

REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA

ORIGINAL: FRENCH

Sixty-first session

Yamoussoukro, Côte d'Ivoire 29 August–2 September 2011

INFORMATION BULLETIN

SITUATION AND CLIMATE

Côte d'Ivoire is situated in West Africa. It has a tropical climate to the north and an equatorial climate to the south. Its population is estimated at 21 million inhabitants, increasing in density in the urban areas.

Yamoussoukro, the political and administrative capital of Côte d'Ivoire, is situated in the Lakes Region at about 240 kilometres to the north of Abidjan, the country's economic capital. Its population was estimated at 242 744 inhabitants in 2010. Yamoussoukro used to be a village called N'Gokro. It was renamed Yamoussoukro in a tribute to a former Baoulé queen called Yamoussou, the suffix "kro" meaning "village" in the Baoulé language.

Yamoussoukro has an equatorial climate comprising four seasons:

- A long dry season from mid-November to mid-March, characterized by the presence in December and January of the Harmattan, a dry and powerful wind originating from the Sahara and causing considerable reduction of humidity.
- A long rainy season from mid-March to mid-July.
- A short-dry season from mid-July to mid-September.
- A short rainy season from mid-September to mid-October.

The mean annual rainfall ranges from 900 mm to 1100 mm with considerable intra-annual and inter-annual variation from one place to another. The mean temperature of the region is about 26°C. The relative humidity ranges between 75% and 85%, dropping to 40% during the Harmattan period and varying between 80% and 85% in the rainy season.

The *Fondation Félix Houphouët-Boigny pour la recherche de la paix* in Yamoussoukro will be the venue of the Sixty-first session of the WHO Regional Committee for Africa. Félix Houphouët-Boigny, the first President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, decided to provide to the international community, institutions in quest of peace in general, and UNESCO in particular, this Foundation named after him, in order to contribute internationally to seeking, safeguarding, keeping and promoting peace in Africa and elsewhere in the world. There are four entrances to the premises of the Foundation: one facing the north, one to the south, one to the east and one to the west. It has amphitheatres (including one with a seating capacity of 2000), meeting rooms, halls and offices. The horizontal connections between these spaces, distributed in the two main buildings, are grouped in

the central building comprising two overlapping patios with pathways on their edges. All these buildings have stairways, lifts and escalators. The amphitheatres have simultaneous interpretation equipment for eight languages as well as equipment for filming of events. The internal telecommunication network covers the entirety of the Foundation's premises. All the meeting rooms have sound wirings and installations and the main ones are designed for complete audiovisual equipment.

LANGUAGES

As many as 60 languages are spoken in Côte d'Ivoire, but French is the official language.

CURRENCY

The currency used in Côte d'Ivoire is the West Africa CFA Francs. Its exchange rate to the Euro is 655.656 CFA Francs to 1 Euro. The exchange rate to the US Dollar fluctuates, and the current rate is 1 US\$ = 458.514 CFA Francs for the month of July 2011.

PASSPORT AND VISA REQUIREMENTS

All travellers entering Côte d'Ivoire must have a valid passport. On the occasion of the Sixty-first session of the Regional Committee, entry visas will be issued free of charge to participants on their arrival at the Abidjan Airport.

VACCINATION AND HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

Participants are requested to have an international certificate of vaccination that is valid for yellow fever and meningitis.

The risk of malaria is high. It is therefore advisable to use the insecticide-treated bednets available in the hotel rooms. The malaria is caused mainly by chloroquine-resistant *Plasmodium falciparum*. Prophylaxis, if needed, should be administered one week before the journey and two weeks after the return journey.

Measures are in place to provide medical coverage at the *Fondation Félix Houphouët-Boigny pour la recherche de la paix* during the period of the conference. A team of physicians and ambulances will therefore be on 24-hour standby throughout the conference period.

IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS FORMALITIES

Participants arriving on Ivorian territory will be requested to go through immigration, customs and health formalities including presenting a valid passport; completing the immigration form given to travellers upon their arrival; and returning it to the immigration officers.

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS

Delegates entering Ivorian territory with appliances such as portable computers, cameras and other equipment must declare them, specifying that they are working tools.

LUGGAGE COLLECTION AND CARRIAGE

Travellers may entrust the collection and carriage of their luggage to uniformed porters. At any rate, a welcome and orientation team will be present at the airport to meet and guide participants upon their arrival.

TRANSPORT BETWEEN THE ABIDJAN AIRPORT AND YAMOOUSSOUKRO

After arriving at the *Félix Houphouët-Boigny* airport in Abidjan, participants will be transported to Yamoussoukro where the meeting will take place.

SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS

All persons entering the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, whether they be citizens or visitors, are assured of their security and the country will take every necessary precautions to avoid any deplorable incidents.

Furthermore, at the start of the Regional Committee meeting the United Nations Security Officer will give a briefing on the security situation in the country in general and in Yamoussoukro in particular.

HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS

A list of hotels reserved for participants in the Sixty-first session of the WHO Regional Committee for Africa is annexed to this Information Bulletin.

RECOMMENDED HOSPITALS IN THE EVENT OF EVACUATION

- University Teaching Hospital, Cocody, Tel.: (225) 22 44 90 00 / 22 44 90 38
- Institut de Cardiologie d'Abidjan, Tel. : (225) 21 25 81 29 / 21 21 61 71
- Polyclinique Internationale Sainte Anne-Marie at Cocody – popularly called PISAM Tel.: (225) 22 48 31 00 / 22 48 31 31 / 22 48 31 12 (Emergencies)
- CHR de Yamoussoukro, Tel.: (225) 30640136 / 30640033 / 30640126

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

- SAMU, Tel.: 185 or (225) 22 44 53 53
- Dr Jacques Sissoko, Tel.: (225) 07 07 53 53
- Dr Roger Anvo, Tel.: (225) 01 35 10 26
- Dr Nelly Angoran Tano, Tel.: (225) 01 50 96 94
- Fire services, Tel.: 180
- Security, Tel.: (225) 05 55 31 88 / 03 69 01 07

BANKS IN YAMOOUSSOUKRO

1. BACI (*Banque Atlantique Côte d'Ivoire*)
2. BIAO (*Banque internationale pour l'Afrique de l'Ouest*)

3. BICICI (*Banque internationale pour le Commerce et l'Industrie en Côte d'Ivoire*)
4. BNI (*Banque nationale d'Investissement*)
5. BOA (Bank of Africa)
6. ECOBANK
7. SIB (*Société ivoirienne de Banque*)
8. SGBCI (*Société générale de Banques de Côte d'Ivoire*)

CONTACT PERSONS AT THE WHO COUNTRY OFFICE, CÔTE D'IVOIRE

1. Dr Ball Mamadou, WHO Country Representative, Tel.: 225 17204, ballm@ci.afro.who.int
2. Mr Djimtoloum Lomian, Administrative Officer, Tel: 225 17275 or 02388132, djimtoulouml@ci.afro.who.int
3. Mrs Fall Stéphanie, Secretary of the WHO Country Representative, Tel.: 225 17204, falls@ci.afro.who.int

CONTACT PERSONS AT THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND AIDS CONTROL

1. Pr Simplicie Anongba, Director-General of Health, Tel. : (225) 07 58 83 74, adsrf@hotmail.com
2. Dr Emilienne Kouassi, Research Officer, Tel. : (225) 05 69 72 57, erbom2002@yahoo.fr
3. Mme Marie Clémence Djè, Research Officer, Tel. : (225) 05 24 60 29, clemencedje@yahoo.fr
4. Dr Evelyne-Patrice Obodou, Pharmacist, Health Economist, Director-General of Health, Ministry of Health and AIDS Control, Côte d'Ivoire, Tel. : (225) 20 21 72 51 /02 73 71 25, bloza2@yahoo.fr

