CONTEXT OF ASYLUM AND INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION IN CÔTE D’IVOIRE
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I - HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

A. FROM 1960 TO 1990, PERIOD OF RELATIVELY MODERATE REFUGEE FLOWS TO CÔTE D'IVOIRE

- GUINEAN REFUGEES, FIRST REFUGEES WELCOMED IN THE CÔTE D'IVOIRE, DUE TO THE POLITICAL CONTEXT IN THIS COUNTRY

- A FEW THOUSAND NIGERIAN REFUGEES, ORIGINALLY FROM THE REGION OF BIAFRA, FLEEING THE CIVIL WAR BETWEEN THIS REGION AND THE NIGERIAN STATE

- REFUGEES FROM CAMBODIA, THE DRC, REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

  OBSERVATION: NO PERMANENT STRUCTURE FOR MANAGING REFUGEES
B. AFTER 1990, PERIOD OF MASSIVE REFUGEE FLOWS TO CÔTE D’IVOIRE

- 1990, CRITICAL YEAR AS CÔTE D’IVOIRE WELCOMES HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF REFUGEES FOR THE FIRST TIME

- 400,000 LIBERIAN REFUGEES FLEEING THE WAR IN LIBERIA

- 45,000 REFUGEES FLEEING THE WAR IN SIERRA LEONE

- DOZENS OF RWANDAN REFUGEES FLEEING THE CIVIL WAR IN RWANDA

- IN 2007, REFUGEE STATUS CESSATION OF CLAUSE FOR SIERRA LEONEANS

- JULY 2012, REFUGEE STATUS CESSATION CLAUSE FOR LIBERIANS

- SINCE PEACE RETURNED TO LIBERIA AND SIERRA LEONE AND THESE TWO CESSATION CLAUSES, WERE IMPLEMENTED, CÔTE D’IVOIRE NOW ONLY HOSTS 1,822 REFUGEES.

**OBSERVATION:** THE MAJORITY OF LIBERIAN REFUGEES WERE HOSTED BY IVORIAN FAMILIES DUE TO THE ETHNIC PROXIMITY BETWEEN THE POPULATIONS OF THE 2 BORDER AREAS
II - OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

- Creation of an Inter-Ministerial Committee in 1990, managed by the Ministry of the Interior, to manage emergencies related to the influx of Liberian refugees
- Creation of the National Committee for Coordination and Support of Liberian Refugees (CNCARL) in 1992, 1st permanent state structure for managing refugees in Côte d'Ivoire
- 1992, seat agreement between Côte d'Ivoire and UNHCR
- Creation of the Department of Aid and Assistance for Refugees and Stateless Persons in 2000

A. LEGAL BASES FOR ASYLUM AND INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION

- Ivorian Constitution of 1st August 2000
- 1951 Geneva Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, ratified on 8 December 1961

Observation: Weakness in our legal framework in this respect due to lack of internal asylum. Solution in progress: draft legislation on asylum in process of being adopted
B. OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES

PRIMA FACIE OR GROUP RECOGNITION
INDIVIDUAL RECOGNITION

FOR INDIVIDUAL RECOGNITION:

- STATUS APPLICATION TO THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON ELIGIBILITY FOR REFUGEE STATUS
- APPEAL TO THE REFUGEE STATUS APPEALS COMMISSION
- APPEALS FOR ULTRA VIRES BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT

**FINAL OBSERVATION:** INTERNAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR ASYLUM AND INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION TO BE COMPLETED
THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND ATTENTION