

Friday 15 March 2019

**Joint press release on the 2nd session
of the Bilateral Commission for Cooperation between
the Republic of Mali and the Principality of Monaco**

As part of efforts to strengthen friendship and cooperation between the Republic of Mali and the Principality of Monaco, the second Bilateral Commission for Cooperation was held on 15 March 2019 in Monaco.

The Malian delegation* was led by H.E. Ms Kamissa Camara, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

The Monegasque delegation** was led by Mr Gilles Tonelli, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation.

At the opening of the Commission, the two delegation heads hailed the excellence and exemplary nature of the friendly relations and cooperation between the two governments and welcomed the positive outcomes of joint actions undertaken since 2006.

H.E. Ms Camara and Mr Tonelli emphasised the pressing need to work to preserve and strengthen this friendship and cooperation between the peoples of Mali and Monaco.

In his opening speech, Mr Tonelli outlined the way in which development aid had changed since the signature of a framework agreement between the two nations in 2011. Monaco's Official Development Assistance currently focuses on four priority areas of intervention: health, food security, education and socio-economic inclusion, and six flagship programmes – malaria control, efforts to combat sickle-cell disease, support for vulnerable children, support for civil protection, child nutrition and job creation.

Over the last three years, Monaco's intervention has been fully consistent with the guidelines of Mali's Strategic Framework for Economic Recovery and Sustainable Development (CREDD). Assistance from the Prince's Government has made it possible to improve living conditions for 136,000 people, and has primarily targeted children, young people and women.

In her speech, H.E. Ms Camara thanked the Monegasque Government and people for their support for development projects. She also said that she had *"very much appreciated the fact that Monaco's Official Development Assistance had demonstrated true humanism and solidarity through dialogue and mutual respect."* In addition, referring to the meeting between the private sectors of the two countries held in the margins of the Commission, H.E. Ms Camara urged the parties to explore ways and means of setting up a genuine partnership.

During the course of the Commission, the Malian side gave a presentation on CREDD 2019–2023 and outlined the implementation status of the Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in Mali, which resulted from the Algiers Process.

The two sides also discussed prospects for cooperation in fighting sickle-cell disease, and on food security and job creation.

The Bilateral Commission for Cooperation was held in a convivial atmosphere characterised by friendship and mutual respect.

Direction de la Communication

10, Quai Antoine 1er - BP 458

Tel: (+377) 98 98 22 22

Fax: (+377) 98 98 22 15

presse@gouv.mc

www.gouv.mc

Following their discussions, the two sides signed two memoranda of understanding on civil protection and support for vulnerable children.

Bilateral cooperation between Monaco and Mali began in 2006. It was strengthened in 2011 by the signature of a framework cooperation agreement during the state visit to Monaco of former Malian President Amadou Toumani Toure and, in 2012, the visit of H.S.H. the Sovereign Prince to Mali for the first meeting of the Bilateral Commission.

**: The Malian delegation comprised:*

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

- H.E. Ms Kamissa Camara, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
- H.E. Mr Ambassador Mandjou Berthe, Director for Europe
- Mr Abdoulaye Tounkara, Technical Advisor
- Mr Mahamadou Zibo Maiga, Technical Advisor
- Mr Aboubakar Dolo, First Counsellor at the Embassy of Mali in Paris
- Mr Mohamed Doumbia, Chargé de Mission
- Mr Illili Hamada, Focal Point for Monaco

Ministry of Internal Security and Civil Protection

- Colonel Tiecoura Samake, Deputy Director of Civil Protection

***: The Monegasque delegation comprised:*

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation

- Mr Gilles Tonelli, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation
- Ms Bénédicte Schutz, Director of International Cooperation
- Ms Anne Poyard-Vatrican, Deputy Director of International Cooperation
- Ms Emilie Silvestre, Division Head, Department of International Cooperation
- Ms Candice Manuello, Programme Manager for Mali, Department of International Cooperation

Ministry of the Interior

- Mr Patrice Cellario, Minister of the Interior
- Colonel Tony Varo, Supreme Commander of the Military Force
- Lieutenant-Colonel Norbert Fassiaux, Chief Officer of the Monaco Fire & Emergency Service
- Mr Christophe Prat, Director General of the Ministry of the Interior
- Ms Isabelle Bonnal, Director of Education, Youth and Sport
- Ms Delphine Battaglia-Constantini, Head of Mission at the Department of Education, Youth and Sport

Consulate of Monaco in Mali

- Mr Mossadeck Bally, Honorary Consul of Monaco in Mali
- Ms Cécile Dakouo, Country Coordinator

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