique-de-la-rupture-quot-avec-le-pouvoir-16449.html>
- http://www.imatin.net/article/politique/reprise-du-dialogue-politique-affi-lsquo-lsquo-il-faut-des-actes-et-des-signaux-forts-rsquo-rsquo_18339_1396424712.html
- <http://www.linfodrome.com/vie-politique/15276-reprise-du-dialogue-avec-le-gouvernement-affi-n-guessan-voici-nos-conditions>
- http://www.imatin.net/article/politique/reprise-du-dialogue-avec-le-gouvernement-affi-n-guessan-laquo-voici-nos-conditions-raquo_18343_1396425507.html

The main opposition party, the FPI, yesterday boycotted a meeting organized by the government to diffuse tensions in the country reports *Fraternite Matin* (p. 6). The paper also notes that the Ivorian Workers Party (PIT) and Democratic Liberty for the Republic (LIDER) party, the party of former head of the National Assembly Mamadou Coulibaly, also boycotted the meeting, but several other smaller opposition parties attended. According to the paper the meeting continued as planned, focusing on the composition of the National Assembly, funding of political parties in Cote d'Ivoire and the ongoing national census. The paper notes that the head of the talks, former prime minister Jeannot Ahoussou Kouadio, called on the FPI to return to the negotiation table and said, "The president of the republic will continue to stretch out his hand to his brothers and sisters in the FPI."

The president of another smaller opposition party, CAP-UDD, Gervais Coulibaly, announced that yesterday's meeting resulted in the creation of framework that will "lead to progress" reports *Nord-Sud Quotidien* (p. 4).

After boycotting the meeting yesterday **L'Inter (p. 5)**, reports that the FPI party wants "concrete actions" and not just words. President of the FPI, Pascal Affi N'Guessan reportedly said this during an interview with the UN radio station.

3. An association of victims wants to play a part in ICC's procedure on Ble Goude

An association of victims affected by the post-electoral crisis of 2011 yesterday called on the International Criminal Court (ICC) to consult with the group as part of the trial against Charles Ble Goude reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 7)**. According to the paper, the president of the association, Issiaka Diaby, said this yesterday during a press conference in Abidjan. Diaby said that the victims should be involved in any investigation. He also welcomed the transfer of Ble Goude to The Hague and called on the ICC to make public other warrants issued against people who committed crimes during the crisis, specifically mentioning former first lady Simone Gbagbo. He is reported as describing Gbagbo as "the sponsor" of Ble Goude.

Diaby is quoted by **Le Patriote (p. 8)** as calling on the government and the international community to take steps to ensure that the rights of the victims are respected.

4. Daily says ICC issues warrant against five Ivoirians close to President Ouattara

According to report in opposition paper **Notre Voie (4)**, the ICC has issued five arrest warrants for individuals close to President Alassane Ouattara. The five, allege the paper, include Cherif Ousmane, Kone Zakaria, Martin Fofie Kouakou, Herve Toure and Losseni Fofana – all former regional leaders or com-zones. The paper alleges that the warrants are still sealed and says that this has been done for "political reasons."

In fellow opposition paper **Le Temps (p. 6)**, it is reported that the Ivoirian government is likely to hand over Kouakou to the ICC after Gbagbo and Ble Goude. Quoting French newsletter *La Lettre du Continent*, the report says that more warrants could be announced soon by the court. In a commentary, the newspaper says, "In case Kouakou is handed over, he could be seen as a sacrificial lamb."

5. Prime Minister Duncan in Brussels to attend Europe-Africa Summit

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/494153.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/kablan-duncan-au-sommet-afrique-ue-et-aux-ag-de-printemps-de-la-banque-mondiale-communique-16454.html>
- <http://www.rti.ci/actualite-6518-kablan-duncan-au-sommet-afrique-ue-et-aux-ag-de-printemps-de-la-banque-mondiale.html>
- <http://www.fratmat.info/une/item/14352-%C3%A9conomie-et-finances-kablan-duncan-aux-assembl%C3%A9es-annuelles-du-fmi-bm>
- http://www.imatin.net/article/politique/kablan-duncan-quitte-la-cote-d-rsquo-ivoire-pour-15-jours-ce-qu-il-va-faire_18344_1396425620.html

Prime Minister Daniel Kablan Duncan is in Brussels this week for a summit between European and African nations reports **Fraternite Matin (pp. 4-5)**. The theme of the summit, according the paper, is "investment in people for prosperity and peace." Speaking ahead of the summit, Duncan said that the government has put in place a program called "Phoenix" designed to promote partnerships between small businesses in Africa with counterparts in Europe. He also said that the small business sector represents 80 percent of Cote d'Ivoire's businesses but makes up only 18 percent of the economy. Duncan's goal is to increase small business contribution to the economy to 40 percent by 2040.

