

# Minutes of Maliwatch Board of Directors

## Meeting held September 5, 2009

### Approved December 5, 2009

#### Skype Conferencing

1. Were present: Harouna Maiga, Aliou Haidara, Diola Bagayogo, Fanta Ongoiba, Jim Gates, and Abdoulaye Niang.
2. Harouna call the meeting to order at 6:15 PM EST. We waited few minutes to have 5 members for the quorum. Minutes from June 6<sup>th</sup> meeting were reviewed for approval. Motion was moved by Jim and seconded by Diola to approve the minutes. All members voted YES for the motion. Minutes were approved as presented.
3. We debated the choice of the time and date of the board meeting. Saturday works best for most of the members. Janet was very busy with an event on this day of September 5th and could not attend. Since Saturday is the designated day for board meetings and it seems to work for most members, Harouna is to check with Janet and Lamine Coulibaly about meeting time that would fit their schedules. We may have to meet some Saturdays at 12:00 Noon EST or at 6:00 PM EST other Saturdays to accommodate all members.
4. The treasurer report was put for the next meeting due to Ibrahim Yattara's travel to Bamako.
5. We debated the sponsorship of the maternity health project of Mali. Harouna gave a brief update of the situation. He tried to clarify the miscommunication between the members about that project. The project was initiated by Djeneba then she was joined by Janet and Bintou. In the end the members up held the \$2000.00 dollars already approved for the maternal death reduction project in 2006. Because the maternal death reduction project is being finalized in its details and probably new to many members, and for records keeping in line with 501 c (3) conflict of interest compliance, the board recommended that the project filled out MW project approval form available on [www.maliwatch.org](http://www.maliwatch.org) . The board also discussed the Baguineda Initiative project presented by Bintou Coulibaly at MW annual meeting of 2007. The board found this project to have a merit in its goal of reducing morbidity and mortality in the women and children of the Commune of Baguineda. Motion was moved by Diola to approve \$1000.00 for the Baguineda Initiative Project and motion was seconded by Abdoul. The Board voted unanimously to allocate \$1000.00 for the Baguineda Initiative project. The \$1000.00 will be used to help Bintou write grants proposals to be submitted to sponsors as this project requires about 60,000 dollars. Abdoul Niang suggested avoiding big projects requiring huge fundraising by Maliwatch. Diola suggested to be more optimistic and to try to find sponsors like the Malian government, US-AID for such projects. Diola also indicated that as long as we can pass the audit

we shouldn't limit ourselves to small projects. Jim indicated that we should be fine as long as we follow procedures and processes put in place to be compliant with 501 c (3).

6. The date of MW annual meeting 2009 in Washington DC was discussed. There was a strong support of the members for the weekend of January 9, 2009; since all others suggested date had already passed.
7. Partnership of the Lion Club and Maliwatch for water distribution to the school project of the Village de Zakoire----No new information is available at this time as Harouna could not meet with Lamine Coulibaly of Maliwatch-Mali to talk about implementation of the project. Harouna will contact Lamine in the near future.
8. The fundraising activity launched by Abdoulaye Doucoure on behalf of school master Sanogo of Lycee Kankou Moussa who was attacked by gangs in Bamako was not discussed in detail. Harouna asked to wait Ablo for an update, because it seems that Mr. Sanogo had already acquired a motorcycle. Diola had donated 500 dollars for the project.
9. Aliou gave a brief update on MSAS 2008; the French and English versions of the report were complete and the president of MSAS Doulaye Dembele has emailed the report to Maliwatch, MSAS and Malilink listservs. The MSAS 2010 meeting is set for August 1-6, 2010 in Bamako.
10. Harouna presented a letter from the Malian Association of Washington DC. The DC based organization is planning to celebrate the anniversary of the independence of the Republic of Mali. For that reason they invite all the members of Maliwatch to attend and also ask for our financial and moral support. First there was the suggestion of \$100.00 donation, but in the end Diola move a motion to approved \$200.00 and motion was seconded by Aliou. The \$200.00 were unanimously approved. The money will be made payable to the AMAW and sent to them after the treasurer Ibrahim Yattara is back from Mali.
11. Diola brought to the daylight the return of son Excellence Abdoulaye Diop and recommended that we write a letter to the ministry of foreign affairs. Harouna is going to write the letter on the behalf of Maliwatch.