

CIGEM
CENTRE D'INFORMATION ET DE GESTION DES MIGRATIONS

Centre for Migration Information and Management (CIGEM), Mali

www.cigem.org

Inauguration on 6th October 2008 in Bamako, Mali

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Project financed by the European Union



1) Indicative Agenda

The final agenda, specifying the venues, the times and the practical details for the inauguration on 6th October 2008 will be distributed at the accreditation in Bamako.

The foreseen events on 6th October 2008 are:

- Inauguration of the Centre for Migration Information and Management (CIGEM) in the presence of the Head of State of the Republic of Mali and of the European Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid.

- Press Conference in the presence of the Minister for Malians abroad and African Integration and of the European Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid.

- Round table on the issues of migration in Europe and Africa. Participants will include national, regional, international actors and decision makers.

- Vernissage of the exhibition "Des Hommes et des Frontières", photos by Kays Djilali and Anaïs Pachabézian, Association CISP

2) Whom to contact

CIGEM

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Web site: www.cigem.org

- Abdoulaye Konate, Director
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- François Kieffer, Technical counsellor of the Director
E-Mail : fkieffer@cigem.org
- Kadiatou Sidibé Diallo, Communication Officer
Email : kdiallo@cigem.org, GSM +223 646 46 19

European Commission

In Brussels

- Myriam Cornillet, EuropeAid Co-operation Office, Team leader Media relations
Email: myriam.cornillet@ec.europa.eu, Phone: + 32 2 299 25 23
- John Clancy, Spokesman for Humanitarian Aid, Development and Relations with African, Caribbean and Pacific States
E-Mail: john.clancy@ec.europa.eu, Phone: +32 2 295 37 73

Delegation in Mali

Phone: + 223 222 11 03

Web site: www.delmli.ec.europa.eu

- Roland Johansson, Political councillor
E-Mail: roland.johansson@ec.europa.eu
- Emilie Leroux, Programme manager
E-Mail: emilie.leroux@ec.europa.eu
- Kéidia Mossi, Information and Communication Officer
Email: kedidia.mossi@ec.europa.eu

Ministry for Malians abroad and African Integration

Mohamed Sacko, Communication Officer at the Ministry for Malians abroad and African Integration

- Email: princesacko@yahoo.fr, Phone: + 223 673 32 64

3) Press accreditation form for participation in the inauguration of CIGEM on 6th October 2008

to be returned by post, e-mail or fax together with a photocopy of a valid press card or a valid ID card (technicians), **before 29th September 2008** to:

Charlotta Asplund,
Information & Communication Officer
European Commission
EuropeAid Co-operation Office
Unit 04 - Information, Communication and Front Office
Rue de la loi 41, bureau 06/60
B-1049 Brussels
Phone: +32 2 298 54 80
Fax: +32 2 299 64 07
e-mail: charlotta.asplund@ec.europa.eu

or

Kadiatou Sidibé Diallo
Chargée de Communication
CIGEM
Tel : +223 85 63 / 85 54 ou GSM : +223 646 46 19
Fax : +223 223 85 59
e-mail : kdiallo@cigem.org

Requests that are not accompanied by these documents will not be taken into account. The badges can be picked up on presentation of an ID card and a press card on **2nd and 3rd October 14:30-17:30**, on **4th and 5th October from 9:00-18:00** and on **6th October from 7:00-8:00** at the following address:

CIGEM
Quartier ACI 2000,
Avenue du Mali
Bamako, Mali
Tél: +223 85 63/ 85 54

The accreditation request does not cover journalists' access to airports, train stations (special authorisations) nor the authorisation to film in public places.

Applications for this type of authorisation should be made at:

**Directeur Général
Centre National de Cinématographie du Mali
Bamako
Tel : (+223) 221 59 13
Fax : (+223) 221 77 62**

Application for accreditation to participate in the inauguration of CIGEM on 6th October 2008

(to be sent according to the procedure described above)

Individual form**Contact details**

Surname:

Name:

Nationality:

Address:

Date of birth:

Place of birth:

Passport / CNI n°:

Issued by:

Media

Name of media:

County of media:

Address:

E-mail:

Phone:

Fax:

Written press or news agency	<input type="checkbox"/>	Radio	<input type="checkbox"/>
TV	<input type="checkbox"/>	Journalist	<input type="checkbox"/>
Photographer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cameraman	<input type="checkbox"/>
Technician	<input type="checkbox"/>		

I certify that all the information above is exact and complete. Any false declaration will lead to rejection of the accreditation application.

