

# **Public**

## **Annex 2.38**

[Login](#)[Register](#)[ReliefWeb](#)[Home](#)[Updates](#)[Countries](#)[Disasters](#)[Jobs](#)[Trainings](#)[Update](#)**Update content.**[Share](#)[Print](#)14 Dec 2004**Côte d'Ivoire****and 1 other****Crisis in Côte d'Ivoire Situation Report No. 35**

Report

[UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs](#)

1st December - 14th December 2004

**1. SIGNIFICANT EVENTS/HIGHLIGHTS**

The African Union mediator, Thabo Mbeki, conducted his second mission to Cote d'Ivoire from the 3rd -6th December. Mbeki met with President Gbagbo, the Prime Minister and opposition party leaders on the 3rd December and travelled to Bouake on the 5th December to meet with the Forces Nouvelles (FN). Mbeki secured agreement on the adoption of legislative reforms, commencement of DDR, reestablishment of the Government of National Reconciliation, the restoration of law and order and the start of joint FANCI/ UNOCI patrols. While the UN SG, Kofi Annan, welcomed the agreement reached, he emphasised the need for a detailed program of action and time frame for the implementation of these commitments. The draft law for the revision of article 35 was brought before the National Assembly on the 10th December and adopted with an amendment stating that a referendum had to follow.

The exams for student in the FN-controlled North continue to be suspended as the Ministry of Education remains reluctant to proceed with the organisation of the exams while there is no disarmament and the security of the teachers can not be guaranteed. It is feared that this will not only rollback efforts made during the 2004 school year, but also the 2005 school year, which is scheduled to commence on the 3rd January.

Over 2000 IDPs have gathered in the villages of Prikro and M'Bahiakro situated within the zone of confidence following attacks by the FN in November. There have been reports from civilians' accusing both sides to the conflict of summary executions, harassments and extortions, which has led people from villages in the West and East of the confidence zone to seek safety in larger towns.

The African Union -Peace and Security Council- has decided to postpone the meeting on the crisis in Côte d'Ivoire scheduled for the 10. December, until the 10th January.

The UN Operation in Cote d'Ivoire has confirmed that the Secretary General's Special Representative, Albert Tevoedjre, has submitted his resignation, in a letter dated November 24. He will stay on the job until end of January.

Opposition newspapers came back in circulation on the 2nd December, however they continue to be destroyed and pulled of the stands. The newspapers were completely out of circulation throughout November after having been subjected to vandalism and threats.

## 2. POLITICAL SITUATION & SECURITY AND ACCESS

The situation in Cote d'Ivoire remains tense despite the mediation efforts of Thabo Mbeki. The media continues to transmit strong anti-French messages and there is very cautious optimism that true progress will be made on implementation of the Linas Marcoussis and Accra III accords as outlined by the African Union's mediator.

The French Defense Minister, Michele Alliot-Marie, confirmed that French troops did open fire on civilians on four separate occasions during the height of the conflict. The Defence Minister however underlined that it was done in legitimate self-defense, and in the framework of protecting civilians and evacuating foreign national from Abidjan. The French Government estimates that around 20 Ivorians were killed, while Ivorian authorities indicate that around 57 people were killed.

The Ivorian authorities have demanded that an independent international investigation is made into the events of November, particularly to determine the circumstances that led to the destruction of the Ivorian small airforce caused by the French military. The Ivorian ambassador to the UN in New York, Philippe Djangone-Bi has also requested that the 5,000 French soldiers are fully integrated into the UNOCI military contingent.

Charles Ble Goude, the leader of the Jeunes Patriotes called upon his supporters for a mass demonstration on Saturday, 11th December, to demand the departure of the French peacekeeping contingent. The demonstration was however called off the day before following a statement given by the Spokesman of the President on the 10th December, banning demonstrations in Abidjan until 15 March in compliance with an agreement made during Mbeki's mediation mission.

The Humanitarian Coordinator has addressed a letter to the General Force Commander of ONUC, General Fall, requesting for an extension of the patrols in the West to also cover the tense zones of Duekoue-Toulepleu, Duekoue-Man, Man-Danane, Zouan-Hounien-Bin-Houye and Bin-Houye-Toulepleu. The letter was followed up by a note prepared by OCHA for the meeting of West African UN missions held in Dakar on the 1st December, emphasising the need to reinforce border controls for an improved protection of civilians and registration of population movements.

During the rapid assessment missions conducted in the West and North it was noted that local populations and humanitarian actors have suffered from a general lack of respect for international humanitarian law by the belligerents and that there is a general demand for reinforced security and protection, particularly within the zone of confidence.

