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**SUMMARY PREPARED BY THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 15 (C) OF
THE ANNEX TO HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL RESOLUTION 5/1**

Côte d'Ivoire*

The present report is a summary of 13 stakeholders' submissions¹ to the universal periodic review. It follows the structure of the general guidelines adopted by the Human Rights Council. It does not contain any opinions, views or suggestions on the part of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), nor any judgement or determination in relation to specific claims. The information included herein has been systematically referenced in endnotes and, to the extent possible, the original texts have not been altered. Lack of information or focus on specific issues may be due to the absence of submissions by stakeholders regarding these particular issues. The full texts of all submissions received are available on the OHCHR website. The report has been prepared taking into consideration the four-year periodicity of the first cycle of the review.

* The present document was not edited before being sent to the United Nations translation services.

I. BACKGROUND AND FRAMEWORK

A. Scope of international obligations

1. École instrument de paix (EIP-CI) (School as an Instrument of Peace - Côte d'Ivoire) and the Coalition pour L'Examen périodique universel de la Côte d'Ivoire (CEPU-CI) (Coalition for the Universal Periodic Review of Côte d'Ivoire) report that Côte d'Ivoire is a party to most international human rights conventions,² including, according to Action pour la protection des droits de l'homme (APDH) (Action for the Defence of Human Rights), numerous instruments relating to the rights of the child³ and protection of the environment.⁴

2. CEPU-CI has recommended that Côte d'Ivoire should ratify the human rights instruments it has not yet ratified.⁵ APDH has made a similar recommendation with regard to international instruments for the protection of children.⁶ The International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), the Mouvement ivoirien des droits de l'homme (MIDH) (Ivorian Movement for Human Rights) and the Ligue ivoirienne des droits de l'homme (LIDHO) (Ivorian League for Human Rights) have recommended ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa.⁷

B. Constitutional and legislative framework

3. CEPU-CI and the Regroupement des Acteurs Ivoiriens des Droits de l'Homme (RAIDH) (Ivorian Human Rights Activists) report that the Constitution devotes 22 articles to human rights, in addition to other legislation and regulations.⁸ APDH report that the Constitution and numerous laws protect children but are not always applied.⁹

C. Institutional and human rights infrastructure

4. CEPU-CI has identified a large number of institutions intended to ensure protection and promotion of human rights but notes that most do not really do their job.¹⁰

5. RAIDH reports that the National Commission for Human Rights does not comply with the Paris Principles in several areas, its mandate is quite limited¹¹ and its members are mainly representatives of political parties and of Forces nouvelles.¹² RAIDH nevertheless notes that the Minister of Justice has at last appointed four experts from human rights NGOs.¹³ Front Line (FL)/Coalition ivoirienne des défenseurs de droits humains (CIDDH) (FL/CIDDH) recommends to amend the founding legislation of the Commission, in particular as regards respect of the principle of pluralistic representation and independence, with a view to bringing it into compliance with the Paris Principles and allow it to apply for ICC accreditation.¹⁴

6. APDH reports that protection of children is provided by various ministries, as well as a large number of civil society organizations and development partners.¹⁵

D. Policy measures

7. Défense des Enfants Internationale-Côte d'Ivoire (DEI-CI) (Defence for Children International-Côte d'Ivoire) has recommended that the Government should strengthen its child protection policy, in particular with regard to children denied an education or deprived of their liberty.¹⁶

II. PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ON THE GROUND

A. Cooperation with human rights mechanisms

8. FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO report that Côte d'Ivoire displays very poor cooperation with United Nations human rights mechanisms, in particular the treaty bodies.¹⁷ DEI-CI has requested Côte d'Ivoire to submit its report to the Committee on the Rights of the Child as soon as possible.¹⁸

B. Implementation of international human rights obligations

1. Equality and non-discrimination

9. FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO have likewise recommended amendment of article 35 of the Constitution inasmuch as all Ivorians do not enjoy the same right to become President of the Republic; currently a candidate for the Presidency must have been born in the country, with both parents likewise born in Côte d'Ivoire.¹⁹

10. On nationality, the Open Society Justice Initiative (OSJI) reported that Côte d'Ivoire is party to several relevant international and regional instruments, but not to the two international conventions on statelessness.²⁰ OSJI indicated that citizenship in Côte d'Ivoire was governed by the nationality code and that citizenship was chiefly governed by *jus sanguinis*.²¹ It added that the law failed to provide for the acquisition of Ivoirian nationality for stateless children born on its territory who have not been abandoned, and that it provided that naturalization is available to persons who are free of any mental or physical handicaps, which is discriminatory.²² OSJI indicated that up to 30 per cent of the population was de facto or de jure stateless and that a large majority of individuals lacking Ivoirian citizenship were "Dioulas" - a term applied to Muslims of various ethnicities in the north of the country - which constituted unlawful ethnic discrimination. OSJI added that although the authorities had launched an initiative in 2007 to register births across the country, the certificates issued through this process did not confer citizenship.²³ OSJI made various recommendations in order to amend articles 6 and 7 of the nationality code, as specified in the 2003 Linas-Marcoussis Peace Accords.²⁴

