The Crisis in Côte d'Ivoire

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The 2010 presidential election between incumbent Laurent Gbagbo and opposition member Alassane Ouattara resulted in a political stalemate and violent conflict after Gbagbo refused to honor the results that declared Ouattara the winner. As of April 2011, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon reported that over 1000 civilians had died as a result of clashes, and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees stated that more than 500,000 Ivoirians were forcibly displaced, and 94,000 Ivoirians fled to neighboring Liberia out of fear of violence. Forces loyal to both Gbagbo and Ouattara were failing to protect civilians and were accused of gross human rights violations that could amount to crimes against humanity. In an effort to protect the people of Côte d'Ivoire from further atrocities, a military operation began on 4 April following a statement by the UN Secretary-General in which he instructed UN Operations in Côte D'Ivoire (UNOCI) to “take the necessary measures to prevent the use of heavy weapons against the civilian population.” Gbagbo’s hold on power ended on April 11, 2011 when he was arrested by Ouattara’s forces after days of fighting with involvement of UNOCI and the French military.

I. 2010 Political & Humanitarian Crisis
Crisis in Côte d'Ivoire

For presidential candidates Laurent Gbagbo and Alassane Ouattara.

Security, the prevention of further human rights abuses, and the delivery of humanitarian aid.

Over 500,000 Ivorians were forcibly displaced, and 94,000 Ivorians fled to neighboring countries.

Liberia is presently hosting the majority of the refugee population.

International human rights organizations urged governments to work towards a peaceful resolution.

On 11 April 2011 following an attack on his residence in Abidjan, Alassane Ouattara was inaugurated as president.

Human rights violations occurred in the aftermath of the election.

The UN Security Council unanimously voted on January 19, 2011 to extend the mandate of UNOCI through June 30, 2011.

The ICRC condemned the attack on civilians, which it stated was carried out by forces loyal to Gbagbo.

The UN called for the International Criminal Court to take action.

The EU Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response called for the African Economic Community to contribute to resolving the crisis.

The AU's Peace and Security Council established a High-Level Panel to identify what preventive and protective measures to use and who could best be established to identify who could best.

The Regional Economic Community responded to with efforts to resolve the crisis.

The report declared that impartial and effective international protection of civilians could be established to identify what preventive and protective measures to use and who could best be established to identify who could best.

The African Union, the United Nations, and the European Union were at odds over the best course of action.

The European Commission to mobilize the African Economic Community to contribute to resolving the crisis.

The AU's Peace and Security Council issued a Communique urging the UN Security Council to strengthen the UNOCI mandate.

The team of independent experts was named by the UN Security Council on March 4 in which it reiterated the AU's urgent appeal to show restraint, and called on parties to comply with human rights law.

The African Union's Peace and Security Council, in its 256th meeting held on 25 March, urged the UN Security Council to strengthen the UNOCI mandate if mediation efforts failed and Ouattara did not assume the presidency.

After months of defying the outcome of the presidential election, Laurent Gbagbo was overthrown in a military coup on 11 April 2011.

The UN Security Council adopted a resolution on December 20, 2010 which extended the mandate of UNOCI through June 30, 2011 and provided additional troops and personnel support to the mission.

The European Commission to mobilize the African Economic Community to contribute to resolving the crisis.

Kristalina Georgieva, the EU Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response, called for the African Economic Community to contribute to resolving the crisis.

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