

**SPEECH BY THE FIRST LADY OF  
CÔTE D'IVOIRE**

**EVORA TOWN HALL PORTUGAL**

**JULY 28<sup>TH</sup> 2018**

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

It is a real pleasure for me to be with you today at Evora City Hall, in this beautiful city declared World Heritage by UNESCO since 1986.

I am particularly pleased that Côte d'Ivoire is being honored today, on the occasion of the prestigious **Evora Africa Festival**. This cultural event is the perfect opportunity to present the richness of our beautiful country, and the work of our artists and designers beyond our borders.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to **Mr. Carlos Pinto DE SA, Mayor of Evora**, for hosting ma delegation and I so well. Thank you so much !

I wish to extend my greetings to **Mrs Alexandra DE CADAVAL** for organizing this beautiful festival ; and to the **officials** present here.

I am here with **Mr. Maurice BANDAMA, Minister of Culture and Francophonie of Côte d'Ivoire, the Ambassador of Côte d'Ivoire to Portugal, and some members of my delegation** discovering your beautiful country for the first time.

## **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Our presence in Evora on the occasion of this festival, is the strong testimony of the friendship that exists between our two nations, and which is consolidating day by day. It symbolizes the strong friendship between our two nations, that is being consolidated over time. This is my second trip to Portugal, after the official visit I paid with my husband, President Alassane Ouattara, last September. I feel at home in your beautiful country.

Congratulations for the richness of your cultural heritage, it is exceptional. I would love to discover the beautiful historical sites, as well as the history of your city.

To end, I would like to express my sincere thanks to you all for your kindness towards my delegation and I.

Have a great festival, everyone.

**Thank you.**