



SEMINAR ON 'INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR THE SAHEL STATES: CHALLENGES, ISSUES AND PROSPECTS'

Peacekeeping School
Ecole de Maintien
de la Paix
Alioune Blondin BEYE
de Bamako

EMP-NEWS
OCTOBRE 2024

From Tuesday 22 to Thursday 23 October 2024, the Alioune Blondin Bèye Peacekeeping School (EMP-ABB) held a high-level international seminar in its conference room on the theme of '**International Cooperation for the Sahel States: Challenges, Issues and Perspectives**'.

The seminar was chaired by **Major General Abdoulaye MAIGA**, Minister of Territorial Administration and Decentralization (MATD), with **His Excellency Mr Abdoulaye DIOP**, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, **His Excellency Dr Dr Dietrich POHL**, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Mali, and **Colonel Souleymane SANGARE**, Director General of the Alioune Blondin BEYE Peacekeeping School, at his side.



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Contexte.

Le Sahel fait face depuis des décennies à des mutations d'ordre sécuritaire, démographique, climatique, technologique, social et humanitaire dont certaines sont qualifiées de réversibles et d'autres d'irréversibles. Plusieurs de ces mutations sont en cours depuis la période coloniale et n'ont jamais été traitées de manière efficace et durable au bénéfice des populations et des États du Sahel.

Objectif Global :

Le présent séminaire visait à approfondir la réflexion sur les défis, les enjeux et les perspectives d'une coopération internationale bénéfique pour les États du Sahel.

Objectifs spécifiques :

De manière spécifique, il s'agissait de :

- Analyser les mutations en cours au Sahel et leur impact sur la coopération internationale ;
- Identifier les enjeux et les défis d'une coopération internationale bénéfique pour les États du Sahel ;
- Déterminer les opportunités pour une coopération internationale bénéfique pour les États du Sahel.

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After a high-flying inaugural lecture given by His Excellency Minister DIOP, the seminar was enriched by several panels which brought together, over 3 days of fruitful exchanges, national and international experts on themes encompassing international cooperation, the changes underway in the Sahel and their impact on international cooperation, as well as the strategies that could be adopted.

The five (05) panels were developed as follows :

Panel 1: Moderated by Dr Mariam Sidibe, lecturer and researcher, the panel focused on the theme of 'Current changes in the Sahel and their impact on international cooperation'. This panel developed the following sub-themes :

- *'Current changes in the Sahel: what should we remember? by H.E. Sékou dit Gaoussou CISSE, Director of the Europe Department at MAECI, Mali ;*
- 'International cooperation in the Sahel before and after the current transitional regimes' by Professor Nouhoun Salif MOUNKORO, teacher-researcher ;
- *The impact of change on international cooperation in the Sahel' by H.E. Mr Moulaye Aly Kalil ASCOFARE, Magistrate, Foreign Affairs Adviser.*



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Panel 2 : The theme of the conference was 'Beneficial international cooperation for the Sahel States: definitions of concepts, issues, challenges and opportunities', and it was chaired by **Professor Sidi Lamine BAGAYOKO**. It covered the following sub-themes :

- 'Determinants of beneficial international cooperation for the Sahel States,' by **Professor Kader A. ABDERRAHIM**, Lecturer and researcher at Science Po, Paris ;
- 'International cooperation to benefit the Sahel States: what are the issues and challenges?' by **H.E. Mr Mamadou NIMAGA**, Diplomat ;
- 'Beneficial international cooperation for the Sahel States: what opportunities are there?' by **H.E. Mr Kanisson COULIBALY**, Director of Multilateral Cooperation MAECI, Mali.

Panel 3 : On the theme of 'The strategies to be adopted for beneficial international cooperation for the Sahel States', it was moderated by **Mr Salif SANOGO**, former Director General of ORTM, and set out as follows :

- '*National players: what would be the best strategy?*' by **Mrs MAIGA Sina DAMBA**, Vice-President of the Mines, Energy and Water Commission of the National Transition Council (CNT) of Mali, former Minister for the Promotion of Women, Children and the Family of Mali ;
- 'Confederation of Sahel States: what strategies should be adopted?' by **Mr Boubacar Hamidou**, Director of Recovery and Stabilisation, High Authority for Peacebuilding (HACP) Niger.



