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The Permanent Mission of Côte d’Ivoire to the United Nations and the International Peace Institute (IPI) are pleased to invite you to a high-Panel event to be held on April 11, 2017 at 6pm, on ***Côte d’Ivoire, a Successful Case of Crisis Management: a Look Back at the Experience and Lessons learned.***

The Panel will be held at One UN Plaza’s Diplomat Ballroom, at 6pm, and will be followed by a reception, during which H.E. Mr. Marcel AMON-TANOH, Côte d’Ivoire Minister of Foreign Affairs, will give a speech to announce Côte d’Ivoire’s candidacy for a non-permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council for the 2018-2019 period.

**Panelists:**

**H.E.** **Mr.** **Marcel AMON-TANOH,** *Côte d’Ivoire Minister of Foreign Affairs*  
**Mr. Jean-Pierre LACROIX**, *United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations*

**Mrs. Elisabeth Lindenmayer, *Director, International Organization and UN Studies Specialization, School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), Columbia University***

**Moderator:** **M. Youssef Mahmoud,** *Senior Advisor, International Peace Institute (IPI)*

**Context**:

After thirteen years of presence, the mandate of the United Nations Operation in Côte d’Ivoire (UNOCI) will end in June 2017, leaving behind a stable and firmly committed country, on the path of economic development – with an annual average growth rate of 9% - reconciliation and sustainable peace.

UNOCI is the first peacekeeping operation to close since the closing of the United Nations Integrated Mission in East Timor; this closing comes as exit strategies are also being considered for the missions in Liberia and Haiti. This provides an opportunity to examine lessons that can be learned from this unique operation.

Indeed, the resolution of the Ivorian crisis since 2002 has led the Security Council to resort to various crisis management instruments: diplomatic engagement through regional mediation efforts and the deployment of a regional force; the simultaneous deployment of a French force (Operation Licorne); the implementation of an arms and diamonds embargo, targeted sanctions against troublemakers; the establishment of a commission of inquiry for human rights abuses; threats to resort to the International Criminal Court; Security Sector Reform (SSR), Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR); and the establishment of a UN election certification mandate.

All these instruments have, at some point, contributed to initiate dialogue between the various stakeholders. Although contested at its outset, the UN’s election certification role has ultimately led the international community to unite around the decisive action to be conducted in order to ensure full respect of the results of the November 2010 presidential elections. This allowed for crisis recovery, the stabilization of Cote d’Ivoire and more broadly of the sub-region.

Just as Côte d’Ivoire is launching its campaign for a non-permanent member seat on the Security Council, this high-level panel will offer the opportunity to reflect on the management and resolution of this crisis, and the lessons to be learned after the United Nations Operations in Côte d’Ivoire’s decade of presence.