Date and signature of the concerned:

The accreditation gives access to the following events:

- **Inauguration of the Centre for Migration Information and Management**
- **Press conference**
- **Radio and television debate**
- **Round table session**

A detailed programme, specifying the time and the venues, will be distributed at the accreditation in Bamako.

4) Information for audiovisual media

Videoclip on CIGEM in Mali

A video news release (VNR), providing stock footage free of charge and free of copyright for TV channels, has been produced in advance on the CIGEM in Mali.

The videoclip footage includes following images:

Bamako airport
Bamako station
scenes of daily life in Bamako
external shooting of CIGEM
Training of front desk personnel formation of CIGEM
meeting between migrants
work in a large company (Embalmali)
rural workers

Interviews:

ITV Giacomo Durazzo, Head of the European Commission Delegation in Mali
ITV Badra Alou Macalou, Minister of Malians abroad and African Integration
ITV Catherine Hiles, CIGEM technical assistant
ITV Abdoulaye Konaté, CIGEM Director
ITV Ibrahima N'Diaye, Minister for employment and vocational training
ITV Mamadou Diakité, Coordinator of migrants' programme for AIDE NGO
ITV of returned migrants and aspiring migrants

For distribution of **copies of the video in professional format**, please contact

Mostra:

MOSTRA

Globe Village
chée d'Alseberg 1001
1180 Brussels
Belgium

www.mostra.com

Tel.: + 32 2 537 44 00

Fax: + 32 2 537 21 67

E-mail: mostra@mostra.com

The video clip will also be distributed on the **Europe By Satellite (EbS)**, the European Union's free television satellite service.

For exact **date of the broadcasting** of the video, please consult the **EbS**

Schedule website: <http://ec.europa.eu/avservices/ebs/schedule.cfm>

The video clip is also available for download. In order to access the video one needs to register at the Commission's audiovisual website.

http://ec.europa.eu/avservices/support/support_faq_en.cfm#68

Images from the inauguration on 6th October 2008

On the day of the inauguration of CIGEM EbS will, on the spot in Bamako, cover all the events open for the press. This will be broadcasted directly on EbS.

Please consult the EbS Schedule website for the broadcasting programme the 6 October: <http://ec.europa.eu/avservices/ebs/schedule.cfm>

For any queries regarding the on-the-day news coverage by EbS, please contact the **EbS Newsdesk**:

Tel : +32 2 296 41 06

Fax : +32 2 230 12 80

5) Practical information on Mali

TRANSPORTATION

Air companies serving Bamako

Air Algérie	www.airalgerie.dz	+ 223 222 31 59
Air Burkina	www.air-burkina.com	+ 223 221 01 78
Air France	www.airfrance.fr	+ 223 222 22 12
Air Sénégal International	www.air-senegal-international.com	+ 223 223 98 11
Compagnie aérienne du Mali	www.camaero.com	+ 223 229 91 00
Royal Air Maroc	www.royalairmaroc.com	+ 223 221 61 05

Travel agencies

Azur Voyages	+ 223 223 64 32
ESF Travel	+ 223 222 51 44

Car rentals

- Bambaratours + 223 229 23 73/77
- Agence de location des Véhicules Soleil
M.Karamoko Traoré + 223 604 90 82 / + 223 673 97 26
- Ortiz Voyages,
M.Diahara Traoré www.ortiz-voyages.com
+ 223221 35 63 / 490 11 48 / 648 04 37
- Maxi Car,
M.Oumar Cheik Ouattara + 223 224 25 25 / 698 71 77
- M. Fousseiny Sangaré
Hôtel Kempinsky – Hôtel Salam + 223 631 88 54

Taxi fares in Bamako: the fares in the city centre is at least 750 CFA francs (1,14 Euro). The fares can vary between 750 CFA francs and 2500 CFA francs according to the distance. The fare to the airport is at least 5000 CFA francs (7,60 Euro).

VISA for European travellers

Information on visas must be checked with the Malian consulates and representations abroad. This webpage (in French) provides contact details:
http://www.maliensdelexterieur.gov.ml/mes_photos/Maliext.pdf

For example, the Diplomatic representations of Mali in Belgium cover citizens from Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and United Kingdom.

- Ambassade du Mali à Bruxelles, 487 avenue Molière, 1060 Bruxelles, + 32 2 345 74 32

NB: Airlines do not embark passengers without a valid visa.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS – INTERNET ACCESS

The country code to Mali is + 223.