11. L'Initiative des droits sexuels (Sexual Rights Initiative) (SRI) indicates that the Constitution establishes equal rights for men and women and the Criminal Code penalizes rape and sexual harassment.²⁵ CEPU-CI reports persistent inequality between men and women; for example, fewer girls than boys attend school, there are fewer women in the modern labour market and there are very few women in the political life. SRI has likewise underscored the burden of tradition and sociocultural practices²⁶ and has recommended that the authorities should guarantee women's access to land.²⁷ SRI adds that women cannot freely exercise their sexual rights, decisions on the spacing of pregnancies and contraceptive methods being the sole prerogative of the man.²⁸

12. CEPU-CI notes that while the 1988 General Principles Act on Disabled Persons grants the disabled equal rights to education, training, employment and leisure activities, its enforcement has been delayed owing to the lack of an enabling decree.²⁹ CEPU-CI also reports that only 11.5 per cent of the disabled are employed and more than 70 per cent have difficulty finding employment, due mainly to lack of training and to discrimination.³⁰ CEPU-CI likewise reports that children suffering from psychological disorders are being increasingly abandoned by their families and the State.³¹

2. Right to life, liberty and security of the person

13. CEPU-CI reports that the death penalty was abolished by the 2000 Constitution but that the Criminal Code still imposes this punishment for certain crimes.³²

14. CEPU-CI indicates that many cases of summary and extrajudicial executions have been blamed on the Defence and Security Forces (FDS), who made frequent and disproportionate use of their firearms.³³ It also reports frequent violations of the physical integrity and liberty of citizens by the FDS during routine operations.³⁴ CEPU-CI also reports that when trying to maintain order the FDS use non-conventional methods to disperse demonstrators.³⁵

15. CEPU-CI says that in the zone controlled by Forces nouvelles many cases of violations of the right to life, torture and inhuman and degrading treatment on the part of the members of Forces nouvelles are regularly reported.³⁶ Human Rights Watch (HRW) reported that internecine struggles between commanders led to numerous acts of arbitrary detention, torture, forced disappearance, and murder by elements of Forces nouvelles.³⁷ FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO report that the Security Operations Command Centre, a joint security forces unit comprising police, gendarmes and soldiers, is known for its brutality and violence towards the civilian populations.³⁸

16. FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO mention that, although the Constitution formally prohibits torture and inhuman or degrading treatment, the FDS regularly indulge in such practices and with total impunity.³⁹ They have recommended that torture should be included as a crime in the Criminal Code.⁴⁰

17. FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO report that combatants in the area under the control of Forces nouvelles use torture and inhuman or degrading treatment to deal with certain disputes, in particular with regard to the recovery of debts.⁴¹

18. CEPU-CI has recommended that Côte d'Ivoire should implement a genuine policy of combating insecurity and the illegal circulation of small arms.⁴² HRW reported that disarmament efforts continued at a disappointing rate, which observers blamed on the lack of political will by both sides, Government and Forces nouvelles, and that it stalled plans to reintegrate several thousand Forces nouvelles elements into the national army and police force.⁴³ HRW recommended that Côte d'Ivoire restore governmental authority in the north and west of the country, and support the Integrated Command Centre to demobilize former combatants and ensure security for ordinary Ivorians.⁴⁴

19. HRW reported that, since the eruption of the armed conflict, girls and women had been victims of brutal forms of sexual violence by armed men on both sides of the military and political divide. Sexual violence was often accompanied by other acts of physical violence such as beating, torture, killing or mutilation.⁴⁵ HRW reported that, particularly in western Côte d'Ivoire, victims of sexual violence were targeted on the basis of their nationality or ethnic group.⁴⁶

20. HRW indicated that victims' access to legal services was extremely limited and that efforts to prosecute cases were hampered by deficiencies in the judicial system, particularly in the north, and the regular dismissal of cases due to out-of-court settlements.⁴⁷ HRW recommended ending impunity for sexual violence by thoroughly investigating all allegations of sexual violence and prosecuting individuals against whom there is sufficient evidence of such abuses, in compliance with international standards of fair trial.⁴⁸ SRI points out that lack of adequate psychological and medical care and the difficulty of access to care continue to be obstacles for victims.⁴⁹

21. HRW reported on crimes committed by the Student Federation (FESCI), including assault, extortion, and rape, often targeting perceived opponents of the ruling party and indicated that in October 2008, FESCI members ransacked and stole voter registration sites in Abidjan, forcing the temporary closure of the registration site. HRW added that the Government's sustained and partisan failure to investigate, prosecute, or punish alleged criminal offences perpetrated by FESCI members, further eroded the rule of law in Côte d'Ivoire.⁵⁰ FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO have recommended that all necessary measures should be taken to put an end to the grave human rights violations committed by members of FESCI and that those responsible should be prosecuted.⁵¹

