SPEECH BY THE FIRST LADY THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND UNFPA REGIONAL DIRECTOR VISIT THE MOTHER-CHILD'S HOSPITAL OF BINGERVILLE Tuesday, December 18, 2018

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to welcome you this afternoon to **the Mother** and **Child's Hospital in Bingerville**, on the occasion of the visit of the Minister of Health and UNFPA Regional Director.

First of all, I would like to welcome **Mr. Eugène Aoulé AKA, Minister of Health and Public Hygiene,** who is officially visiting the Bingerville Mother and Child's Hospital for the first time since he took office.

I would like to extend my warmest greetings to **Mabingue NGOM, Regional Director of UNFPA,** we are pleased to receive here this afternoon along with his **important delegation**.

I would also like to express my gratitude to **the officials** here on this occasion.

Finally, I express my appreciation to **the hospital Top Management and staff members** here with us.

Allow me to welcome you all to the Mother and Child's Hospital of Bingerville.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Children's Hospital of Bingerville was completed and inaugurated last March, and it is with as much emotion that I cross the corridors of this health facility dedicated to the well-being of mothers and children. Anytime I enter this place I measure with satisfaction the progress made to finalize this important project.

In fact, during the last five years, dozens of dedicated men and women have been committed to work with us, to make this beautiful project real.

We had to fight together to mobilize material and financial resources to achieve this project.

Today, I am very proud to show you the Mother-Child's Hospital of Bingerville in operation.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

A few months after its inauguration, the Bingerville Children's Hospital fulfills all our expectations. The hospital receives **several hundred patients a day,** and since its opening, more than **250 deliveries** have been made.

In addition, 25% of the patients are poor people who are cared for and treated free of charge at the MCH. Our goal is to relieve the many poor families who lack access to care and treament.

At the same time, a children's home that is being built right next to the hospital will be completed very soon. This space will be used to house children who will be in long-term treatment away from their homes, in order to relieve their families.

All this is made possible thanks to the contribution of all the people, the national and international institutions that support the humanitarian actions of Children of Africa Foundation. We are very grateful.

At this stage of my remarks, I would like to sincerely thank Mr. Mabingue NGOM, UNFPA Director General, for giving a

fully equipped ambulance to the Mother-Child's Hospital of Bingerville.

Dear brother,

Thank you for your support. This significant gift you are giving us today complements the equipment that is already available.

The ambulance will facilitate a greater capacity to act.

We will be able to reach out to people more effectively, even those who are furthest away.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to express to the entire hospital personnel my sincere thanks for their commitment and dedication towards patients.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

To end, I would like to thank all our **generous donors**, as well as all those who have worked so far, for the Bingerville Mother-Child's Hospital to become a reality in our country.

Thanks to our join efforts the MCH of Bingerville has become a referral hospital in Africa which helps save the lives of mothers and children.

Thank you.