In Mali, Orange and Malitel are the two mobile phone operators. The compatibility with European operators has to be verified either in Europe or at the following places:

- Agence ORANGE : SIM card for 2000 FCFA (3,04€)

ACI 2000 (Rond point Eléphant), Phone : + 223 499 90 00

- Agence MALITEL : SIM card 3120 FCFA (4,75€)
City Centre (close to Carrefour des Jeunes), Phone : + 223 222 46 56

It is easy to find Cyber Cafés in Bamako and most hotels are equipped with internet access.
For further information:

WIFI access (hall + rooms): Mirabeau; Azalaï Nord-Sud; Azalaï Salam; Radisson SAS; Laico Amitié Bamako

WIFI access (hall) access Ethernet (rooms): Azalai-Grand Hôtel ; Laico El Farouk

WIFI access (hall): Hôtel Mandé

HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS

Where to sleep...

- **Azalai-Grand Hôtel****** City centre, car rental.
<http://www.azalahotels.com/grand.php/> Phone : + 223 222 24 92
- **Laico El Farouk *****(formerly Kempinski El Farouk). City centre, close to the river..
<http://laicohotels.com/> Phone: + 223 222 30 30.
- **Mandé Hôtel***** Cité du Niger, on the verge of the river.
www.mandehotel.com/ Phone: + 223 221 19 95
- **Mirabeau***** City centre.
www.hotelmirabeaubko.net/ Phone: + 223 223 53 19
- **Azalai-Nord Sud ***** ACI 2000 (not far from CIGEM).
<http://www.azalahotels.com/nordsud.php/> / Phone: + 223 229 69 00
- **Azalai-Salam*******Quartier du Fleuve / Pont El Farouk
<http://www.azalahotels.com/salam.php/> Phone: + 223 222 12 00
- **Radisson SAS******* ACI 2000 (not far from CIGEM). Phone: + 223 429 00 00
<http://www.radissonsas.com>
- **Laico Amitié Bamako ******* (formerly Amitié-Sofitel). City Centre.
<http://laicohotels.com/> / Phone: + 223 221 43 21

Where to eat...

African food

- **Akwaba** Hippodrome, rue 235; Phone + 223 221 06 45
- **Bla Bla Bar** Hippodrome
- **Le Bafing** Quartier du Fleuve
- **Le Savana** Hippodrome Phone: + 223 631 41 56
- **San Toro** (no alcohol). Missira II, route de Koulikoro; Phone: + 223 221 30 82

International food

- **Le Patio (Centre Culturel Français)**, Quartier du Fleuve, Phone: + 223 222 07 25
- **Amandine** Badalabougou, Phone: + 223 222 11 71
- **Le Relais** Quinzambougou, towards Diama, Phone: + 223 221 02 29
- **Le Relax, Hippodrome**, Phone: + 223 221 79 18
- **Da Guido**, Hippodrome, Phone: + 223 679 01 35 / + 223 632 77 88
- **Appaloosa**, Quartier du Fleuve, Phone: + 223 222 15 14

Asian food

- **Asia** Rue Sotuba at Quinzambougou; Phone: + 223 221 22 48

- **Sokhothai.** Quartier du Fleuve; Phone: + 223 671 10 51

French food

- **Le Café du Fleuve** Quartier du Fleuve, Phone: + 223 918 91 43

HEALTHMalaria

Malaria being endemic in Mali, it is important to take all necessary precautions for the prevention (sprays, creams, mosquito net) and to immediately consult a doctor in case of fever.

Vaccinations

Vaccination against yellow-fever is mandatory.

Insurance

It is strongly advised to subscribe to an insurance company covering medical expenditures and health repatriation.

Useful numbers

EMERGENCIES: Emergency services at the hospital Gabriel Touré:	+ 223 222 27 12/ +223 223 07 80
EMERGENCIES POLICE:	+ 223 222 51 37
The Police's national direction in Bamako:	+ 223 222 52 27/ + 223 222 52 28/ + 223 222 44 05
Fire brigade:	+ 223 222 20 11

Medical centres and clinics

Pasteur Clinic (ACI 2000):	+ 223 229 10 10
Centre médico-social – CMS (quartier du fleuve):	+ 223 229 10 10
Hôpital Gabriel Touré:	+ 223 222 27 12
Hôpital Point G:	+ 223 222 50 02

One should refrain from drinking tap water or fresh fruit juice and from eating fresh fruits and vegetables that have not been peeled, as well as food that has not been sufficiently cooked (meat, milk, fish). It is advised to frequently and carefully wash your hands before every meal.

