

Media advisory: Kofi Annan to visit Côte d'Ivoire from 09-10 October 2013

Press conference in Abidjan on Thursday 10 October

7 October 2013

MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR INFORMATION ONLY, NOT FOR PUBLICATION

<u>Kofi Annan</u>, Chair of The Elders and former UN Secretary-General, will be visiting Côte d'Ivoire from 9-10 October to assess the progress and challenges of the reconciliation process.

During his stay in Abidjan, Mr Annan will hold private meetings with President Alassane Ouattara and other political leaders, as well as officials and civil society representatives.

In May 2011, a delegation of Elders, including Kofi Annan, Mary Robinson and Desmond Tutu, <u>travelled to Côte d'Ivoire</u> to encourage reconciliation and healing, after four months of post-election violence in which an estimated 3,000 people were killed and one million displaced. Mr Annan <u>returned to Abidjan</u> in January 2012.

Almost two years later, the objective of the new Elders' visit is to assess the progress made in the recovery of the country and discuss the challenges it still faces ahead of the 2015 elections.

Media opportunity

Thursday 10 October 2013

16:00 – 17:00 GMT Press conference

Venue: Hotel Ivoire, Abidjan, Salle Balafon

A press release will be issued and distributed at the time of the press conference.

<u>Important note for journalists wishing to attend the press conference:</u>

- Please note that the schedule is subject to change. For updates, please email: media@theElders.org.
- Media representatives will be asked to show a valid ID.
- Please note that Mr Annan will not be available for interviews.

Media inquiries

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About The Elders

The Elders are independent leaders using their collective experience and influence for peace, justice and human rights worldwide. The group was founded by Nelson Mandela in 2007.

The Elders are <u>Martti Ahtisaari</u>, <u>Kofi Annan</u> (Chair), <u>Ela Bhatt</u>, <u>Lakhdar Brahimi</u>, <u>Gro Harlem</u> <u>Brundtland</u> (Deputy Chair), <u>Fernando Henrique Cardoso</u>, <u>Jimmy Carter</u>, <u>Hina Jilani</u>, <u>Graça Machel</u>, <u>Mary Robinson</u> and <u>Ernesto Zedillo</u>.

Nelson Mandela and Desmond Tutu are honorary Elders.

For biographies of the Elders, blogs, photos, videos and more information about their work please go to www.theElders.org.

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Find out more about The Elders' work on Côte d'Ivoire: http://www.theelders.org/cote-divoire