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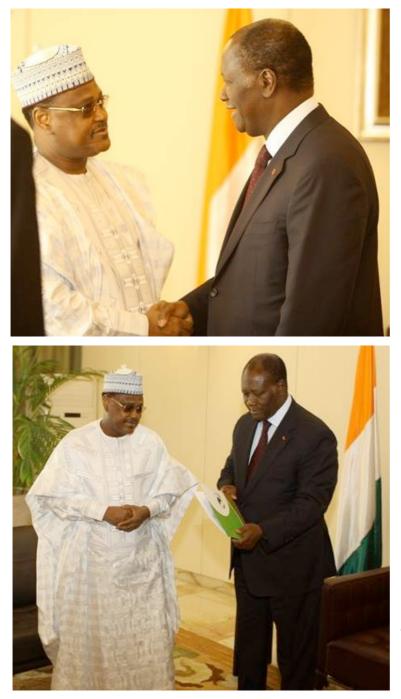
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PRESIDENT ALASSANE DRAMANE OUATTARA RECEIVES IN AUDIENCE THE HEAD OF THE AFRICAN UNION OBSERVERS MISSION TO THE COTE D'IVOIRE LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS, FORMER PRIME MINISTER OF NIGER, MR. SEINI OUMAROU



Abidjan 13 December 2011 -Following the Legislative Elections that took place on 11 December 2011 in Cote d'Ivoire, the Head of African Union Observers the Mission. Mr. Seyni Oumarou, Former Prime Minister of the Republic of Niger, was received in audience on Tuesday 13 December 2011, by Mr. Alassane Dramane Ouattara, President of the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire.

Prime Minister Seini Oumarou Informed the President that he was mandated by the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Mr. Jean Ping, to head the African Union Observers Mission, for the Legislative Elections in the country. He thanked the President on behalf of Chairperson Ping for inviting the African Union to be part of the electoral process in Cote d'Ivoire.

Prime Minister Seini submitted to President Ouattara a copy of his Declaration which will be read at a press conference immediatelv after the audience, as а preliminary outcome of the African Union Observers Mission for the iust ended Parliamentary Elections.

The Head of the African Union Observers Mission expressed satisfaction to the good management and organization of the Legislative elections in a calm and peaceful environment. He thanked the President for the measures put in place by his Government to facilitate the work of the African Union Mission throughout the country. "Our observers noticed no measure incident during their field monitoring except that the turnout was low at the polling stations", Prime Minister Seini noted. He congratulated President Ouattara for his efforts to set up the different institutions to ensure the rapid post conflict reconstruction of the country and enhance the socio-economic and political development of the Ivorian people.



President Alassane Ouattara, expressed satisfaction to the African Union for sending a powerful Mission to witness the electoral process for the election of the members of Parliament which he said is very important for his country, as the population will have to choose their representatives in the National Assembly. "Ivorian people have gone through very difficult moments in the history of their country.... It is crucial for them to elect their representatives in Parliament", The President underlined.

President Ouattara regretted however the weak participation of the opposition parties at the legislative elections, hoping that there will be affluence during the upcoming municipal elections scheduled to take place in March 2012. The President reiterated his wish to open his government to all the different political denominations in his country given that the reconstruction of the country needs everybody's contribution. "Together we need to rebuild this country ...the participation of all is needed", he underscored.