For further information, please consult the title "Conseils aux voyageurs" on the website of the French Embassy in Mali at the following address:

http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/conseils-aux-voyageurs_909/pays_12191/mali_12287/index.html

BANQUES (change, Visa, Mastercard)

1€ : 655.957 FCFA

It is possible to change Euros in the main banks. The banks having a money distributor accepting cards for international withdrawals are:

Visa card:

Banque Of Africa (opposite l'Hôtel Laico Amitié Bamako); Phone: + 223 221 42 94

Ecobank (Quartier du Fleuve); Phone: + 223 270 06 00

BICIM – BNP (Quartier du Fleuve); Phone: + 223 270 07 00

Banque de Développement du Mali (Quartier du Fleuve – Square Lumumba); Phone: + 223 222 20 50

Mastercard:

Banque Atlantique (Quartier Badalabougou); Phone: + 223 270 28 75

Contacts at EMBASSIES AND EU MEMBER STATE REPRESENTATIONS

Belgium	+ 223 221 96 22
Denmark	+ 223 223 07 73
France	+ 223 497 57 57
Germany	+ 223 222 37 15
Netherlands	+ 223 221 95 72
Spain	+ 223 223 65 27
Sweden	+ 223 223 36 17

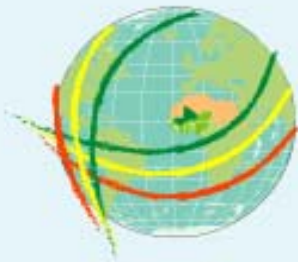
SECURITY

It is strongly advised not to travel during the night and it is mandatory to use seat belts in cars and helmets on motor bikes. In Bamako it is not advisable to be walking alone in certain off-centre districts after night fall. Travellers are strongly recommended to protect themselves against theft of identity documents and to always carry with them a photocopy of the documents.

CLIMATE IN OCTOBER

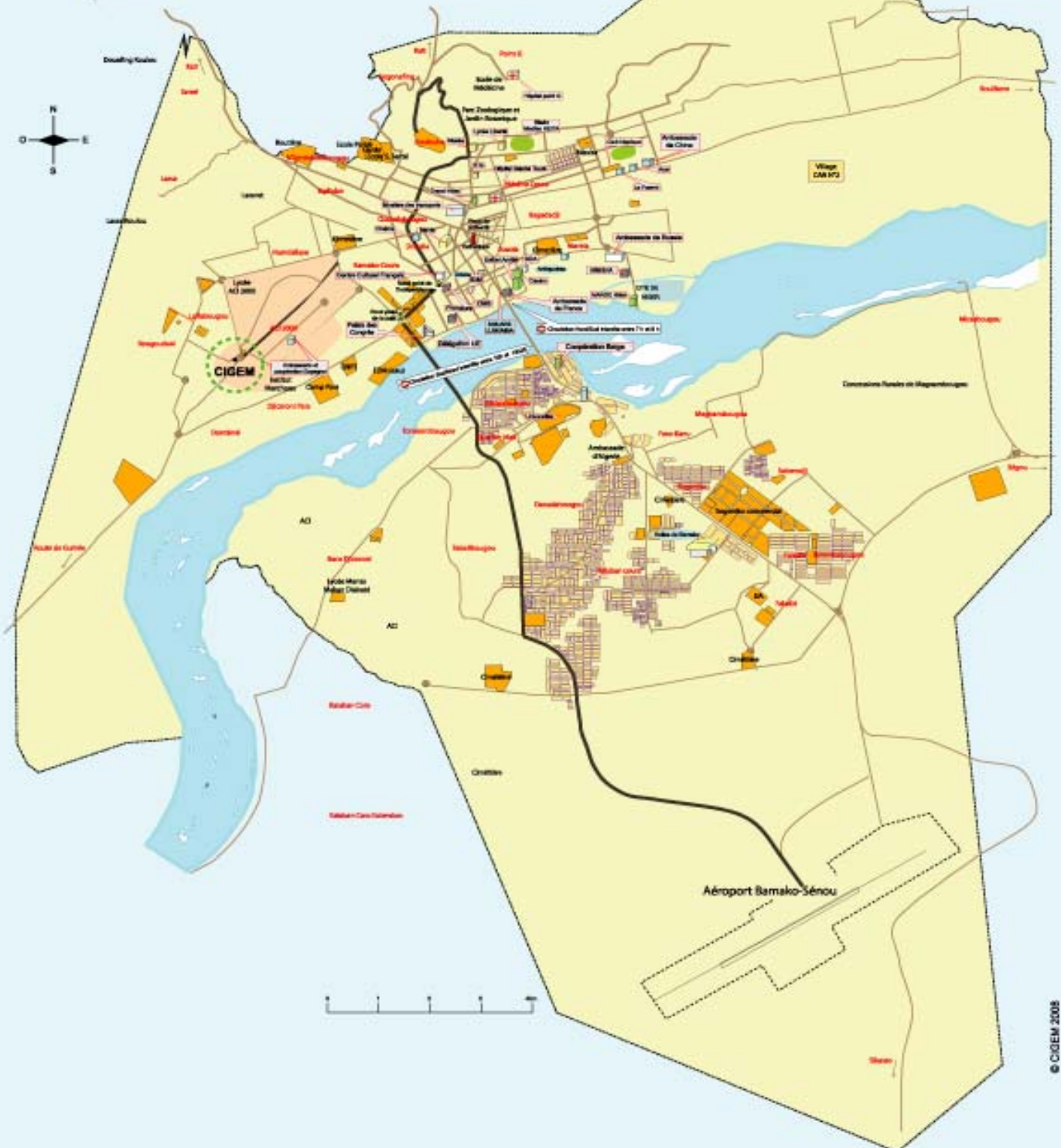
In general it is dry in Bamako, but rain showers are possible.