22. The Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children (GIEACPC) reported that corporal punishment was lawful and reportedly widely practised. GIEACPC added that there is no explicit prohibition in law of corporal punishment in schools or in alternative care settings. In the penal system, GIEACPC stated that corporal punishment was unlawful as a sentence for crime and considered unlawful as a disciplinary measure in penal institutions but that there were no provisions for corporal punishment in prisons.⁵² GIEACPC strongly recommended that the Government introduce legislation to prohibit corporal punishment of children in all settings, including the home.⁵³

23. CEPU-CI reports that violence against women continues to be commonplace and worrying and that sexual and physical violence increased during the crisis.⁵⁴ It also points out that female genital mutilation continues despite the 1988 Act banning that practice.⁵⁵ According to SRI, excision is underpinned by sociocultural factors, in particular among population groups in the west of the country, and what was a practice predominant in rural areas is becoming an urban one.⁵⁶ According to SRI, excision in Côte d'Ivoire has no religious basis but is practised for customary reasons.⁵⁷ SRI has recommended that major public awareness campaigns should be undertaken among the communities concerned and in rural areas in particular, and has requested the judicial authorities to take whatever steps necessary to punish the perpetrators of that practice, in accordance with existing legislation.⁵⁸

24. SRI reports that Ivorian law does not criminalize conjugal rape or domestic violence.⁵⁹

25. APDH reports that sexual violence against children has increased and that the porosity of borders facilitates trafficking in minors.⁶⁰ It also reports that cases of paedophilia are pending before the courts but the crime of paedophilia is not criminalized in the legislation.⁶¹ DEI-CI reports that the lack of reliable statistics on physical and sexual violence is a problem and that despite the existence of the National Committee to Fight Violence against Women and Children and a unit of the police vice squad devoted to children, child prostitution is assuming vast proportions.⁶²

26. CEPU-CI reports that there are virtually no shelters or protection or care services for child victims of violence.⁶³

27. According to CEPU-CI and FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO, minors and adults are not separated in prisons and minors are at risk of violence from the adults.⁶⁴

28. FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO describe general detention conditions in prisons as deplorable and comparable to forms of inhuman and degrading treatment.⁶⁵ They note prison overcrowding and the dilapidated condition of prisons,⁶⁶ and report, as does CEPU-CI, that many prisoners are severely malnourished and that most prisons have no sanitary facilities.⁶⁷ They say that the prisons offer detainees no opportunities for resocialization and that police and gendarmes, who are often assigned

to prison duties owing to a shortage of prison staff, are often guilty of torture and inhuman and degrading treatment of detainees. FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO have recommended that everything possible should be done to improve prisoners' living conditions.⁶⁸

29. DEI-CI states that Côte d'Ivoire has action plans and institutions to combat the trafficking and exploitation of children⁶⁹ and that the Labour Code sets the minimum age of employment at 14 and prohibits dangerous and night work for minors under the age of 18.⁷⁰ APDH reports that many children work in slave-like and/or dangerous conditions. Efforts to combat child labour have long targeted child labour on the cacao plantations, ignoring such urban problems as child vendors and child domestic workers.⁷¹ According to CEPU-CI, trafficking and exploitation of children in general, and young girls in particular, for economic purposes persists without any measures being adopted to punish or discourage such exploitation.⁷² FI reports that girls working as domestic servants are subject to inhuman and degrading treatment, do not attend school, work long hours for little pay and have no social insurance. It points out that Côte d'Ivoire is not a party to the Palermo Protocol.⁷³ APDH has recommended that Côte d'Ivoire should effectively implement the multilateral cooperation agreement on combating trafficking and criminalize trafficking of children among the States of the subregion.⁷⁴

30. DEI-CI reports that the situation of street children is a real problem nationwide, given the inadequacy of supervision facilities for them, especially since the beginning of the civil war, and the difficulty of integrating them into the fabric of society.⁷⁵

3. Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law

31. Franciscans International (FI) has pointed out that it is essential that the perpetrators and instigators of human rights violations committed since 2002 should be brought to justice, as the United Nations Security Council had done.⁷⁶ HRW reported that, in recent years, neither the Government nor the Forces nouvelles leadership had taken significant steps to investigate or hold accountable those responsible for the frequent acts of violent crimes.⁷⁷ HRW recommended that the Government facilitate a mission by the International Criminal Court to assess a possible investigation into crimes committed in Côte d'Ivoire.⁷⁸ In addition, HRW reported that the United Nations Security Council had still not made public the findings of the United Nations Commission of Inquiry into serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law since September 2002.⁷⁹

32. FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO report that in the area controlled by Forces nouvelles the absence of courts has allowed combatants to act as both criminal investigation officers and judges⁸⁰ and have called for an independent justice system for that entire area.⁸¹ HRW reported that in these zones, extended pretrial detention was commonplace and there were credible reports that members of the Forces nouvelles used beatings and torture to extract confessions.⁸²

33. According to CEPU-CI, although the Constitution guarantees free and equitable access to justice without discrimination and to a fair trial, the judicial system has been discredited and criticized.⁸³ CEPU-CI makes reference to corruption within the system - illustrated by the 2008 court of assizes trial relating to toxic waste,⁸⁴ - the excessive length of judicial procedures,⁸⁵ and lack of compliance with rules concerning preventive detention.⁸⁶ It also notes that there are not enough courts or judicial officers and that most court facilities are dilapidated and insecure.⁸⁷

34. DEI-CI reports that nothing has been done to harmonize legislation making 18 the age of both criminal and civil majority, as recommended by the Committee on the Rights of the Child.⁸⁸ DEI-CI has recommended that Côte d'Ivoire should raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility to at

least 12, as also recommended by the Committee on the Rights of the Child.⁸⁹ It acknowledges that since the establishment of the Office for the Judicial Protection of Children and Young People, measures have been adopted to ensure that deprivation of liberty occurs only on an exceptional basis.⁹⁰

35. CEPU-CI reports that virtually no one is aware that legal assistance is available but that, in any case, it is virtually unobtainable owing to the complex procedure for obtaining it.⁹¹

4. Right to privacy, marriage and family life

36. APDH reports that the birth registration rate is 54.9 per cent or even lower in rural areas and those under the control of Forces nouvelles.⁹² CEPU-CI has recommended that Côte d'Ivoire should formulate a policy and should organize rural meetings to encourage parents to register the birth of their children.⁹³

37. SRI reports that homosexuality is not a crime under the law but that any "sexual deviance" is not tolerated by society, and even less so by tradition.⁹⁴ SRI has recommended the adoption of clear legislation guaranteeing the right to privacy and to non-discrimination against sexual minorities.⁹⁵

5. Freedom of movement

38. FI reports harassment, extortion and other abuses (including rape and murder) at roadblocks,⁹⁶ and discrimination in both the north and the south of the country based on the travellers' origins, and it underscores the added cost of such rackets for transport companies.⁹⁷ HRW reported that, in spite of the Government's efforts, including an open acknowledgement of and a parliamentary inquiry into the problem as well as limited efforts to prosecute alleged perpetrator, the level of crimes committed at roadside checkpoints has not considerably reduced.⁹⁸

6. Freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly, and right to participate in public and political life

39. FL/CIDDH reported that a significant number of attacks against human rights defenders occurred in the period preceding the elections that were scheduled in 2005 and that, while the situation had improved in recent years, most of the attacks against defenders remained unpunished.⁹⁹ In this regard, FL/CIDDH recommended that the Government ensure that all human rights defenders carry out their human rights activities free from persecution.¹⁰⁰

40. FL/CIDDH reported that journalists and editors continued to be particularly exposed to intimidation, attacks and arbitrary arrest¹⁰¹ and recommended to fully implement the Government's decision to decriminalise media offences.¹⁰² In addition, FL/CIDDH reported that the National Audiovisual Communication Council (CNCA), the public media regulatory and monitoring body, was under the influence of the Government and had been used to closely monitor independent and opposition media.¹⁰³ SRI reported that the Ministry of the Interior refused to issue the Ivorian Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transsexual Association a certificate of registration.¹⁰⁴

41. FL/CIDDH recommended that the Law 60-315 on Associations be amended and introduce judicial oversight for decisions to dissolve an association.¹⁰⁵ FL/CIDDH also mentioned that trade unionists were often exposed to risks, in particular arrest by the police during strikes.¹⁰⁶

42. HRW noted that the 2007 Ouagadougou Political Agreement (OPA) set forth an ambitious 10-month timetable for the presidential election but that target dates for completion of key provisions of the OPA had been repeatedly missed and pushed further and further back. As a

result, the Independent Electoral Commission postponed elections two more times, in February and November 2008.¹⁰⁷ HRW further reported that, in 2008, there were several incidents of politically motivated violence by pro-government groups against real or perceived members of the political opposition. The attacks disrupted the process and, on at least one occasion, provoked a temporary suspension of voter registration. The majority of these attacks were carried out by the Young Patriots.¹⁰⁸

7. Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work

43. CEPU-CI reports that civil service recruitment no longer follows accepted procedures because the highest bidder is guaranteed success in the various competitive examinations.¹⁰⁹ According to FI, civil servants in the tax branch as well as the defence and security forces (FDS) have higher salaries than other civil servants, leading to repeated strikes by other State employees and contributing to a high level of corruption in the administration.¹¹⁰

