

SPEECH ASSISTANCE TO FLOOD VICTIMS IN

ATTECOUBE

**My dear brothers and Sisters from Attécoubé,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

It is with great sadness that I rise among you this morning **to acknowledge the tragic incident that took place**, of which you were unfortunately the victims. I came to bring you little comfort.

First of all, I would like to convey to you the compassion and affectionate greetings of **my beloved husband, President Alassane Ouattara.**

The heavy rains have caused serious flooding in several neighborhoods of Abidjan, including Attécoubé. Many families have been affected by the floods ; many have been forced from their homes and lost their lives. **Indeed, dear brothers and sisters, many of you have lost a loved one, others their homes and livelihoods.**

I could not stay away from you in such a difficult moment. **My dear brothers and sisters,** in the midst of this tragedy, I have decided to come and express to you all my compassion, **and stand with you in the pain...**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

From the first calls for help, **important measures have been taken by the Ivorian Government** to help people that have been affected most by the severe flooding. To this end, I would like to thank **the Ivorian Government** for their fast and practical assistance to victims. I would specially like to thank **Ms Mariatou KONE, Minister of Solidarity, Women and Child Protection,** for standing with us this morning.

I would also like to thank and encourage the District of Abidjan, **headed by Governor Beugré MAMBE ; General Kili Fiacre FAGNIDI, Director General of ONPC** for the remarkable work that has been done. **Thanks to Firefighters ; police and gendarmerie officers; doctors and caregivers; and all the volunteers who gave of their time and energy since the first day to help victims.** Congratulation on your excellent work.

I also offer my thanks to **the Mayor DANHO Paulin, and the city council** for providing assistance to victims of Attécoubé.

I would also like to highlight **the amount of solidarity flowing in from people all over the country** to provide support to victims and help devastated communities. That was an excellent illustration of brotherhood which shows we can live together.

Dear brothers and sisters,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have decided to come to provide you with **foodstuffs and in-kind donations**. I hope that will be very useful to ensure your comfort before you return to your homes.

I also have to say that I am deeply saddened by the situation of our **brothers and sisters living in other cities of the country**, who have been affected by the flooding.

I will ask you to stay strong in order to overcome these difficulties. I will remain by your side.

Thank you.