MAP OF BAMAKO



CIGEM

CENTRE D'INFORMATION ET DE GESTION DES MIGRATIONS



6) Factsheet on CIGEM

Why a Centre for Migration Information and Management in Mali?

The "CIGEM" is the Centre for Information and Migration Management based in Bamako, Mali. It is the result of cooperation between the Malian government, in particular the Minister for Malians Abroad and African Integration, and the European Commission, and seeks to address the phenomenon of migration. The Centre is located in Bamako and will open its doors to the public in the autumn of 2008.

The aim of the Centre is to help Mali to define a **Malian migration policy** addressing the **concerns of potential migrants, returning migrants and migrants residing outside Mali**. It will serve as a one-stop-shop for information and guidance for migrants.

What will the Centre do?

The tasks of the Centre are to:

- welcome and provide information, guidance and support to potential and returning migrants (in the area of workforce mobility, integration into national and international labour markets)
- provide information on the legal aspects of migration and raise awareness amongst the population in order to prevent illegal migration
- reinforce the diaspora's role in Mali's development, *inter alia* by exploring ways to reduce the costs of transferring funds to Mali
- improve knowledge of migratory phenomena

How is this project innovative?

The project takes an innovative approach to migration issues since it creates a direct link between Migration – Employment – Vocational Training and Development. The project also takes a pioneering approach that may inspire similar projects elsewhere in the region.

The Centre will therefore support the coordination, implementation and planning of actions in the fields of vocational training, the labour market and migration. It will develop partnerships with the main projects and institutions already operating in those fields and facilitate joint actions. In so doing, it will be able to guide potential economic migrants towards employment markets in need. In the long term, it will prepare for and support labour migration.

How will the Centre operate?

The Centre will employ around 30 Malians:

- Director
- Accountant
- Communications and Monitoring/Assessment officer

- IT technician
- For the "Welcome, Information, Guidance and Support" service: a head of service, advisers and a secretary
- For the "Studies, Research, Training and Documentation" service: a head of service, researchers, a statistician, an information officer and a secretary
- For the "Operational Support" service: a Cooperation Projects officer
- Advisers for the *Agence Nationale pour la Promotion de l'Emploi* (ANPE) [National Employment Promotion Agency] and the *Agence Nationale pour la Promotion de l'Emploi des Jeunes* (ANPEJ) [National Employment Promotion Agency for Young People], adviser for the *Fonds d'appui à la formation professionnelle et à l'apprentissage* (FAFPA) [Professional Training and Apprenticeship Support Fund], a TOKTEN adviser and a CODEV assistant

The Centre's team will be reinforced by 4 to 5 international experts in organisational matters; international relations; welcome, guidance and support; migration, communications and administrative and financial procedures.

