EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ABIDJAN, CÔTE D'IVOIRE

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF COTE D'IVOIRE

ON COUNTERING FOREIGN STATE INFORMATION MANIPULATION

The Government of the United States of America,

And

The Government of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire,

Hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Stakeholders" and individually the "Stakeholder,"

have reached the following understandings:

I. Purpose

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to define a framework for cooperation between the Stakeholders aimed at reducing the impact of foreign state information manipulation and to building societally and institutionally resilient information ecosystems.

II. Framework for Countering Foreign State Information Manipulation

The Stakeholders affirm the following framework for countering foreign state information manipulation:

1. In order to efficiently counter foreign state information manipulation, the Stakeholders agree to go beyond such strategies as "monitor-and report" approaches to develop and implement strategies to counter this threat.
2. Marshalling and administering a national-level approach to countering foreign state information manipulation benefits from coordinated interagency structures.

3. In order to effectively counter foreign state information manipulation, the Stakeholders envision acquiring the technical means and human capacity needed to maintain awareness of the threat.

4. Civil society, independent media, and academia may play essential roles in supporting and informing government-led initiatives to counter foreign state information manipulation.

5. Multilateral organizations that are leveraging international cooperation to counter and build resilience against foreign state information manipulation are indispensable to alleviating information and capacity gaps across partner nations.

III. Scope

To deepen the Stakeholders' partnership on these challenges, the Stakeholders intend to establish bilateral consultations on the fight against the manipulation of information by foreign States in order to define the direction of future activities.

The Ministry of Communication is responsible for the implementation and operational monitoring of the activities of this Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire.

Activities under this MOU may be mutually decided by the Stakeholders in writing and are expected to be the subject of bilateral consultations.

IV. Amendment

This Memorandum of Understanding may be revised by mutual decision of the Stakeholders by exchange of notes through diplomatic channels.

V. Effective date, Duration, and Discontinuation

This Memorandum of Understanding becomes effective on the date of its signature for a period of two (2) years. It may be discontinued at any time by either Stakeholder, but the discontinuing Stakeholder is expected to give a six-month advanced written notice of their intent to discontinue. The Stakeholders may extend the duration of this MOU by mutual written decision.

This Memorandum of Understanding does not create any rights or obligations under international law. All actions to be carried out within the framework of this Memorandum of Understanding are subject to the availability of funds provided for this purpose.

The Stakeholders intend to exchange information under this MoU in accordance with their respective laws, regulations, and policies.

The Stakeholders intend that any information exchanged under this MoU would be provided with an expectation of confidentiality and should not be disclosed outside of the receiving Stakeholder's government, save where disclosure is otherwise required by the receiving Stakeholder's domestic law.

Signed at .....Abidjan.....on the.....29 AVR 2024.....in two original copies in French and English, both texts being equally official.

For the Government of the
United States of America

Jessica Davis Ba
Ambassador, Embassy Abidjan
U.S. Department of State

For the Government of the
Republic of Côte d'Ivoire

Kacou Houadja Léon Adom
Minister of Foreign Affairs,
African Integration, and Ivorians Abroad