During the last few months there have been reports of registration at the refugee camp and the alleged re-opening of a training camp for youths in Bolequin. Meanwhile, ONUC and FANCI have been conducting mixed patrols around the Refugee transit camp and IDP centre in Guiglo to reinforce the protection and security of the vulnerable populations residing there. FANCI has also appointed a liaison officer to ensure the interface between the military and humanitarian actors, which will facilitate an exchange of information and their cooperation in granting access to certain areas.

## 3. HUMANITARIAN SITUATION & RESPONSE

### 3.1 Coordination

The Humanitarian Coordinator gave a press conference on the 2nd December together with the information officers



of WFP, UNICEF, UNESCO, UNFPA and WHO. During the conference, the HC underlined that the redeployment of civil servants to the North and West, particularly within the health and education sectors was instrumental in order to come out of the humanitarian crisis. The HC warned that while the humanitarian crisis could not be compared to that of Darfur, Sudan, it remained alarming and that all indicators point towards an increase of the humanitarian needs in 2005. It was also mentioned that the crisis in Cote d'Ivoire has led to an increase in the poverty rate from 38% in 2002 to 44% in 2004.

The reports of the four inter-agency rapid assessment missions conducted in Guiglo, Korhogo, Bouaké and Abidjan in November have been consolidated. Some of the main concerns were within the sectors of protection, health and nutrition, water and sanitation and education. The assessments have been integrated into an addendum to the CAP 2005.

UNICEF is exploring the possibility of opening an office in Korhogo, which will allow them to better identify the needs of children within the sectors of health, education and protection and provide a more coordinated response together with other partners in the northern zone.

### 3.2 Protection/ Human Rights

Save the Children-Sweden has prepared a report on the destruction of poorer neighbourhoods in Abidjan in 2004. Between August and November 2004, around 11,000 people have had their homes destroyed by Government officials for security or health reasons, adding to the approximate 20,000 who were made homeless between 2002 and 2003. The situation is particularly worrisome as a large number of IDPs, who are already vulnerable, were sheltered in these areas. The World Bank was planning to build homes for 10,000 of the homeless; however the project has been suspended given the suspension of all WB funds to the country. Apart from lack of shelter the people suffer from lack of food, increased exposure to disease, lack of clean water and sanitation and protection, as these people still remain the target of organised patrols and continue to be subjected and exposed to harassment, violence, extortion and sexual abuse. While various humanitarian organisations, community organisations and social centres have provided some assistance and support, there is still a need to advocate against the further destruction of homes and for the construction or location of new homes, while ensuring access to basic social services and reinforcing the security and protection of the vulnerable populations.

Commune	Neighbourhood	Area	Date of Destruction	Number of Victims
Yopougon	Andokoi Depot 3	19 ha	10/08/04	10,000
Cocody	Wassa	NA	02/10/04	78 (households)
Yopougon	Gesco Geobeton	52 Households	20/10/04	500

Source: Save The Children -Sweden, -Synthese de la destruction des quartiers precaires en 2004-

### 3.3 Population Movements (refugees, IDPs, returnees)

The events in November have brought about new displacements, internal as well as across borders, with humanitarian agencies and organisations providing prompt assistance.

A Catholic mission situated in Prikro, East of Bouaké, within the Zone of Confidence (ZOC), has informed the

humanitarian community, that since 22nd November around 2500 internally displaced people (IDPs) have gathered in Prikro and M'Bahiakro following attacks by the Force Nouvelles in early November. The humanitarian needs are within the sectors of health, water and sanitation, food and shelter.

OCHA Bouaké, UNICEF and WFP carried out an assessment mission on the 10th December and confirmed that there are 1,234 IDPs in Prikro and 1,224 in M'Bahiakro. There is not enough food and malnutrition is a concern. Several are suffering from diarrhoeic diseases due to the lack of clean water and sanitation and there is one reported case of measles. UNICEF will commence vaccination and the distribution of medicines on the 15th December and ICRC will distribute non-food items and supply water purification tablets. WFP are currently reviewing the possibility of providing food assistance. The assistance is scheduled to last for 3 months. OCHA will continue to ensure the coordination of activities, while bringing the security and protection issues to the attention of FAFN, FANCI and ONUCI.

The international NGO, Enfance Meurtie Sans Frontiere (EMSF) has noted an increase in the number of IDPs coming to Abobo in Abidjan from Bouake (over 5,000 IDPs). EMSF reports that host families are becoming increasingly overburdened and that some have had to turn away IDPs in need of assistance. EMSF has provided some psycho-medical assistance as well as food and non-food assistance to the IDPs in this area. EMSF has also encouraged the local schools to accept IDPs into the classes. EMSF is currently seeking for funds to continue with their activities.