8. Right to social security and to an adequate standard of living

44. CEPU-CI and FI report that nearly half the population of Côte d'Ivoire is poor;¹¹¹ according to FI, the poverty rate is even higher in rural areas.¹¹² Furthermore, the unemployment rate among the labour force in 2008 was estimated to be 15.7 per cent, 24.2 per cent for young people.¹¹³ FI has recommended designing and implementing an employment policy that includes vocational training based on the needs of the labour market.¹¹⁴

45. FI reports that there has been a large-scale food crisis in Côte d'Ivoire since April 2008, marked by food riots, due mainly to the rise in the price of food. Rural households are particularly affected because they depend on the harvest for their own consumption as well as for their main source of revenue.¹¹⁵ According to FI, export products account for 60 per cent of arable land and are the sole source of significant income for the population. However, volatile prices of these products in the international market and the vagaries of the climate mean that farmers cannot purchase sufficient food commodities with the income they obtain from exports.¹¹⁶ FI reports that national production can only meet 40 per cent of the need for meat-based products, as compared to 60 per cent before the crisis. Côte d'Ivoire has therefore had to import food products.¹¹⁷

46. CEPU-CI reports that the State currently provides virtually no basic economic and social services to the population, often because of embezzlement of funds.¹¹⁸ According to FI, in 2008 more than 50 per cent of the rural population had no access to safe drinking water and more than 50 per cent of the total population had no access to electricity.¹¹⁹

47. CEPU-CI reports that although the Ivorian Constitution guarantees the right to health, the health system is weak because of infrastructure that is often inadequate or difficult to access, especially in rural areas. Moreover, the inhabitants are faced with the high cost of health services.¹²⁰ CEPU-CI claims that there are not enough medical staff, that they are unevenly distributed across the country and that frequent strikes affect the right to health.¹²¹ SRI indicates that only therapeutic abortion is permitted, adding that this severe restriction means women often resort to clandestine abortions.¹²² SRI has recommended that awareness campaigns should be organized to counter cultural beliefs that conflict with women's sexual and reproductive rights. It has also recommended that the Government should adopt measures to provide risk-free abortion services in cases of pregnancy resulting from incest or rape.¹²³

48. According to APDH, the Constitution and several laws and regulations affirm the right to a healthy environment¹²⁴ and Côte d'Ivoire has major structures and mechanisms for the management

and protection of the environment.¹²⁵ APDH notes that the diversity of stakeholders in the sector and the vagueness of their various remits give rise to conflicts of responsibilities.¹²⁶ It reports that the burning of garbage and used tyres has made the air in Abidjan noxious.¹²⁷ CEPU-CI has recommended that Côte d'Ivoire should develop action plans for the strict regulation of household and industrial waste.¹²⁸

49. APDH reports that biodiversity has been affected by the combined effects of several factors arising out of the political and military crisis, exacerbating the degradation of the flora and fauna in protected forests, parks and reserves, with an increase in the greenhouse effect and more extreme climate change.¹²⁹

50. According to APDH, air pollution is increasing acute respiratory and cardiovascular infections.¹³⁰ The Union des Victimes des Dechets Toxiques d'Abidjan et Banlieues (UVDTAB) (Union of Victims of Toxic Waste of Abidjan and Its Surrounding Areas) and APDH have recorded the dramatic effects of the toxic waste dumped by the ship Probo Koala in August 2006.¹³¹ CEPU-CI notes that that incident caused the deaths of 17 people and poisoned 100,000 others.¹³² UVDTAB notes that an Operational Coordination Unit of the National Plan to Combat Toxic Waste was created in 2006 but has proven ineffective.¹³³ UVDTAB and FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO report that decontamination of polluted sites is not complete and has in fact been suspended.¹³⁴

51. FI adds that all the victims have not yet been compensated¹³⁵ and UVDTAB reports that the 100 billion CFA francs meant to be used to compensate the victims, provide care, reimburse decontamination costs and build a treatment plant for household waste had been used by the State of Côte d'Ivoire to supplement its budget.¹³⁶ FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO report that the outcome of the trial held in September 2008 had not satisfied the families, human rights organizations or the population in general.¹³⁷ UVDTAB has filed an appeal against the decision, claiming that the trial had been a show trial.¹³⁸ FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO have recommended that the dumping sites should be effectively decontaminated as quickly as possible and that citizens should be kept informed of the medium- and long-term effects of the dumping of toxic waste on their health and their environment.¹³⁹ CEPU-CI has recommended that Côte d'Ivoire should provide for expert monitoring of the effects of the waste on the environment, take care of all the medical expenses, follow-up and compensation of all the victims.¹⁴⁰

52. CEPU-CI reports that the 1998 Rural Land Act, intended to deal with land disputes, is little known and misinterpreted, leading to many disputes. It has recommended that awareness of the Act should be increased and the land registration procedure simplified.¹⁴¹