The Centre's budget

The Centre has an operating budget of €10 million for 2007 to 2011 broken down as follows:

1. Operating costs of the Centre (Salaries, building, operation)	18%
2. Actions by the Centre (Institutional strengthening, research and studies, welcome, professional training, information/communications, support for advisory services)	20%
3. Cooperative actions with Malians Abroad (TOKTEN and CODEV projects)	36%
4. International experts	16%
5. Audit, assessment and contingencies	10%

7) Political setting of CIGEM

The political setting for CIGEM can be found in the Communication by the European Commission of 1 September 2005 entitled "Migration and development: concrete guidelines". In place of demonising migration, it should be structured and managed as a positive human element for Africa and Europe. A Euro-African ministerial conference on "Migration and Development" took place in [Rabat from 10-11 July 2006](#). The EU-Africa Summit in 2007 identified a new institutional framework by adopting a [Partnership on migration, mobility and employment](#) between the two continents with particular focus on the following two aspects:

(i) Migration within a legal framework

It will be necessary to establish a Centre for information and migration management, inform migrants on genuine opportunities, offer training and provide information on the risks of illegal migration. The CIGEM in Mali is the first of its kind; others (Senegal, for example) may follow. Partnerships on mobility are also envisaged - agreements would include commitments in terms of re-admission as well as opportunities created by legal migration.

(ii) Migration as a positive element for development in Africa

It will be necessary, from now on, to take advantage of opportunities offered by migration in relation to development. In 2005, African migrants throughout the world sent home remittances amounting to € 6.5 billion to 34 sub-Saharan African states.

The European Commission will further support the establishment of a network of Migration Observatories in Sub-Saharan Africa while seeking to increase EU-Africa cooperation in this area. The Diaspora is often considered to be the most tangible link between the African and the European continents. Establishing a structured dialogue with the African Diaspora and supporting their role in the development of the African continent is a shared priority for the AU, which considers African Diaspora as its "sixth region", and for the EU. This will result in the organisation of the first African Diaspora Summit in the autumn 2008 as well as various initiatives on the European side.

Acknowledging the increasing importance of remittances in developing countries and especially in Africa, the European Commission will support the establishment of an African Remittances Institute in 2009 under the leadership of the AU Commission and in collaboration with the World Bank. Cooperation with our African partners on fighting illegal immigration, human smuggling and human trafficking is on-going with the promotion of regional collaboration and dialogue on the management of migration flows, in particular in West Africa.

Regular follow-up:

The Centre is part of one of the most important actions under the partnership on migration, mobility and employment. Progress will be discussed during the meeting, taking place in Brussels on 1 October, between the Commission of the African Union and the European Commission. Furthermore, a Euro-African Conference on migration and development is planned in Paris during the French Presidency of the European Union.

8) Frequently asked questions about CIGEM

- **What is the main purpose of the centre? What tasks/activities will it carry out?**

The main activities of the Centre relate to:

1. improving knowledge about migration patterns;
2. welcoming and providing information, guidance and support to potential and returning migrants;
3. providing information on the legal aspects of migration and raising awareness in order to prevent illegal migration;
4. facilitating the involvement of the Malians abroad in the development of Mali

- **Why Mali?**

The sub Saharan African region is becoming increasingly aware of the potential benefits of migration for development (like for example via contributions from the Diaspora and mutual benefits arising from the exchange of labour) and the need to minimize the negative effects. Mali is the second largest country in West Africa, its central position coupled with its permeable borders makes it a country of transit, origin and destination of migratory flows. The Malian government has been supportive of migration actions in Euro-African discussions and was keen to take on the tutelage of the centre. Mali also has a national agency for the promotion of employment.

- **Will the centre help potential migrants in finding a job in Europe?**

The centre aims to provide potential migrants with information about legal migration opportunities to Europe and elsewhere, and on opportunities within Mali for vocational training and employment. For the time being, it is not foreseen that the centre will help migrants find a job in Europe. It will nevertheless contribute, through the information and orientation activities, to improving the employability of local workers and potential migrants.

When requested, the centre may also support the Malian authorities in the negotiation of labour migration agreements with EU member states and other third countries. The entry into force of this kind of bilateral agreements will widen legal avenues for labour migration.

- **Where do Malians migrate to?**

Out of a total population of 12 million, an estimated 4 million Malians are migrants of which 3.5 million reside in West Africa and 200 000 in Europe.

- **The centre is financed by the EC. Does it focus only on migration flows between Mali and Europe?**

The geographical scope is not limited to European countries. In principle, it may include any country or region that is a destination for migration flows originating in Mali. The

bulk of Malian migration flows being to and from West African countries, the sub-region will probably constitute the primary focus of the CIGEM.