On Monday 6th December, UNHCR started a two-day verification exercise of registered Ivorian refugees in north-eastern Liberia. Over 10,000 Ivorian refugees fled from western Côte d'Ivoire to Liberia in mid November; many of these have started to return. In Butuo, Liberia, the largest influx area, where 7,000 refugees had been registered, UNHCR reported that few turned up for the registration process, however some refugee families said many are shuttling between Butuo and Côte d'Ivoire as they continue to fear potential clashes between the Ivorian government and rebel troops. Other agencies have also reported that many of the Ivorian who have fled have returned to Cote d'Ivoire.

The lack of basic infrastructure remains the greatest challenge for humanitarians. The World Food Programme has airlifted food supplies in Butuo, for dispatch to the other refugee locations. UNHCR and its partners, in an effort to improve food delivery, are repairing roads, which are currently impassable for trucks.

IOM has registered the arrival of another 33 families from around Bin Houye at the IDP transit centre in Guiglo. There are now over 6,000 IDPs at the centre.

### 3.4 Health

Following the electricity and water cuts during the month of November a considerable amount of vaccines were lost due to the lack of alternative energy sources for cold chain equipments. It is estimated that 80% of the health centres were affected by this problem.

The Ministry of Health has decided to reschedule polio NIDs for Cote d'Ivoire for February 2005, to coincide with regional synchronized NIDs, the campaign was originally planned to take place this month. The campaign in November was cancelled due to the crisis. Two UNICEF social mobilisation consultants have returned from relocation in Mali to continue their work with partners in Cote d'Ivoire. 17 cases of polio have been confirmed this year to date in Cote d'Ivoire. There are still no definitive dates set for the next round of polio vaccines scheduled for December.



The measles campaigns scheduled to be coupled with the polio campaign nationwide has been definitively postponed to 2005. Fortunately UNICEF was able to reach over 1.5 million children during their last campaign from April 2003- June 2004, which has led to a decrease in the number of measles cases in 2004 compared to 2003.

During the crisis in November, the suspension of the local authorities' salaries led to the suspension of all street cleaning activities and therefore the accumulation of garbage in the streets, increasing the spread of diseases and affecting the daily health of local populations in many large cities.

ICRC and UNICEF have noted a decrease in the number of visitors at the health centres around the northern border of the confidence zone. There is some concern that this could cause a general deterioration of the state of health of the populations in this zone. Villagers have stated that they feel insecure and unprotected and therefore unwilling to travel to the health centres. The same phenomenon was noted by MSF in the West.

MSF Belgium, will be winding down their activities in Korhogo from the 15th December, as the local health authorities with support from the UNICEF programme will gradually be redeployed.

UNICEF in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and the local NGO Lumiere Action, has started a training programme for educators on HIV/AIDs in primary schools, which will last until the 15th December and will target 90 primary schools in Abobo, Abidjan. Some 540 children and 90 teachers will benefit from the programme.

### 3.5 Water and Sanitation

A water and sanitation assessment mission, conducted by UNICEF, to the North concluded that the supply situation of potable water is not alarming in the areas visited (Bouake, Korhogo and Man). This is dependent, however, on the supply of electricity and water from SODECI, from the government controlled South. If this supply should be cut off for a considerable length of time, the situation would deteriorate drastically. In villages, some 70% of pumps remain out of order, which is a concern to be addressed. A full mission report with recommendations is available.

### 3.6 Education

The academic year 2004 for primary and secondary schools in the North may be jeopardised if the Ministry of Education continues to refuse to organise exams. During his mission, President Thabo Mbeki also advocated for children's right to an education and the need to redeploy administration in the North and West. On his visit to Bouaké Mbeki stated, -We agree that whether they are from the south, north, the east or the west, the children of this country have the right to education and must not be victims of a political crisis.

The head of the OCHA office met with the Minister of Education (MOE), while the Humanitarian Coordinator met with the Prime Minister last week to discuss the organisation of exams in the North in December. However, the Minister of Education clearly stated that there would be no exams or academic school year in the FN areas until the country is reunified.

In Bouake, the teachers association for the FN-controlled zone (Coordination du personnel de l'enseignement en zones ex-assiégées) issued a statement addressed to the Ministry of Education and the National Government of Reconciliation, calling upon them that all efforts should be made to ensure the organisation of exams before the end of December. In Korhogo, students, teachers and parents held demonstrations expressing concern over the

postponements of the school year-end exams.

The local NGO Ecole Pour Tous, has prepared a report providing strong arguments for the organisation of exams in 2004. The local NGO underlines that the effort and resources that have been successfully put into the education sector in the North during 2004 should not be wasted. In comparison to last year 180.000 more students attended school and there are now almost three times as many candidates for the final exams this year. The NGO also highlighted that over 5000 teachers were successfully redeployed to the North in 2004 and that this trend should continue.

