

Maliwatch General Assembly Meeting Minute

October 24, 09

Approved November 21, 2009

1. Meeting was called to order by Harouna Maiga
2. Introduction of the members
Were present: Harouna Maiga, Fanta Ongoiba, Ibrahim Yattara, Abdoul Niang, Ablo Doucoure, Bakary SACKO, Adam Ouologuem, Fatoumata Diallo, Djeneba Traore, and Mamadou Dakouo (Brussels, Belgium).
3. Secretary report of minutes by Abdoul Niang. Brief comment all the minutes are posted on the website: www.maliwatch.org except the minutes of last meeting.
4. Treasurer's report by Ibrahim Hacko Yattara. Brief comment about how much fund and how many transactions. Discussion of the fund availability to the San and Baguineda Projects. Lengthy discussion about the \$200 dollars approved by the board of directors to help the Malian Association of Washington DC (AMAW, DC), pay expenses related to the celebration of the Independence day of Mali (September 22, 2009). Adam expressed her confusion about to whom or how the fund was allocated. Harouna explained that the fund was allocated to the DC Organization at their demand for financial assistance. The sum was voted at the Maliwatch Board of Meeting and paid from the \$500 donation of Pr. Diola. The 500 dollars were originally raised to pay for the motorcycle of Sanogo, counselor of Lycee Kankou Moussa.

Since Ibrahim was in Mali and the DC organization needs the funds urgently, Harouna asked them to fill out Maliwatch project application form so the money could be sent after receiving the paper work. The organization sent a written thank you letter to Maliwatch which the President holds a copy.

There has also been an explanation of the \$2000 to be given to Maternal Health project and \$1000 to Baguineda Health Initiative project after reception of the paperwork.

5. Activities Update
 - a. Maternal Death Reduction Initiative (2004-2009)
Djeneba updated the members how the project started and what are the objectives. She also touched on certain details on how the project functions and who are the beneficiaries. Part of the project is coordinates by the students representing the town of San in Mali. They organize meeting and volunteers to motivate cleanness at the Hospital of San. The money received from Maliwatch will be use do buy a fridge for the blood bank and others small medical tools and necessities. Since the details of the project are new regarding the blood

bank at San Health center, it was requested that copy of the project be sent to Maliwatch president before the \$2000.00 be made available.

- b. Initiative for the Health Development in Baguineda (2007-2009)
Bintou was absent so the president of Maliwatch, briefly gave an update of the project. The project will require more fund raising but at this point it is about to gather the necessary information to apply for grants money.
- c. Project Solar for Well water Pumps in the Village of Tiboroghen (Near Diabira, the region of Timbuctu).
Lamine Coulibaly, the initiator of the project was absent so Abdoul Doucoure who is familiar with the project filled in. Bakary Sakho has indicated that when Lamine returns from filed trip, he will provide an update. According to Ablo Doucoure the project will require around \$60,000 US. The funds will be used to buy and install solar pumps to facilitate water availability to the population.
- d. Partnership between Maliwatch and Dawn to Dusk Lions Club of Crookston to implement a water project for the elementary school of the Village of Zakoire-Ansongo, Mali
Harouna updated the members on the project. The project will be financed by the Lion Club but supervised and implemented by Maliwatch-Mali and the Lions Club of Bamako.
- e. Partnership requested by Dimade(Diaspora Malienne pour le Development).
The initiator Aminata was absent so the president did a brief update on that project. The project is interested in sending used materiel to Mali but will like MW help for the 501 (c) (3). It was requested that Aminata provided more information on this project and the nature of partnership sought with Maliwatch. Aminata will be invited to the annual meeting to provide details
- f. Maliwatch Summer Champ project
Project initiated by Ibrahim Yattara. Ibrahim explained to MW members that during his visit to Mali, he met MW Mali members on the ground and realized that there is a communication gap. He came up with the idea to create a platform where the members of MW Diaspora could organize voluntary workshop for teachers and students. There are samples of workshops like the ones organized in the past by Jim Barry and Mamadou Cisse of Ireland, UK: basic computer and digital photography training. These types of activities could be conducted through Summer Camp projects and youth organizations.
- g. Revision of the bylaws.
Debate how to handle the election of the members of the committee and the board of directors' elections. President will nominate a small committee to handle MW elections at the annual meeting.

f. Maliwatch annual Meeting in 2010 in January 8-9, 2010. The meeting will take place at the Malian Embassy. There was a debate about how the date was chosen. The president explained that the date was chosen because MW missed all the other proposed date. Thanksgiving date was changed because many members didn't want to come on that date anymore. There was the proposition to allocate \$500 for food.

The president, secretary, and Ablo Doucoure gave their appreciation to all members the present for their clear focus and interest in the discussions. The meeting adjourned after three hours from its beginning.