- **Will the centre provide vocational training? To whom? Aimed at what labour market (local or third countries)?**

The Centre will support and operate in close collaboration with national institutions in charge of employment and vocational training, in the first place the "Agence Nationale pour l'Emploi (ANPE)" and the "Agence Nationale pour l'Emploi des Jeunes (APEJ)", in charge of welcoming, providing information, guidance and managing the integration of job seekers, particularly young people, into the job market.

- **Is it a European or Malian centre? Who will run the centre?**

The start up of the centre is financed under the 9th European Development Fund (€10M) with potentially additional financing under the 10th EDF. The aim is to come to a fully-fledged Malian institute (independent of EC funding) within the Ministry for Malians abroad and African Integration.

The centre will employ around 30 people offering counselling service on legal and illegal migration issues (including job and training opportunities in Mali and abroad), providing research on migration, dealing with returning migrants and facilitating the role that Malians abroad play in the development of Mali.

- **What will the centre do to prevent illegal migration?**

The centre will provide support to the Malian government in developing its migration policy and to the actual implementation of that policy through actions involving migrants willing to return, various civil society associations, NGOs, and private communication institutions.

CIGEM will campaign against illegal migration, trying to make people aware of the dangers involved and trying to provide potential migrants with alternatives both in Mali and abroad.

- **What will the centre do for returning migrants?**

CIGEM has different approaches/actions 'on offer' for returning migrants depending on the respective profiles and personal aspirations or goals, ranging from vocational/professional training programmes to co-development activities. Each approach is designed with one single objective in mind being to provide a returning migrant with a perspective for re-integration into his country (Mali) from a socio-economic point of view.

The activities related to returning migrants will be carried out in close cooperation with the "Délégation Générale des Maliens de l'Extérieur" which takes care of expelled migrants and will mainly consist of helping the migrants to reintegrate into Malian society.

- **What will the centre do in terms of co-development?**

The Centre's activities aimed at involving the diaspora in the development of the country

of origin will be carried out in synergy with existing initiatives with the aim of expanding and reinforcing them.

The centre will reinforce the Franco-Malian co-development project (CODEV) which provides assistance to migrants willing to return. The CODEV project financially supports both local development activities initiated by the Malian diaspora in France, and activities promoting cultural exchange involving young second-generation migrants. The centre will also support the 'Transfer of Knowledge through Expatriate Nationals' (TOKTEN) project, partially funded by France and managed by UNDP. This project organises missions for Malian scientists and academics of the diaspora to enable them to contribute to higher education in Mali. During these missions, Malian academics, working in French universities, provide teaching and establish contacts with Malian students whom they assist in their thesis and research work. The CIGEM will support the TOKTEN programme to branch out into areas other than the area of higher education, like the health, agriculture and private sector.

- **What actions will the centre take on remittances?**

The centre will study the remittances flows and propose measures to reduce transaction costs and to enhance the development impact of transfers in Mali.

9) The Centre's Milestones

July 2006

First Euro-African Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development, Rabat

November 2006

African Union-European Union Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development, Tripoli

February 2007

Joint Declaration by Mali, ECOWAS, the European Commission, France and Spain: "The Parties have agreed to support the establishment, by Mali, of the Migration Information and Management Centre"

October 2007

Signature of the Financing Agreement for the establishment of the Centre in Bamako by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the Head of the European Commission Delegation

October 2007 – September 2008

Centre's staff is recruited and trained and the concept behind the Centre further developed; first actions are initiated

6 October 2008

Inauguration of CIGEM

October-November 2008

Progressive opening of the Centre's different services to the public

10) Study of migration issues in Mali

Recent and regularly updated statistics about migration are not currently available. One of the main objectives of CIGEM is to remedy this through studies, reports and databases.

In the frame of the programming of the 10th European Development Fund, a study was launched by the Delegation of the European Commission in Mali to provide Malian authorities and the European Commission with information on migration issues in view of supporting the definition and implementation of a Malian migration policy.

This study, carried out by experts from the consulting and service company CIVIPOL, is available on internet at the following address:

http://www.delmi.ec.europa.eu/fr/guide/Etude_Migration_Merabet_Gendreau_Rapport_final_15_05_07.pdf

This document gathers:

- available statistics and information about migration of Malians
- history of migration
- illegal migration routes towards Europe
- co-development projects
- view of the Malian government on migration

11) Press release

Establishment of a Centre for Migration Information and Management

23 October 2007

On 23 October 2007, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the National Authorising Officer of the EDF and the Head of the European Commission Delegation to Mali signed a financing agreement for the establishment of a Centre for Migration Information and Management ("CIGEM").