List of hotels

L'HÔTEL PRÉSIDENT (in CFA francs)

N°	Hotels	Rating	Type of rooms	Number of rooms		Tariff		Breakfast (Y/N)	SERVICES					
				Capacity	Proposed	Normal	RC 61		Restaurant	Room service	Internet	Laundry	Credit card	Safe
1	HÔTEL PRÉSIDENT TOUR Tél (225) 30.64.64.64 Fax (225)30.64.05.77 reservation@hotelpresident.ci infos@hotelpresident.ci www.hotelpresident.ci	5-Stars	Presidential Suite	1	-	600 000	510 000	Yes	Yes	Yes	Internet Wifi	Yes	-Master -Visa -American Express	Yes (at the reception)
			Executive suite	1	1	250 000	210 000	Yes	Yes	Yes	Internet Wifi	Yes		
			Senior suite	9	9	150 000	110 000	Yes	Yes	Yes	Internet Wifi	Yes		
			Superior room	88	84	75 000	75 000	Yes	Yes	Yes	Internet Wifi	Yes		
			Executive room	12	12	75 000	75 000	Yes	Yes	Yes	Internet Wifi	Yes		
			Standard room	20	20	55 000	55 000	Yes	Yes	Yes	Internet Wifi	Yes		
				131	126									
1	HÔTEL PRÉSIDENT BATIMENT Tél (225) 30.64.64.64 Fax (225)30.64.05.77 reservation@hotelpresident.ci infos@hotelpresident.ci www.hotelpresident.ci Number of rooms	5-Stars	Senior suite	4	3	100 000	90 000	Yes	Yes	Yes	Internet Wifi	Yes	Yes (at the reception)	
			Junior suite	4	4	75 000	70 000	Yes	Yes	Yes	Internet Wifi	Yes		
			Standard room	113	108	55 000	50 000	Yes	Yes	Yes	Internet Wifi	Yes		
				121	115									
				252	241									

NB: Room tariff includes breakfast.

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HOTEL DES PARLEMENTAIRES (in CFA francs)

N°	Hotels	Rating	Type of rooms	Number of rooms		Tariff		Breakfast	SERVICES					
				Capacity	Proposed	Normal	RC 61		Restaurant	Room service	Internet	Laundry	Credit card	Safe
2	HÔTEL DES PARLEMENTAIRES Tél. : 30.64.68.00 Fax : 30.64.68.10 infos@hoteldesparlementaires.ci www.hoteldesparlementaires.com	4 stars	Presidential suite	2	2	240 000	208 500	Yes	Yes	Yes	Internet Wifi	Yes	Master-card Visa	Yes
			Senior Suite	8	6	85 000	83 500	Yes	Yes	Yes	Internet Wifi	Yes		
			Junior suite	2	2	70 000	68 500	Yes	Yes	Yes	Internet Wifi	Yes		
			Luxury room	77	76	60 000	58 500	Yes	Yes	Yes	Internet Wifi	Yes		
			Superior room	166	161	50 000	48 500	Yes	Yes	Yes	Internet Wifi	Yes		
			Standard room (two separate beds)	45	35	40 000	38 500	Yes	Yes	Yes	Internet Wifi	Yes		
				300	282									

NB: Room tariff includes breakfast.

Total number of rooms: 523

Restaurants recommended for RC61

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Physical location	Name of restaurant	Contacts
220 Logements	- Le Soukala - Le Bouclier de Brenus	Tel.: (225) 30 64 40 24 Tel.: (225) 30 64 31 39 / (225) 07 07 47 51
Quartier Energie	- La Brise	Tel.: (225) 30 64 21 82 / (225) 05 06 60 95
Habitat	- Chez Alex - Le Tout va bien	Tel.: (225) 01 01 92 03 / (225) 30 64 52 13 / (225) 08 89 48 39