



REPORT

INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF DIFFRACTOMETERS AND OPENLAB

ABIDJAN: MARCH 22-30, 2018

I) Context

The UN has proclaimed 2014, International Year of Crystallography. Côte d'Ivoire was among the countries chosen to host the commemorative events. To this end, the Félix Houphouët-Boigny University, under the cover of the Laboratory of Crystallography and Molecular Physics, has benefited, thanks to the Africa Initiative of the International Union of Crystallography, in collaboration with Bruker society and UNESCO, a single crystal diffractometer and a powder diffractometer. This acquisition makes Côte d'Ivoire a pole of excellence for West Africa. The inauguration of the devices followed by an Openlab on the theory and practice of crystallography, took place in Abidjan from March 22 to 30, 2018. On this occasion, eminent crystallographers including the 2011 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, Professor Dan SHECHTMAN, were given lectures on the theme: Crystallography and Development: What impact for Africa?

The European Crystallography Association (ECA), which works for the development of crystallography in Europe but also on other continents, has supported us in this policy by awarding a scholarship worth \$ 1,620 to help young students to participate in courses on the crystallography that will be given from March 26 to 31, 2018. We are very grateful to the European Crystallography Association (ECA), which through this grant has allowed young Africans to meet and strengthen their capacities in this transversal discipline that Crystallography.

Professors Abodou Jules TENON (Côte d'Ivoire) and Claude LECOMTE (France) co-organized this event with the help of others partners.

II) Moral Balance

Inaugural lectures on the theme "Crystallography and Development: What Impact for Africa?", the inauguration of the diffractometers and the Openlab were a success. Indeed, the lectures delivered met the expectations of academics, researchers, students and civil society figures present. The inauguration revealed an operational room. Six measurements were made on the single crystal diffractometer and as many on the powder

diffractometer. Structural determinations for single crystals and phase characterization for powder compounds were made. The original compounds will be published. The Openlab courses were attended with diligence by the participants.

It was originally planned for twenty Ivorian participants and twenty participants from different African countries. Some candidates who were selected could not come to this event for lack of financial means complementary to the purse that was promised to them. They have been replaced by Ivorian participants.

III) List of participants

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IV) Financial resources

Financial resources for the organization of this event include two components. The first part concerns the donations made by the European partners and the second part concerns the income made available by Côte d'Ivoire.

Tableau 3 : Dons faits par les partenaires non ivoiriens

	UNESCO	IUCr	ECA	AsCA	LACA	ACA
Montant en Euros	3248	4060	1620	750	500	2212

This contribution of European partners gives a total of 12,390 euros. This sum was used to pay the scholarship of non-Ivorian participants and the reimbursement (flight and hotel expenses) of Professor Dan SHECHTMAN, Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2011.

V) Some pictures of the event



Picture 1: Overview of lecturers and openlab participants



Picture 2: Professor Sylvain RAVY at the conference



Picture 3: Professor Simon CONNELL at the conference



Picture 4: From left to right, professors Claude LECOMTE, Abodou Jules TENON and Dan SHECHTMAN after the inauguration of the diffraction room



Picture 5: Professor Dan SHECHTMAN next to the KCCD diffractometer



Picture 6: Overview of openlab participants