

SPEECH BY THE FIRST LADY THE EMBASSADOR OF CHINA VISITS

LA CASE DES ENFANTS

Friday, December 21, 2018

Excellence,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Dear children,

It is a real pleasure for me to meet you this morning, on the occasion of the visit of His **Excellency Mr. TANG Weibin to la Case des Enfants.**

First of all, I would like to welcome and to thank **the Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Côte d'Ivoire, His Excellency Mr. TANG Weibin and his delegation** for visiting us today.

Thank you for your kind words about me.

I would like to give my greetings **to all our kids from la Case.** I take great pleasure to be here with you. I also take this opportunity to congratulate you for the wonderful artistic performances you presented to us. I hope you will enjoy the day.

I also give my greetings to **all our former residents of la Case** here with us.

Excellency,

For two consecutive years, you invited us to events promoting cultural exchange between our two countries:

- On September 6, 2016 **you have invited about hundred children at the children's festival in your residence,**
- On September 25, 2017, we celebrated **the national holiday marking the 68th anniversary of your country,**
- On September 27, 2017, we participated in cultural festivities with our young students from **Lycée Sainte-Marie,**
- Last September 2018, **we were together for a state visit to your beautiful country.**

Excellency, you are indeed making a significant contribution to further developing the strong cooperation between China and Côte d'Ivoire. I thank you for doing so.

The recent state visit **of my husband, President Alassane Ouattara and myself** to Beijing was a unique opportunity to discover the authenticity and richness of the Chinese culture.

I really enjoyed our stay, especially the beauty and cleanliness of the city, but also **the actions that are carried out by your Government to promote education and to pass on your values to the younger generation.**

Excellency,

I wish to express my heartfelt thanks for this **generous donation to the Children of Africa Foundation's shelter, worth 37 million CFA francs for rehabilitation, foods and gifts for our kids.** Thank you !

I express my gratitude to you for all the actions you undertake to support Children Of Africa Foundation. I am very grateful to you !

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I seize this opportunity to extend my congratulations **to the entire staff of la Case des Enfants, to the Sisters of Notre Dame des Apôtres and to the members of our Foundation** for the excellent job they are doing to ensure that our children are growing up in safe conditions.

I reiterate my thanks to you Excellency, and to your entire team for this donation.

I wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Thank you.