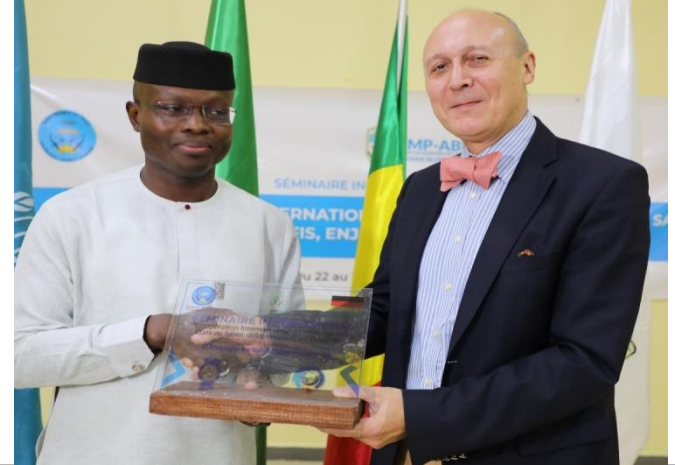
CHALLENGES, ISSUES AND PROSPECTS'

The **Panel 4**: moderated by **Mr Oumarou Paul KOALAGA**, Founder-Manager of the Institute of Strategies and International Relations (ISRI), was on the theme of 'ECOWAS and the Confederation of Sahel States: antagonism or complementarity? He addressed the following sub-themes :

- 'ECOWAS and the Confederation of Sahel States: challenges of collaboration in a context of crisis', by **Dr Aboubacrine AGUISSA**, Director General of the Migration Information and Management Centre ;
- 'What possible place for the Confederation of Sahel States in the Peace and Security architecture of the African Union? by **General Aimé Barthélémy SIMPORE**, Director General of the National Centre for Strategic Studies (CNES), Burkina Faso ;
- 'ECOWAS and the Confederation of Sahel States: what strategy for efficient collaboration? by **H.E. Mr Mahamane Amadou MAIGA**, Former Ambassador of Mali to ECOWAS.

Panel 5 : on the theme of 'Examples of beneficial international cooperation for the Sahel States', moderated by **Mrs Assétou Founé SAMAKE MIGAN**, Former Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research of Mali. It was developed as follows :

- 'The case of Burkina Faso', by **H.E. Mr Alban YAMEOGO**, Director of African Sub-Regional Organizations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Cooperation and Burkina Faso Nationals Living Abroad (Burkina Faso) ;
- 'The case of Mali', by **H.E. Mr Sékou dit Gaoussou CISSE**, Director of the Europe Department MAECI, Mali.





CONS-PAIX 1-24

Peacebuilding
(CONS-PAIX)

Date and Location

23 Sep - 04 Oct 2024
EMP-ABB (Bamako, MALI)

Founding
Germany

Beneficiaries

Integrated Course (Civilians-Military-Police)
24 trainees
including 06 women

Objective

To provide practical, multi-disciplinary training in the field of peacebuilding with a view to improving participants' knowledge and/or preparing them for deployment.



POC 2-24

Protection of civilians
(POC)

Date and Location

23 Sept - 04 Oct. 2024
EMP-ABB (Bamako, Mali)

Founding
Netherlands

Beneficiaries

Stage intégré (Civils- Militaires-Policiers)
26 trainees
including 05 women

Objective

Highlight the complex relationships between protection tasks and clarify the role and responsibilities of each actor within peace missions in implementing the mandate to protect civilians.



RSS 1-24 Level 2

Security Sector Reform
(RSS 2)

Date and Location

23 Sept - 04 Oct 2024
EMP-ABB (Bamako, MALI)

Founding

Netherlands

Beneficiaries

Integrated Course (Civilians-Military-Police)
24 trainees
including 02 women

Objective

To present the strategy and practices used in the field of HSR and to develop among participants the skills needed to undertake an assessment and launch an HSR programme.



DIH 6-24

International Humanitarian Law
(DIH)

Date and Location

07 - 18 Octobre 2024
EMP-ABB (Bamako, Mali)

Founding

Netherlands

Beneficiaries

Integrated Course (Civilians-Military-Police)
24 trainees
including 06 women

Objective

Strengthen the capacities of civilian, military and police trainees in relation to the obligations contained in the instruments of International Humanitarian Law.

