The call of Abidjan

We, the presidents of the Assembly of Regions and Districts of Côte d'Ivoire (ARDCI), and the global network of regions ORU Fogar, on the celebration of the first Executive Bureau of the United Regions Organization in Abidjan, wish to publicly express our commitment to continue working together to deepen the development of the regions of Côte d'Ivoire.

During the many interviews held in the country, we noted the great commitment of all government agencies to decentralization. We were especially pleased to hear from the Minister of the Interior and Security, the Lieutenant General Diomande Vagondo, that the work within ORU Fogar, with its mutual examples, can be inspiring for the Ivorian regions.

With this in mind, we are committed to the following points:

- We place value on the work carried out jointly since, in 2014, ARDCI joined ORU Fogar as an international organization.
- We will encourage all regions of Côte d'Ivoire to join ORU Fogar, participating in the work dynamics of ARDCI and ORU Fogar and creating the maximum synergies between the two organizations.
- In this process, the regions of Côte d'Ivoire will be able to participate in all the dynamics of the Global Agenda, meaning the debates linked to Agenda 2030 and the SDGs, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the New Urban Agenda.
- In the 2024 program, the two organizations will work to ensure that the country's regions play a leading role in the United Nations Future Summit, as well as in ORU Fogar's V Summit of Regions Zero Hunger. With a view to 2025, a significant presence will be sought at the VI Local Economic Development Forum.
- The two organizations will promote the maximum utilization of existing resources to facilitate technical exchanges and project support, with a special focus on agricultural development and water management.
- In these areas, spaces are created to promote technical exchanges, especially with European regions.
Economic exchanges will also be promoted, generating synergies with ORU Fogar network regions from all continents.

All these lines of work are part of the desire to make the regions of Côte d'Ivoire leaders and benchmarks of regionalism in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, April 26, 2024

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