

**General Assembly  
Security Council**

Distr.: General  
4 August 2009  
English  
Original: French

**General Assembly**  
**Sixty-fourth session**  
Item 104 of the provisional agenda\*  
**Crime prevention and criminal justice**

**Security Council**  
**Sixty-fourth year**

**Letter dated 28 July 2009 from the Permanent Representative of  
Guinea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

Upon instructions from the Government of the Republic of Guinea, I have the honour to bring to your attention the following:

1. As part of the intense fight being waged by the Government of Guinea against drug cartels and their connection to national and international crime, during the period 14 to 25 July 2009, representatives of the Ministry in charge of special services and the fight against drugs and organized crime discovered in several sites in Conakry, the capital, significant quantities of toxic chemical products which had been illegally imported and transferred.
2. These chemical products were analyzed at the Quality Control Laboratory and were found to be extremely dangerous and to have a toxic effect on the health of the population near the storage sites. They are considered to be precursors used in the manufacture of explosives and narcotics (see annex).
3. The stockpiles of materials and chemical products and the pipes stored in various places are indicative, moreover, of a criminal intent to establish large-scale clandestine laboratories in Guinea for the manufacture and potential large-scale illegal distribution of drugs.
4. Since the Republic of Guinea has limited capacity and resources to combat drugs, it urgently appeals through the Secretary-General of the Organization to the international community, and in particular to the relevant United Nations programmes and bodies for the emergency implementation of effective support for Guinea in this critical phase of its peaceful and consensual evolution towards the holding of free and democratic legislative and presidential elections before the end of 2009.
5. The Guinean authorities are counting on the support of United Nations officials and bodies to counter drug trafficking and other criminal and terrorist activities, in order to rid Guinea of these chemical products, which are a continuing source of pollution and a threat to public health during the current rainy season.

\* A/64/150.



The Government of Guinea would be grateful if you could have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 104 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Alpha Ibrahima **Sow**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

**Annex to the letter dated 28 July 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Guinea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

Analysis report  
Ministry of Public Health and Hygiene  
National Public Health Institute

Republic of Guinea  
Labour-Justice-Solidarity

Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry  
(National Quality Control Laboratory)

Conakry, 20 July 2009

**Technical Regulatory Analysis Report**

In reference to seven samples of chemical products found on 15 July 2009 by the State Secretariat for Special Services and the Fight against Drugs and Organized Crime at two distribution sites near the sea in the GBessia Port and Yimbaya Port districts.

The samples were of the following chemical products:

1. Methyl ethyl ketone
2. Acetone
3. Ammonia 24.5 per cent
4. Hexane isomers
5. Sodium carbonate
6. Organic fertilizer
7. Methyl chloride

**RESULTS**

**1. FINDINGS**

**1.1 Methyl/ethyl/ketone**

Weight: 270 kg  
Volume: 337.5 l (density d=0.80)  
Date manufactured: No date  
Expiration date: None  
Country of origin: Abidjan/Côte d'Ivoire  
Lot No: No number  
Packaging: Metal casks  
Label: skull and crossbones, the word "poison" and underneath:

IMCO. 6,1 UN 1593; AI/XI.8/250/07;  
B/BLO-852003;  
149N/13:04;

On the stopper the words "Please empty completely" followed by the instruction "protect nature" in German, English and French.

**1.2 Acetone**

Weight: 160 kg  
Physical form: Liquid

Volume: 161,616 l (density d=0.99)  
Date manufactured: 09/2008  
Expiration date: None  
Country of origin: Abidjan/Côte d'Ivoire  
Lot No: 04026  
Packaging: Metal casks  
Label: "Flammable" and the following:

IMCO: 3 UNNR.1090  
1,65  
V8 11/0333/05/FE 40  
UNI AI/X/250/07

Polychimie Abidjan/Côte d'Ivoire

Printed on the stopper the words "Please empty completely", followed by the instruction "protect nature" in German, English and French.

#### 1.3 Hexane isomers

Net weight: 137 kg  
Physical form: Liquid  
Volume: 207,57 l (density d=0.66)  
Date manufactured: 09/2008  
Expiration date: EXP N/A  
Country of origin: Abidjan/Côte d'Ivoire  
Lot No: 64041  
Packaging: Metal casks  
Label: "Flammable" and the following:  
Polychimie Abidjan/Côte d'Ivoire

IMCO: 3 UN1208  
UN1 A1/Y1.4/150/NL  
JO: 08/RL 259  
1A1/X1, 5/250/03

Printed on the stopper the words "Please empty completely", followed by the instruction "protect nature" in German, English and French.