6. Ivoirian journalist says he has been threatened

The publisher of *L'Elephant Dechaine*, Assale Tiemoko, says that he has received death threats reports **Le Nouveau Courrier (p. 5)**. According to Tiemoko, he received the threats following his

decision to denounce corruption in the Ivoirian media. At a press event yesterday, Tiemoko said that he has been receiving threats since November. Tiemoko was at the center of a bribery scandal in November when the head of the national journalist association was suspended after attempting to give money to Tiemoko in exchange for him to report less on a government minister.

International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire

[African Authority Plans Highway from Cote d'Ivoire to Nigeria](#)

Prensa Latina

The agreement on construction of the highway was signed by the presidents of Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria and Togo, the five countries ...

[Seminar Stresses Port Security to Reduce Stowaways](#)

MarineLink

Representatives of the Côte d'Ivoire Maritime Administration and other local stakeholder agencies in Côte d'Ivoire attended the seminar as well.

[More Police Officers Depart for One-Year United Nations Mission](#)

AllAfrica.com

Sixteen Police officers, are today set to leave for a one-year peacekeeping mission in Côte d'Ivoire and Haiti. Fourteen of them will serve under the ...

[President Mahama visits tomb of Houphouet-Boigny](#)

GhanaWeb

For the first time in the history of Côte d'Ivoire, he faced opposition in the presidential elections of 1990 but won massively against Laurent Gbagbo, ...

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Government-run television and radio conglomerate

American Embassy's National Daily Press Review

April 1, 2014

Today's Top Stories

1. Cabinet holds seminar on ways to improve living conditions in Cote d'Ivoire
2. Government and opposition parties to meet today
3. Prison guards trained on international standard
4. Police tasked to ensure security at national university

1. Cabinet holds seminar on ways to improve living conditions in Cote d'Ivoire

- <http://news.abidjan.net/h/494023.html>
- <http://www.lebabi.net/actualite-abidjan/le-chef-de-l-etat-a-ouvert-les-travaux-du-premier-seminaire-gouvernemental-de-l-annee-2014-16367.html>
- <http://fr.africetime.com/cote-d-ivoire/articles/le-gouvernement-ivoirien-en-seminaire-pour-arreter-son-programme-de-travail-2014>

A government seminar chaired by President Alassane Ouattara yesterday in Abidjan focused on living conditions in the country reports ***Fraternite Matin (p. 6)***. The report quotes President Ouattara as calling on government ministers "to work hard to enable the government to meet the demands of the population." "Every household should feel the benefits of economic growth," the paper also quotes the president as saying.

In a response to the president, Ivoirian Prime Minister Daniel Kablan Duncan promised to find solutions that "meet the concerns of the population," reports ***Nord-Sud Quotidien (p. 2)***. The prime minister also announced the government's development plan for 2014. The plan, according to the paper, will include an evaluation of government's achievements in 2013 as well as strategies to put in place to improve its performance.

On political issues, ***Le Jour Plus (p. 2)*** reports that President Ouattara also commented on his desire to have transparent elections in 2015. "We are committed to organizing transparent and democratic elections," the paper also quotes the president as saying.

2. Government and opposition parties to meet today

Government and opposition parties are set for a "crucial" meeting today, reports ***L'Inter (p. 3)***. According to the paper, the meeting, which will be chaired by the former prime minister, Jeannot Ahoussou Kouadio, comes after an announcement over the weekend that the opposition FPI party will organize street demonstrations across the country to protest what they see as a "dictatorship" under President Ouattara. The paper also quotes sources as saying that Kouadio will use today's meeting to brief the political parties on the progress of the political and social situation in Cote d'Ivoire.

Opposition paper ***Notre Voie (p. 3)*** announces that the FPI, the party of former president Laurent Gbagbo, is set to attend the meeting along with other opposition parties. ***Nord-Sud Quotidien (p. 3)*** says other parties attending the meeting include the UDCY party of Theodore Mel Eg, CAP-UDD of Gervais Coulibaly and others.

