

AMERICAN CITIZEN SERVICES

Warden Message

U.S. Embassy, Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire

February 19, 2010

Following President Laurent Gbagbo's announcement on February 12, 2010 that he dissolved the Government of Cote d'Ivoire and disbanded the federal election commission, the political situation in Cote d'Ivoire remains tense.

The United States Embassy in Abidjan and the State Department continue to monitor closely the political situation in Cote d'Ivoire. The Embassy advises U.S. citizens in Cote d'Ivoire that there are increasing reports of spontaneous demonstrations and political unrest throughout the country, and reminds U.S. citizens that such events can escalate into violence. On February 19, 2010, media reported that a number of opposition demonstrators were killed and wounded by government security forces in Gagnoa.

The opposition is planning additional rallies in the next days. U.S. citizens should immediately register with the United States Embassy in Cote d'Ivoire through the Internet link below, should stay current on media coverage of local events, and be aware of their surroundings at all times, avoiding demonstrations and public gatherings. The Embassy also asks new registrants to send personal registration data including name, email address, and cell phone to AbjAmcit@state.gov in order to receive any security messages.

U.S. citizens traveling abroad should regularly monitor the U.S. Embassy's website and the U.S. Department of State's, Bureau of Consular Affairs website where the current Worldwide Caution, Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and Country Specific Information can be found. The U.S. Embassy also encourages U.S. citizens to review "A Safe Trip Abroad", which includes valuable security information for those both living and traveling abroad.

In addition to information on the Internet, travelers may obtain up-to-date information on security conditions by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the U.S. and Canada, or outside the U.S. and Canada on a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444.

REGISTRATION / EMBASSY LOCATION: U.S. citizens living or traveling in Cote d'Ivoire are encouraged to register with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate at the Department of State's travel registration page in order to obtain updated information on local travel and security. U.S. citizens without Internet access may register directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Registration is important; it allows the State Department to assist U.S. citizens in an emergency. Local embassy information is available below and at the Department of State's list of embassies and consulates.

Embassy Abidjan Address: The U.S. Embassy is located in the Riviera Golf neighborhood of the Cocody section of Abidjan, east of the downtown area.

The Embassy's post address is 01 B.P. 1712 Abidjan 01.

Telephone: +225-22-49-40-00

Emergency after-hours telephone: +225-22-49-44-50

Facsimile: +225-22-49-42-02