9. Right to education

53. According to APDH, school enrolment rates are quite low in rural areas and those under the control of Forces nouvelles, because of low birth registration rates.¹⁴² CEPU-CI reports that, according to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the gross enrolment rate before the crisis was 75 per cent but had dropped to 46 per cent by 2008.¹⁴³ EIP-CI attributes that drop to, inter alia, massive displacement of populations, the lack of schools in certain areas during the early years of the crisis and the deterioration of education infrastructure.¹⁴⁴ Both EIP-CI and FI also note great disparities among regions.¹⁴⁵ According to CEPU-CI, many school-age children are not attending school while others are taken out of school before the age of 15 either to make them work in the fields or to force girls into an early marriage.¹⁴⁶ EIP-CI reports that there is no compulsion for parents to send their children to school.¹⁴⁷ FI notes a high failure rate among pupils, higher for girls

than for boys.¹⁴⁸ According to DEI-CI, girls and children with disabilities have difficulty gaining entry to schools despite the provision of the Education Act, which incorporates the principle of non-discrimination and “inclusive schooling”.¹⁴⁹

54. DEI-CI and CEPU-CI have recommended that primary education should be made really compulsory and free of charge,¹⁵⁰ while EIP-CI has recommended that measures aimed at making primary education free for all should be effectively and efficiently implemented.¹⁵¹ DEI-CI has likewise recommended that steps should be taken to increase attendance by girls.¹⁵² EIP-CI has recommended that forgiveness of the external debt through the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) initiative should be seen as an opportunity to improve the educational system by building educational infrastructure and recruiting and training teachers.¹⁵³

55. EIP-CI and CEPU-CI report that the education sector is constantly disrupted by strikes by teachers, pupils and students.¹⁵⁴ EIP-CI has recommended that strikes should be prevented and steps taken to manage conflict in schools and universities, as well as ensuring a peaceful environment in schools through anti-violent measures.¹⁵⁵

III. ACHIEVEMENTS, BEST PRACTICES, CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS

N/A

IV. KEY NATIONAL PRIORITIES, INITIATIVES AND COMMITMENTS

N/A

V. CAPACITY-BUILDING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

N/A

Notes

¹ The stakeholders listed below have contributed information for this summary; the full texts of all original submissions are available at www.ohchr.org. (One asterisk denotes a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.)

Civil society

APDH	Actions pour la Protection des Droits de l'Homme, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire
CEPU-CI	Ligue Ivoirienne des Droits de l'Homme (LIDHO), Mouvement Ivoirien des Droits Humains (MIDH), Actions pour la Protection des Droits de l'Homme (APDH), Amnesty Côte d'Ivoire, Association des Femmes Juristes de Côte d'Ivoire (AFJCI), Bureau International Catholique pour l'Enfance (BICE)*, Transparency Justice, Mouvement des Instituteurs pour la Défense de leurs Droits (MIDD), Club Union Africaine, Africa CI 2005, SAPE-CI, Fédération des Chauffeurs et Apprentis de Côte d'Ivoire (FEDECA-CI), Agir pour la Démocratie la Justice et la Liberté en Côte d'Ivoire (ADJL-CI), SOS Exclusion, Mouvement Humaniste de Côte d'Ivoire, Réseau Ivoirien des Droits de l'Homme et Syndicaux de Côte d'Ivoire (RIDHOS-CI), Union Nationale des Travailleurs de Côte d'Ivoire (UNATR-CI), Union des Victimes des Déchets Toxiques d'Abidjan et Banlieue (UVDTAB), Bureau Ivoirien d'Ecoute et des Droits de l'Homme (BIEDH), Réseau Action sur les Armes Légères en Afrique de l'Ouest (RASALAO-CI), Association des Etudiants Juristes de Côte d'Ivoire (AEJCI), Playdoo-CI, WANEP-CI, 3D, CRAEF-CI, ADESC, Réseau Ivoirien des Jeunes Leaders (RIJL), Femmes de Salem International, ONG Génération Femmes du 3 ^{ème} Millénaire, Against Violence, Ecole Internationale de Paix (EIP); joint submission, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire
DEI-CI	Défense des Enfants International-Côte d'Ivoire, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire
EIP-CI	Ecole, instrument de la paix, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire
FI	Franciscans International*, New York, USA
FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO	Fédération internationale des ligues des droits de l'Homme (FIDH)*; Mouvement ivoirien des droits humains (MIDH); Ligue Ivoirienne des Droits de l'Homme (LIDHO), joint submission, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire
FL/CIDDH	Front Line - the International Foundation for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders*; Coalition Ivoirienne des défenseurs des droits humains (CIDDH); joint submission, Dublin, Ireland
GIEACPC	Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children, London, United Kingdom
HRW	Human Rights Watch*, New York, USA
OSJI	Open Society Justice Initiative, New York, USA
RAIDH	Regroupement des acteurs ivoiriens des droits humains, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire
SRI	Sexual Rights Initiative (composed of Action Canada for Population and Development*; Mulabi-Espacio Latinoamericano de Sexualidades y Derechos; Creating Resources for Empowerment and Action-India; the Polish Federation for Women and Family Planning), joint submission
UVDTAB	Union des Victimes des Déchets Toxiques d'Abidjan et Banlieues, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.