3. Prison guards trained on international standard

- <http://www.linfordrome.com/societe-culture/15252-les-gardes-penitentiaires-s-outillent-contre-d-eventuels-troubles>

- <http://nouvelles.abidjantv.net/actualite.php?id=20782-les-gardes-penitentiaires-s-outillent-contre-d-eventuels-troubles.html>

More than 3,000 prison guards from different regions across of the country are taking part in a workshop on how to manage prisons by international standards, reports **L'Inter (p. 6)**. According to the paper, the training is supported by the United Nations mission in Cote d'Ivoire. The report also says that the training will include practical exercises on techniques to maintain security and order within prisons.

4. Police tasked to ensure security at national university

Police have been tasked with ensuring order and security from now until April 30 on the main campus of Felix Houphouet Boigny University in Abidjan reports **Fraternite Matin (p. 14)**. According to the paper, the decision was made yesterday by the university council. The body also announced that a joint committee – made up of officials of the university and students – is working towards an agreement on a special police taskforce for the future.

In a related story, a report in **Le Temps (p. 9)** reports that the League of Students and Schools Associations (LIGES) wants government soldiers still occupying students residences to leave in order for students to move in.

[International Stories on Cote d'Ivoire](#)

[Florida Biodiesel delivers biodiesel plant to Ivory Coast, Africa](#)

Biodiesel Magazine

Florida Biodiesel Inc. announced it has completed sale of a B-500 biodiesel plant to the Lorymat Corp. in Ivory Coast, Africa. The company has chosen ...

[Booming demand for shea helps reduce poverty](#)

China Post

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast--The fruit of the shea tree has long been considered sacred by many in Western Africa because of its myriad health benefits.

[Tripartite Commission Lauds Refugee Return to Côte d'Ivoire](#)

AllAfrica.com

The Governments of Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire have commended the ongoing voluntary repatriation of thousands of Ivorian refugees from Liberia at a ...

[Ecowas Postpones Signing EU Trade Deal](#)

AllAfrica.com

President Jammeh returned to Banjul Friday night from the 44th ECOWAS summit held in Yamoussoukro, Cote d'Ivoire, a day before the summit ...

[Capital Market Operators Consider Regional Integration of Stock Exchanges](#)

AllAfrica.com

To prepare for the take-off of the process, stakeholders would converge on Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire next week, for the sensitization workshop scheduled ...

Media affiliation and circulation

(Newspaper circulation figures represent average number of copies sold daily. Latest numbers as of December 31, 2013.)

[Fraternite Matin](#)

Government-owned and controlled daily newspaper with the widest circulation

22,723 daily

[Soir Info](#)

Independent daily

17,378

[Le Nouveau Reveil](#)

Daily owned by the PDCI-RDA Party of former President Henri Konan Bedie

12,546 daily

[Le Temps](#) - (no current website)

Privately owned daily supportive of former President Gbagbo and his FPI party

11,883 daily

[L'Inter](#)

Independent daily that publishes mostly balanced news

10,457 daily

[Notre Voie](#)

Daily close to the FPI party of former President Laurent Gbagbo

8,547 daily

[Le Quotidien d'Abidjan](#)

Daily close to former President Laurent Gbagbo

6,771 daily

[Le Patriote](#)

Daily owned by President Ouattara's Rally of the Republicans Party

6,523 daily

[Nord-Sud Quotidien](#)

Daily close to National Assembly President Guillaume Soro

3,054 daily

[Le Nouveau Courrier](#)

Daily close to the FPI party of former President Laurent Gbagbo

2,999 daily

Le Mandat - (no current website)

Daily close to the PDCI-RDA Party of former President Henri Konan Bedie

2,833

[L'Expression](#) _

Daily supportive of current president Alassane Ouattara

2,664 daily

[L'Intelligent d'Abidjan](#)

Privately-owned daily with mostly balanced news

2,571 daily

Le Jour Plus - (no current website)

Privately owned daily supportive of President Ouattara's Rally of the Republicans Party

2,221

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[Agence Ivoirienne de Presse](#)

Government-run news agency

[ONUCI FM](#)

UN-owned radio operated by the UN Operation in Cote d'Ivoire

[RTI Television](#)

Government-run television and radio conglomerate