

# IRC News

033 - November 2009

**Information Resource  
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## TABLE OF CONTENT

Book Program	p. 2
Immersion	p. 3
Co.Nx Webchat	p. 4
Workshop on Web 2.0	P.5
Coming soon	p. 6



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On Thursday, November 19, 2009, PAS Abidjan organized a panel discussion based on the French version of the Nouveaux Horizons book titled *'Primal Leadership'*. This program gathered seventy-six attendees, including corporate executives, NGO leaders, government officials, teachers and researchers, associations of young entrepreneurs, students, and Media professionals. PAO, Sita Liane Chakrawarti welcomed the participants and encouraged them to seize the opportunity to commit in the discussion because of the accuracy of the topic. The panelists Mr. Kra Eugene, Executive of a private business company, Mr. Séraphin Koua, Founder of an International Business School, Mr. Yao Kouakou Ronsard, Counselor of the Minister of Interior, and Dr. Touré-Diabaté Ténin, Teacher and Researcher at the University of Cocody, clearly outlined the book according to three main parts:

The power of emotional intelligence,  
Making Leaders,  
Building Emotionally Intelligent  
Organizations.

The panelists' presentations revealed essential rewarding strategies demonstrated in the book. They displayed four leadership styles as well as visionary, coaching, partnering, and democratic types of leadership. They deciphered the emotional intelligence spheres and related leadership aptitudes such as self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, and relationship management. They stated that according to the authors, good leaders are inclined to improve through training and learning better leadership skills. This embraces identifying oneself through score values and beliefs, discovering how one appears to others, making plans according to priorities, and practicing new skills to produce change.

## BOOK OF THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER





## Immersion Session with the College International Sainte Camille

On November 25, the IRC received 50 students and educators from a high school 'College Sainte Camille' for an immersion session. After her welcome address, the PAO Sita Liane Chakrawarti exchanged with the students on Leadership and Democracy. The students appreciated it and said they took advantage from this live discussion. The IRC carried on with a conference on the French version of 'Elements of learning' from the Nouveaux Horizons collection. She focused on strategies of a winning education career. The attendees were delighted to discover successful learning tips and reliable resources available for public use in the IRC.

During the guided tour in the IRC, the students were amazed by the youth collection. They took the opportunity to apply for the IRC membership card and visit and register on the IRC facebook home page. PAS presented 50 copies of the French version of the e-journal "Campus connection" and a set of pamphlets to the participants.



## Co.Nx WEBCHAT

PAO Sita Liane Chakrawarti



delivering the welcome address



### ‘Ivorian Women Journalists Pledge to Fight for their Rights’

Ivorian women journalists attending an IIP Webchat conference on “challenges facing women journalists” vowed to fight for their rights. The program, which was organized by PAS Abidjan on November 9, 2009, brought together about 20 professional journalists (including two former IVs), journalism students, and representatives from JCI -- an international NGO. The program featured Chouchou Namegabe Nabintu, a Congolese self-taught radio journalist and 2009 Knight International Journalism Award Winner.

In a brief opening remark, PAO Sita Liane Chakrawarti underscored that, though the topic exclusively focused on the challenges facing women journalists, it was important to use the occasion to address problems that other women encounter in their various professions. The participants spent one hour sharing their experiences on how to overcome difficulties -- including gender-based inequalities - and advance their careers as women.

After the webchat, participants in Abidjan engaged in a dynamic discussion on their profession. The issues were how to break down gender barriers and discrimination in the press room. They also raised questions and concerns about balancing work and home, the often conflicting personal and professional demands they have to deal with in balancing assignments and family needs. Encouragement, understanding, and good advice were exchanged throughout the program. But the non-journalist participants suggested that women journalists should take up the challenge and fight for their rights instead of blaming the situation on others. They also advised the journalists to come together to articulate and campaign for their rights. In response, the journalists attending the program committed to reviving and reinforcing the existing women journalists’ associations -- including Cote d’Ivoire’s Women Journalists [created in 2006 with the support of the U.S. Embassy in Abidjan] – in a bid to campaign for their rights.

## WORKSHOP ON WEB 2.0

On November 30, 2009, PAS Abidjan organized a workshop on 'Social Medias' with an emphasis on social networking. This workshop, intended to strengthen Information Specialists and Media Professionals' capacity to use the new media tools, is the third session of a series of three training programs on 'Web 2.0'. Eighteen participants from public and private media outlets, libraries, and information resource centers attended the training session. The PAO, Ms. Sita Liane Chakrawarti in her welcome and opening remarks encouraged the participants to grab the opportunity to capitalize their knowledge on this significant emerging information and communication tool. The trainer, IRO Myra Brown started with a PowerPoint presentation explaining and providing social Medias websites including podcasting, tagging, syndication, wikis, YouTube, online photos collection websites, and the 23 Things program of learning Web 2.0. She exposed the advantages relating to New Medias use as a cost-effective marketing device for Information Specialists and Medias Professionals. She provided them with tips and tools to create and

publish podcasts using the free online software, Audacity, an easy-to-use audio editor and recorder.

The highlight of the workshop was the group sessions during which the trainer assisted the participants in creating podcasts. The participants highly valued the workshop expressing their gratitude to the US mission for granting them an exceptional opportunity to learn about the new technology of information and communication latest developments. They acknowledged that this inspiring and empowering training will positively impact their information management ability and systems. The PAO in her closing address congratulated the participants for their contribution to the success of the workshop and invited them to use the New Medias tools to contribute to the strengthening of the freedom of expression and democracy in Côte d'Ivoire. When receiving their certificates, the President of the Association of Information Professionals (APSID-CI) on the behalf of the trainees, extended her appreciation to the trainer and the PAO for making this workshop happen.



IRO Myra M. Brown and PAO Sita L. Chakrawarti



Partial view of the Participants



## COMING SOON!!!

**December 02** – Conference - ‘Youth against AIDS’

**December 03** – Workshop - The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People

**December 04** – Conference – History of Black Music

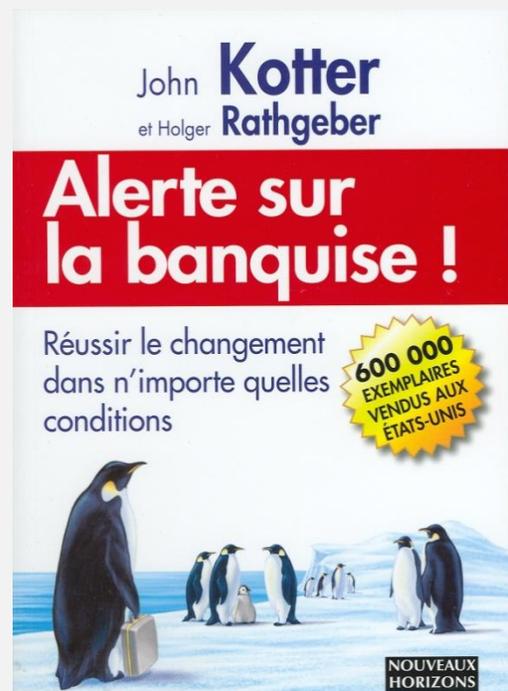
**December 07-11** – Outreach Trip to the North

**December 09** – Immersion Session with the University of Atlantic

**December 17** – Celebrating the 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the IRC

- Young Readers program with l’Ardoise
- Economic Information
- American Libraries
- Scientific Information
- Book of the Year – Our Iceberg is Melting

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