Partnership Activities of the Month

04/10/24 – UCAO / GUINEA – Friendship and courtesy visit by **Father Professor Clément LONAH**, Director of Research and Cooperation ;

09/10/24 – UNITAR – Courtesy visit by Mr Frank BORCHERS, Head of the UNITAR Office in Bonn ;

10/10/24 – CNES/BF – Signing of an agreement between National Centre for Strategic Studies (CNES) and EMP-ABB ;

10/10/24 – BSIC – Visit from Mr Robert Demba N'DAW, Managing Director of the Sahel-Saharan Bank for Investment and Trade, to discuss new avenues for collaboration ;

14/10/24 – SUISSE / DCAF – Discussions with Ms Chrystelle Melly (Human Security Adviser, Swiss Cooperation Office) and Mr Aboubacar Thera of the DCAF as part of the strengthening of tripartite cooperation between the structures ;

15/10/24 – MALI – Courtesy and exchange visit with Mrs SANOGO Aminata MALLE, Mediator of the French Republic, to identify possible areas of cooperation ;

15/10/24 – MAROC – Visit from Colonel Hicham Alaoui ISMAILI, Defence Attaché at the Moroccan Embassy ;

17/10/24 – Burkina Faso – Courtesy visit by H.E. Mrs Julienne DEMBELE/SANON, Ambassador of Burkina Faso to Mali ;

21/10/24 – DCAF – Courtesy visit by Mr Oswald Padonou, Head of the DCAF Mali Office ;

23/10/24 – USA – Courtesy visit by H.E. Rachna S. Korhonen, US Ambassador to Mali.



28th Edition : « The Malian crisis and geopolitical changes in the G5 Sahel »



On Thursday October 31, the Alioune Blondin-BEYE Peacekeeping School, through its Sahel-Saharan Analysis and Research Centre (**CARESS**), held the 27th edition of its reading club in the CARESS documentation room.

The book highlighted for this 28th edition is by Mr Aboubakar DOLO, Analyst in International Strategy. It is entitled «**The Malian crisis and geopolitical changes in the G5 Sahel**».

The aim of this book is to explain what is at stake in a new partnership in the fight against terrorism through the establishment of a collective security mechanism: the G5 Sahel and its Joint Force. It also looks at the complexity of the crisis facing Mali in particular, and the Sahel as a whole in general.

After a detailed presentation of the book by the author, the question-and-answer session enabled participants to contribute to the discussions and gain an in-depth understanding of the issue.

The Reading Club brought together members of CARESS and members of the Club made up of researchers, doctoral students and auditors from CARESS masters courses, who enriched the debates with their contributions.



Promotions OCTOBER 2024

EMP-ABB



Peacebuilding (CONS-PAIX)
EMP-ABB
September 23 - October 04

Promotions OCTOBER 2024 EMP-ABB



Protection of civilians (POC)
EMP-ABB
September 23 - October 04

Promotions OCTOBER 2024 EMP-ABB



**Security Sector Reform Level 2 (RSS 2)
EMP-ABB
September 23 - October 04**

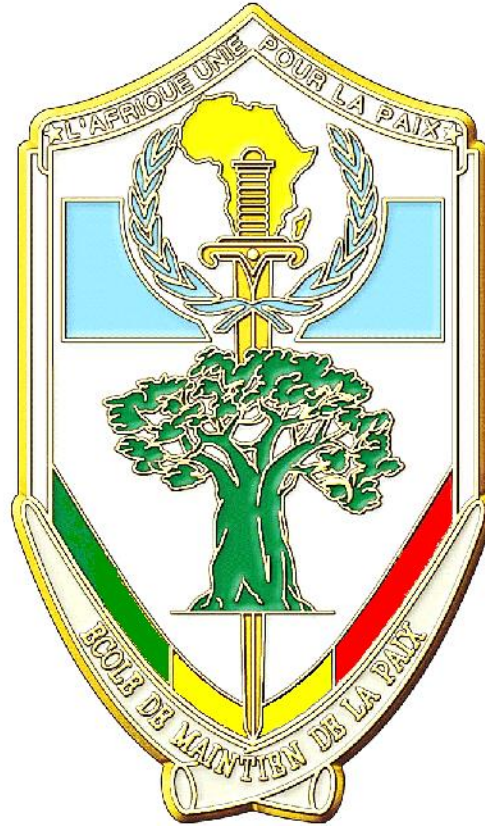
Promotions OCTOBER 2024 EMP-ABB



**International Humanitarian Law (DIH)
EMP-ABB
07 - 18 October 2024**

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