This financing agreement is the result of a joint visit to Bamako on 8 February 2007 by the European Commissioner for Development, Louis Michel, the French Minister for Cooperation, Ms Brigitte Girardin, and representatives of Spain and ECOWAS. During that visit, the parties signed a Joint Declaration providing for the establishment of a Migration Information and Management Centre. The signing of the Financing Agreement for the Centre is a concrete application of cooperation in the field of international migration which, under the Terms of the Declaration, "must continue to be informed by a global approach to migration issues and a spirit of partnership based on mutual interest".

Following the Declaration, a feasibility study led by the Ministry for Malians Abroad and African Integration was conducted in April 2007 in order to better define the remit of the Centre, which will be project managed by the Ministry.

The overall goal of the project, which places particular emphasis on the link between migration and development, is to define and implement a Malian migration policy adapted to the constantly evolving national, regional and international dynamics.

The tasks of the Centre are to:

- provide information on the legal framework of migration and prevent illegal migration;
- welcome and offer guidance and support to candidates for migration/job seekers and returning migrants;
- tap the human, financial and technical capital of the diaspora;
- improve knowledge of migratory phenomena.

The EC funding for this project amounts to €10 million. The support from the Community will be focused in particular on the French and Spanish initiatives already being implemented in this sector. Major synergies will also be developed with the actions by the EU Member States operating in Mali, particularly in the field of Professional Training and Employment.

The signing of the Financing Agreement marks the beginning of the activities to set up the Centre. In view of the ambitious nature of the objectives and the creation of a new structure, the coming months will be devoted to establishing the Centre in close cooperation with the national and international structures and programmes already in existence in the fields of co-

development, employment and professional training and research, as well as with associations and bodies working in the area of migration.

12) Press release

EU-Mali High-Level Meeting on Migration and Development

9 February 2007

Under the Euro-Africa dialogue on migration and development, Mr Louis Michel, European Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid, Ms Brigitte Girardin, France's Minister for Cooperation, Development and Francophonie, and Mr Bernardino León, Spain's State Secretary for Foreign Affairs, travelled to Mali to help implement the EU's global approach to migration and development. They attended a High-Level Meeting with Mali and ECOWAS in Bamako on 8 February 2007. The Malian government was represented by the Minister for Malians Abroad and African Integration, Prof. Oumar H. Dicko. ECOWAS was represented by Mr Baber Tandina, its interim Director for free movement of persons.

Drawing on the Declaration of the Rabat conference and its Action Plan, the Conclusions of the first session of the EU-Mali Consultation on Migration on 26 September 2006 and the results of the EU-Africa Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development held in Tripoli in November 2006, the Parties discussed bilateral and Community cooperation on migration.

They reaffirmed their global approach to migration issues in a spirit of partnership based on mutual interest within the framework of Article 13 of the Cotonou Agreement. Discussions focused on building the Malian government's capacity to manage migratory flows and Malians abroad, accompanying measures for legal migration, training and the reintegration of returning migrants, ways of tapping into the human, financial and technical capital of Malians abroad, co-development schemes and measures to tackle illegal migration.

To enhance their cooperation in these areas, the Parties agreed to help Mali create a *Maison des Maliens de l'Extérieur* (a centre for Malians living abroad) and a Migration Information and Management Centre, and to specify the EU contribution to these institutions.

The main tasks of these Malian institutions will be to collect and disseminate information on migration, and in particular on (i) working conditions, job opportunities and training at national, subregional and European level, (ii) the hazards of illegal migration and (iii) accompanying measures to facilitate the reintegration of returning migrants. Other tasks will focus on supporting the mobilisation of savings and financial transfers, providing incentives for skilled people to return to the country, supporting co-development projects and decentralised cooperation, and promoting links between young second-generation immigrants in Europe and young people in Mali. The *Maison des Maliens de l'Extérieur* will help the *Haut Conseil des Maliens de l'Extérieur* (the official body responsible for relations with Malians living abroad) perform its functions and duties.

The Parties took note of the importance of the subregional dimension in migration flows and stressed that this was a pilot project that would normally be reproduced in other ECOWAS

countries with a view to developing an operational network framed by a common regional policy.

The parties welcomed the importance accorded to migration and development in the national and regional 10th EDF strategy papers, which earmark funds for capacity-building for the Malian government and ECOWAS in this area.