² EIP-CI, p. 1; CEPU-CI, para. 7.

³ APDH, para. 4.

⁴ APDH, para. 18.

⁵ CEPU-CI, paras. 53 and 60.

⁶ APDH, p. 5; see also DEI-CI, pp. 1-2.

⁷ FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO, p. 3.

⁸ CEPU-CI, paras. 5-6; RAIDH, p. 4.

⁹ APDH, paras. 3 and 5.

¹⁰ CEPU-CI, para. 8; see also RAIDH, p. 4.

- ¹¹ RAIDH, pp. 4-5; see also CEPU-CI, para. 9.
- ¹² RAIDH, p. 5; see also FL/CIDDH, p. 4, and CEPU-CI, para. 9.
- ¹³ RAIDH, p. 5.
- ¹⁴ FL/CIDDH, p. 4; see also CEPU-CI, para. 53, and RAIDH, p. 6.
- ¹⁵ APDH, paras. 6-7.
- ¹⁶ DEI-CI, p. 4.
- ¹⁷ FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO, p. 1.
- ¹⁸ DEI-CI, pp. 1-2.
- ¹⁹ FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO, pp. 3 and 5.
- ²⁰ OSJI, paras. 3-4.
- ²¹ OSJI, paras. 5-6.
- ²² OSJI, paras. 7-9.
- ²³ OSJI, paras. 10-15; see also on the same issue FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO, pp. 3-4.
- ²⁴ OSJI, paras. 2 and 17.
- ²⁵ SRI, paras. 5-6.
- ²⁶ SRI, paras. 9-10.
- ²⁷ SRI, para. 12.
- ²⁸ SRI, para. 25.
- ²⁹ CEPU-CI, para. 48.
- ³⁰ CEPU-CI, para. 50.
- ³¹ CEPU-CI, para. 42.
- ³² CEPU-CI, para. 51.
- ³³ CEPU-CI, para. 11.
- ³⁴ CEPU-CI, para. 14.
- ³⁵ CEPU-CI, para. 14.
- ³⁶ CEPU-CI, para. 13.
- ³⁷ HRW, p. 3.
- ³⁸ FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO, p. 2.
- ³⁹ FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO, p. 2.
- ⁴⁰ FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO, p. 4.
- ⁴¹ FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO, p. 2.
- ⁴² CEPU-CI, para. 51.
- ⁴³ HRW, p. 2.
- ⁴⁴ HRW, p. 4.
- ⁴⁵ HRW, p. 3.
- ⁴⁶ HRW, pp. 3-4.
- ⁴⁷ HRW, pp. 3-4; see also SRI, para. 17.
- ⁴⁸ HRW, p. 4; see similar recommendation from SRI, para. 20.

- ⁴⁹ SRI, para. 19.
- ⁵⁰ HRW, pp. 2-3; see also EIP-CI, p. 4.
- ⁵¹ FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO, p. 4; see similar recommendations made by HRW, p. 4.
- ⁵² GIEACPC, p. 2.
- ⁵³ GIEACPC, p. 1.
- ⁵⁴ CEPU-CI, para. 45; see also SRI, para. 13.
- ⁵⁵ CEPU-CI, para. 46; see also more detail on the 1998 law in SRI, para. 7.
- ⁵⁶ SRI, para. 22.
- ⁵⁷ SRI, para. 23.
- ⁵⁸ SRI, para. 24.
- ⁵⁹ SRI, para. 9.
- ⁶⁰ APDH, para. 14.
- ⁶¹ APDH, para. 15.
- ⁶² DEI-CI, pp. 2-3.
- ⁶³ CEPU-CI, para. 42.
- ⁶⁴ CEPU-CI, para. 44; FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO, p. 2.
- ⁶⁵ FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO, p. 1; see also CEPU-CI, para. 24.
- ⁶⁶ FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO, pp. 1-2.
- ⁶⁷ CEPU-CI, paras. 25-26; FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO, p. 2.
- ⁶⁸ FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO, p. 4.
- ⁶⁹ DEI-CI, p. 3.
- ⁷⁰ DEI-CI, p. 3.
- ⁷¹ APDH, paras. 12-13.
- ⁷² CEPU-CI, para. 42; see also DEI-CI, p. 3.
- ⁷³ FI, paras. 15-16.
- ⁷⁴ APDH, p. 5.
- ⁷⁵ DEI-CI, p. 2.
- ⁷⁶ FI, paras. 17-18.
- ⁷⁷ HRW, p. 3.
- ⁷⁸ HRW, p. 5.
- ⁷⁹ HRW, p. 4.
- ⁸⁰ FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO, p. 2; see also CEPU-CI, para. 23.
- ⁸¹ FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO, p. 4.
- ⁸² HRW, p. 3.
- ⁸³ CEPU-CI, para. 17; see also DEI-CI, p. 3.
- ⁸⁴ CEPU-CI, para. 18; HRW, p. 3.
- ⁸⁵ CEPU-CI, para. 19.
- ⁸⁶ CEPU-CI, para. 20.