Year	Students Attending School		Change
	2002-2003	2003-2004	
Primary School	185.849	359.891	+174.042
Secondary School	45.375	57.799	+12.424
TOTAL	231.224	417.688	+186.464

Source: DREN, Ecole Pour Tous

UNICEF in collaboration with local NGOs (IDA, ODAFEM, Scouts, RSB and BICE) is conducting training sessions for the sensitization of youths and ex-child soldiers in the towns of Danane, Man, Biankouma, Yamoussoukro, Bouna; Bouake and Nassian. A total of 500 youth peer trainers are being trained to sensitize some 20,000 youth and adolescents. The programme will end on the 15th December.

### 3.7 Food Aid/ Food Security/ Agriculture

WFP conducted a mission to western CDI, near the Liberian border, to evaluate the humanitarian situation and the movement of Ivorians seeking refuge in Liberia. The mission found that there is no major and immediate impact on the population's food security in the area, given the ongoing harvest. However insecurity, the lack of traders and difficult access in the area may affect the marketability of the cash crops, which could impact negatively on the population's food security. Some of the displaced also reported that their food stocks had been stolen while they were away.

WFP has started to distribute food aid to outlying areas of Korhogo, the majority of the distributions are destined to supplementary feeding programs for malnourished children.

In the North farmers are expressing concern over the poor harvest due to the lack of rain. WFP has received an increase in requests for food aid. The local NGO ARK, conducted a rapid assessment mission to the districts of Korhogo, Bouna and Ferkessedougou in November and confirmed that the lack of rains has had a detrimental impact on food production. Farmers have only been able to harvest half of the stock that they achieved last year. In some areas the prices of food have also increased dramatically, in Nielle a sac of rice, which cost 2,500 CFA last year now costs 6,000 CFA. The poor harvest and high prices for food could lead to further poverty for households in the North and potential food insecurity. FAO is planning a crop assessment mission in January 2005.

### WFP Food Distribution



(1st -7th December)			
Areas		Activities	Beneficiaries
South	Tabou	Refugees in camps	3485
		Emergency School Feeding	450
		Patients in Social Institutions	305
		Therapeutic feeding	211
		Mother and Child health	904
Northern	Korhogo	People living with HIV/AIDS	300
		Supplementary feeding	1631
		Food for Training	350
		Food for Work	8155
Western	Guiglo	IDPs in Camps	3374
		Refugees in camps	7077
		PLWA/ HIV	225
TOTAL BENEFICIARIES			26467

Source: WFP weekly situation report 1 - 7 December 2004

Information sources include the Integrated Regional Information Network (IRIN). With the exception of public UN sources, reproduction or redistribution of the above text, in whole, part or in any form, requires the prior consent of the original source. This situation report is posted on <http://ochaonline.un.org/ochaci> and [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int), an information resource for humanitarian crises.

For further information, please do not hesitate to contact:

Ms. Besida Tonwe, Head of Office  
 Ms. Carina M Sugden, Public Information Officer  
 tel. +225-2240-5175 e-mail: [carina@ocha.ci](mailto:carina@ocha.ci)

UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs:

To learn more about OCHA's activities, please visit <http://unocha.org/>.



[Côte d'Ivoire](#)

Current

#### Key Content

[Report of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Côte d'Ivoire \(A/HRC/18/52\)](#)

OCHA Humanitarian Bulletin #2, 28 Oct 2011 [EN/FR](#)

#### Appeals & Funding

[Côte d'Ivoire and neighbouring countries Emergency...](#)

[View country profile](#)

Original published date:



14 Dec 2004

Country:

[Côte d'Ivoire](#)

[Liberia](#)

Organisation:

[UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs](#)

Theme:

[Agriculture](#)

[Coordination](#)

[Education](#)

[Health](#)

[Protection and Human Rights](#)

[Water Sanitation Hygiene](#)

Content format:

[Situation Report](#)

Language:

[English](#)

Vulnerable groups:

[Refugees](#)

[IDPs](#)

**Learn more**

[About Us](#)

[Tools](#)

[Help](#)

**Connect with us**

[Share your info with us](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

[YouTube](#)

[RSS](#)

**Related**

[OCHA](#)

[Financial Tracking Service](#)

[IRIN](#)

[Virtual OSOCC](#)

[RedHum](#)

[IASC](#)

[Humanitarian Reform](#)

[PreventionWeb](#)

**Legal**

[Terms & Conditions](#)

© 2011 ReliefWeb