

## **A delegation from FAI visits a community health center**

**A team led by the Founding President and the Director of the Board of Directors of the AMAN-International Foundation visited the community-based health center of Aboboté**

**Abidjan-Abobo (01.09.2009) - A delegation from the AMAN-International Foundation (FAI) paid a guided visit to the Community-based Urban Health Center (FSUCOM) of Aboboté, a village in the municipality of Abobo located in the northern part of Abidjan, in order to get a better understanding of its realities and difficulties and to exchange with its managers.**

The visit to the "Formation Sanitaire Urbaine à base Communautaire" of Aboboté (FSUCOM-Aboboté) follows a request addressed to FAI by the President of the Board of Directors of FSUCOM, Yves KOUTOUAN, on his own behalf and on behalf of the customary chieftaincy of Aboboté to request a meeting with the Founding President, Marie Ginette AMANI, and the Director of the Board of Directors of the AMAN-International Foundation Dr. h. c. Bernd-Dieter FRIDRICH, on the occasion of his official visit to Côte d'Ivoire in order to show them the realities and working conditions of their health center.

The FAI delegation was warmly welcomed by the administrative staff of FSUCOM headed by the President of its Board of Directors and by a delegation of the customary chiefs led by the Chief of the village of Aboboté, Ahouanan Paul AMANHO.

In his speech, Yves KOUTOUAN first welcomed the FAI delegation before presenting the history of this health training center which opened its first buildings in 2005. He presented FSUCOM which houses a dispensary, a dental surgery, a maternity ward, an infirmary, an ultrasound service, a gynaecology service and a pharmacy.

He then explained that these different services suffer from acute under-equipment and that the few medical devices and materials they have are in a pitiful state and very outdated. Worse, he noted, the FSUCOM does not have an ambulance, emergency cases are evacuated by means of cab meters unsuitable, sometimes causing loss of human life. He also presented a list of grievances to his visitors from the FAI.

The Chief of the village of Aboboté took the floor to express his thanks and gratitude to the Founding President, the Director of the Board of Directors and the entire FAI team for its support and significant actions already carried out in the direction of FSUCOM, of which it is a partner.

On 14 October 2007, FAI renovated FSUCOM and embellished its environmental spaces with the help of FAI's Humanitarian Corps, which participated by lending a helping hand to this FAI action in favor of FSUCOM.

The Chief of the village of Aboboté then presented the needs of the village for road infrastructure.

In his address to his hosts, Professor Dr. h. c. Bernd-Dieter FRIDRICH recounted his joy at being in Côte d'Ivoire, not only for an official invitation on the occasion of a distinction by the Ivorian State, but also and above all for a prospecting mission on behalf of German companies and other countries wishing to invest in Côte d'Ivoire in this post-crisis period. He thanked his hosts for the warm welcome and congratulated the FSUCOM officials for the partnership with FAI.

He expressed the shock he felt at the sight of the insalubrity in the city of Abidjan in general and in the direct environment of FSUCOM where there is a strong presence of stray and unhappy animals; he stressed that he had taken note of the various complaints.

The series of speeches was closed by Marie Ginette AMANI who thanked the managers of FSUCOM and the customary chiefs for their warm welcome and particularly for the cleanliness inside the FSUCOM complex despite the insalubrious environment outside.

After these different interventions, Yves KOUTOUAN invited the FAI delegation to a guided tour of the different departments of FSUCOM where the visitors were deeply touched by the dilapidated state of its materials and equipment.

This guided tour was closed by a cocktail offered by FSUCOM to the guests.