- ⁸⁷ CEPU-CI, para. 21.
- ⁸⁸ DEI-CI, p. 3.
- ⁸⁹ DEI-CI, p. 4.
- ⁹⁰ DEI-CI, p. 4.
- ⁹¹ CEPU-CI, para. 23.
- ⁹² APDH, para. 9; similar information was reported by CEPU-CI, para. 43.
- ⁹³ CEPU-CI, para. 59.
- ⁹⁴ SRI, para. 31.
- ⁹⁵ SRI, para. 32.
- ⁹⁶ FI, para. 1; see also CEPU-CI, para. 16; HRW, p. 2.
- ⁹⁷ FI, para. 2.
- ⁹⁸ HRW, p. 2.
- ⁹⁹ FL/CIDDDH, p. 2; see also CEPU-CI, para. 10.
- ¹⁰⁰ FL/CIDDDH, p. 4.
- ¹⁰¹ FL/CIDDDH, p. 2.
- ¹⁰² FL/CIDDDH, p. 4.
- ¹⁰³ FL/CIDDDH, p. 2.
- ¹⁰⁴ SRI, paras. 28 and 31.
- ¹⁰⁵ FL/CIDDDH, p. 4.
- ¹⁰⁶ FL/CIDDDH, p. 3.
- ¹⁰⁷ HRW, pp. 1-2.
- ¹⁰⁸ HRW, p. 2.
- ¹⁰⁹ CEPU-CI, para. 36.
- ¹¹⁰ FI, p. 4.
- ¹¹¹ CEPU-CI, para. 34; FI, p. 3.
- ¹¹² FI, para. 5.
- ¹¹³ CEPU-CI, para. 34; see also FI, para. 11.
- ¹¹⁴ FI, para. 19 (j).
- ¹¹⁵ FI, para. 8.
- ¹¹⁶ FI, para. 9.
- ¹¹⁷ FI, para. 10.
- ¹¹⁸ CEPU-CI, para. 35.
- ¹¹⁹ FI, para. 6.
- ¹²⁰ CEPU-CI, para. 33; see also FI, para. 7.
- ¹²¹ CEPU-CI, para. 33; see also SRI, para. 18.
- ¹²² SRI, para. 26.
- ¹²³ SRI, para. 27.
- ¹²⁴ APDH, para. 17.

- ¹²⁵ APDH, para. 19.
- ¹²⁶ APDH, para. 20.
- ¹²⁷ APDH, para. 28; see also FI, p. 4.
- ¹²⁸ CEPU-CI, para. 57; see also APDH, p. 5.
- ¹²⁹ APDH, paras. 22-25.
- ¹³⁰ APDH, para. 29.
- ¹³¹ UVDTAB, pp. 2-3; APDH, para. 30.
- ¹³² CEPU-CI, para. 38; see also UVDTAB, p. 3.
- ¹³³ UVDTAB, pp. 1-2.
- ¹³⁴ UVDTAB, p. 3; FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO, p. 4.
- ¹³⁵ FI, para. 14.
- ¹³⁶ UVDTAB, p. 4.
- ¹³⁷ FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO, p. 3.
- ¹³⁸ UVDTAB, pp. 4-5.
- ¹³⁹ FIDH/MIDH/LIDHO, p. 4.
- ¹⁴⁰ CEPU-CI, para. 57.
- ¹⁴¹ CEPU-CI, para. 58.
- ¹⁴² APDH, para. 9; see also EIP-CI, p. 2.
- ¹⁴³ CEPU-CI, para. 32.
- ¹⁴⁴ EIP-CI, p. 3.
- ¹⁴⁵ EIP-CI, p. 3; FI, p. 2.
- ¹⁴⁶ CEPU-CI, para. 28.
- ¹⁴⁷ EIP-CI, p. 2.
- ¹⁴⁸ FI, para. 4.
- ¹⁴⁹ DEI-CI, p. 2; see also FI, para. 3.
- ¹⁵⁰ CEPU-CI, para. 55; DEI-CI, p. 4.
- ¹⁵¹ EIP-CI, p. 5.
- ¹⁵² DEI-CI, p. 4.
- ¹⁵³ EIP-CI, p. 5.
- ¹⁵⁴ EIP-CI, p. 4; CEPU-CI, para. 31.
- ¹⁵⁵ EIP-CI, p. 5.
