

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

27 January 2016

Gbagbo/Blé Goudé ICC trial – Civil society media briefing

Ex-Côte d'Ivoire president Laurent Gbagbo and ally Charles Blé Goudé charged with crimes against humanity during 2010-11 post-election violence

WHAT: The Coalition for the International Criminal Court—a global network of civil society organizations in 150 countries advocating for a fair, effective and independent International Criminal Court (ICC)—will brief members of the media on the trial against former president of Côte d'Ivoire Laurent Gbagbo and Charles Blé Goudé, which starts on 28 January 2016 at the ICC in The Hague.

WHEN: Wednesday 27 January 2016 at 17:45 CET. Time is approximate, briefing will follow the ICC press conference scheduled for 16:00 – 17:30 CET.

WHERE: Visitors Centre, International Criminal Court headquarters, Oude Waalsdorperweg 10, 2597 AK The Hague, Netherlands

WHO: Panel participants will include:

- **Fanta Doumbia**, President, Organisation des femmes actives de Côte d'Ivoire
- **Willy Neth**, Secretary General, Ligue Ivoirienne des Droits de l'Homme
- **Jim Wormington**, Researcher, West Africa, Human Rights Watch

The panel will be moderated by **Niall Matthews**, Head of Communications, Coalition for the **International Criminal Court**.

WHY: On 28 January 2016, the first trial arising from the ICC investigation in Côte d'Ivoire will open against former president Laurent Gbagbo and youth leader Charles Blé Goudé. Both are suspected of orchestrating post-election violence that killed some 3,000 and injured thousands. This is the first time a former head of state will be tried before the world's only permanent international criminal court.

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