#### 1.4 Organic fertilizer

Net weight: 40 kg  
Volume: Powder  
Colour: Cement  
Date manufactured: No date  
Expiration date: None  
Country of origin: Not specified  
Lot No: No number  
Packaging: Cream-coloured paper bearing the words "Compostion garantizada"  

Nitrogen N	12 per cent
Phosphorous P2O5	9 per cent
Potassium K2O	20 per cent
Calcium Ca	10 per cent
Magnesium Mo	4 per cent

Iron Fo 0.9 per cent  
Copper Co 2530 ppm  
Manganese Mn 85 ppm  
Zinc Zo 176 ppm  
Peso al ampacar (weight at time of packing): 40 kg

220204.19A

SP@LAS

Tel 417222 LIC FAB No. 1643

1.5 Sodium carbonate

Net weight: 40 kg  
Physical form: powder  
Colour: snow white  
Date manufactured: No date  
Expiration: No date  
Country of origin: Not specified  
Lot No: None  
Packaging: white paper bearing the following words: "irritant"

207-838-8

EC-LABEL

000 :31.24 :06 :08

1.6 Ammonia 24.5 per cent

Volume: 25 litres  
Physical form: Fuming liquid, highly corrosive  
Date manufactured: No date  
Expiration date: None  
Country of origin: Not specified  
Lot No: No number  
Packaging: black PVC drums  
UN2672

1.7 Methyl chloride

Weight: 270 kg  
Physical form: Liquid  
Volume: 203,00 l (density 1.33)  
Date manufactured: 09/2008  
Expiration date: None  
Country of origin: Abidjan/Côte d'Ivoire  
Lot No: 64041  
Packaging: Metal casks  
Label: Skull and crossbones, the word "poison" and underneath  
Polychimie S A Abidjan/Côte d'Ivoire  
IMCO: 6.1 UN.1593

2. INTERPRETATION

At the request of the State Secretariat for Special Services and the Fight against Drugs and Organized Crime, acting on instructions from the Minister of Public Health and Hygiene, the National Quality Control Laboratory analysed the chemical products and made the following observations:

- The place where the products were stored and the conditions under which they were stored are not conducive to practical sampling (handling is dangerous);
- The covers of the casks containing methyl/ethyl/ketone, acetone, hexane isomers and methyl chloride all have a picture of a masked man wearing protective gear;
- Clearly printed on these same covers is the following warning: “Please empty container completely” followed by the instruction: “Protect nature” written in German, English and French;
- According to written instructions, when these products are manufactured industrially, the entire system is sealed off so as to ensure that the workers have no contact with the products — this is to ensure their safety;
- On the casks, the most important markings, following the name of the chemical, are the following:
  1. Skull and crossbones, followed by the word “poison”
  2. Flammable
  3. Please empty completely
  4. Protect nature (in German, English and French)
  5. Sodium carbonate is followed by the warning “irritant”, “resembles cooking salt” with all the consequences that this may have when it falls into the hands of the population;
- Ammonia 24.5 per cent is fuming, corrosive, toxic and dangerous;
- Organic fertilizer contains various elements and its packaging resembles cement.

Nitrogen N 12 per cent, phosphorous P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> 9 per cent, Potassium K<sub>2</sub>O 20 per cent, Calcium Ca 10 per cent

Magnesium Mo 4 per cent, Iron Fe .9 per cent, Copper Co 2530 ppm, Manganese Mn 85 ppm, Zinc Zn 176 ppm.

All these dangerous products are synthesized in order to make other laboratory products in accordance with the regulations.

They can also be used to make explosives; since hexane isomers, acetone, methyl/ethyl/ketone, methyl chloride and ammonia are powerful organic solvents used both for extraction and for purification of such things as essential oils, the fact that they were found together suggests that the plan was to manufacture drugs. They are also called precursors in the manufacture of drugs in the context of clandestine laboratories. Moreover, the second storage place (Yimbaya port) is an operating clandestine laboratory; the fact that an arsenal of materials and chemical products were found on this site testifies to this. Moreover, the fact that pipes were being stored in a shop at Gbessia port suggests that there were plans to set up clandestine laboratories on a large scale.

### 3. CONCLUSION

The chemicals analysed by the National Quality Control Laboratory at the request of the State Secretariat for Special Services and the Fight against Drugs and Organized

Crime, acting on instructions from the Minister of Public Health and Hygiene, are dangerous products, which have a highly toxic effect on the health of the population near the storage sites; the fact that they were all found in strange places, suggests that the major international drug manufacturing and trafficking and explosives manufacturing cartels have networks in the area.

Their presence in these populated areas poses a major threat to the health of the inhabitants; the latter may be exposed to fumes which may lead to chronic poisoning (incurable cancers ...).

These chemicals are precursors in the manufacture of drugs and explosives by clandestine laboratories. This poses a real threat for the entire country (drug addiction, organized crime and terrorism) and should be taken seriously.

(Signed) Dr. Thierno Fatoumata Oury **Diallo**  
Director of the Laboratory

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