



# Peacekeeping School Alioune Blondin Beye de Bamako

## EMP-NEWS

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### FIRST INTRAMURAL TRAINING COURSE AT EMP-ABB

The first EMP-ABB intramural training course "UN-LOG DEU" took place from Tuesday 26 May 2020 to Friday 05 June 2020.

Since the closure of all the schools and the borders of Mali, the EMP-ABB had relied on its Mobile Training Teams (MTT) to continue its mission of training actors of peace, but only with the military and police.

Thus, after a suspension of on-site training, the EMP-ABB welcomes national and international trainees from the Ecole Militaire d'Administration (EMA) of Koulikoro for the "UN-LOG DEU" course.



This resumption of intramural trainings was possible thanks to the anti-coronavirus security protocol put in place. This policy from the School guarantees a healthy and safe environment for all trainees and instructors. Thus, during the night of May 20<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020, the EMP-ABB carried out a spraying operation of the entire School with the support of the General Directorate of Civil Protection (DGPC). Protective and disinfecting products and equipment were also made available to all; and the areas welcoming large numbers of people ( training rooms, refectory, dormitories...) were fitted out and reorganized in order to identify and mark the minimum physical distance to be respected.

The pandemic situation also stimulated ongoing initiatives for digital communication; and by extension, online training, at a time when the school was developing its online training programs. The "UN-LOG DEU" course offered the opportunity to test the effectiveness of its new videoconferencing system through more than 10 hours of interventions and exchanges between trainees and their international instructors. These trainings were delivered from Cameroon, Togo, Burkina Faso, and the city of Gao, 7th region of Mali.

The resumption of on-site training courses lays the groundwork for the new approaches, methods and tools that EMP-ABB intends to develop and implement so that, beyond the quality of the contents, the ways and means of access to EMP-ABB training courses remain identical to the international standards applied by the most advanced educational institutions and training centers.



## Anti-Coronavirus spraying operation at EMP-ABB

During the night of May 20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020, the EMP-ABB conducted a school-wide spraying operation. All the premises and buildings, including the various green spaces, were cleaned. This spraying operation was made possible thanks to the assistance of the Directorate General for Civil Protection (DGPC). It is an extension of the application of the security measures of the EMP-ABB's anti-coronavirus policy (DAC2020).

Thanks to this spraying operation, a safe and healthy environment for trainees and instructors continues to be ensured, and it also served as a prerequisite for hosting the first intramural training course since the Covid-19 measures were taken.



## MOODLE and “DCDI”: Implementations 101

The idea of installing an online training system at the EMP-ABB dates back to 2019. Unfortunately, due to lack of funds, the project could not be developed. Today, due to the crisis situation generated by the coronavirus, the need for distance learning is more pressing. The EMP-ABB has therefore decided to use "Moodle", a learning management system used by universities. The Federal Republic of Germany has pledged financial support for the development of this project.

The learning management system "Moodle" enables us to design trainings and e-learning modules. In addition to 100% online trainings, our goal is to develop modules that can be used to prepare classical face-to-face trainings.

The implementation of the Moodle software needs to be accompanied by technical capacity building to ensure that it is used optimally by EMP-ABB staff.

In our next newsletter, we will provide more details on our vision about distance learning and its benefits for all peacekeeping learners.



## Interview with Lieutenant Etoa Atangana Sandrine of the National Gendarmerie of Cameroon

*Lieutenant Etoa Atangana Sandrine, a student at the Military School of Administration (EMA) of Koulikoro, was interviewed during the closing ceremony of his "UN-LOG DEU" training course at the EMP-ABB.*

As part of our inter-administration training, we attended the "UN-LOG DEU" course which took place from May 26<sup>th</sup> to June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at the EMP-ABB.

The working sessions via videoconference were new for me, however they were very enriching and allowed us to have our instructor at our side despite the fact that he could not come on site given the context. Thanks to the teleconference, our instructor could easily share his knowledge and experiences. Apart from the small problems with the internet connection, the quality of the trainings itself was of high quality and moreover, we had an instructor on site at the EMP-ABB to also take over and provide additional information.

I find that the video conference trainings were just as effective as the face-to-face trainings, because we were always in contact with our instructor who took the time to answer all our questions. We, the trainees, also had the possibility to interrupt the trainings at any time to ask our questions and get more clarifications.

I would like to thank the EMP-ABB for this new experience and especially for allowing us to continue our training despite the current coronavirus situation. We had the opportunity to train in a secure environment as all barrier gestures and other measures were observed throughout the course; both in the training room and throughout the EMP-ABB. Everything went very well and it was a really rewarding experience!

*Commissioner Lieutenant-Colonel Gumedzoe Komlan Edem Agbenyega of the Togolese Armed Forces, temporary instructor at the EMP-ABB, delivered his module for the " UN-LOG DEU " course by videoconference from Togo. He shares his impressions with us.*

First of all, I would like to thank the EMP-ABB for its trust by calling on us whenever necessary. The use of the teleconferencing application "Zoom" at EMP-ABB to deliver training by videoconference is a very welcome innovation. This is an additional demonstration of the "organizational resilience of the EMP-ABB". Despite the travel restrictions caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, the school did not remain passive but was able to adapt by setting up these distance training courses for trainees present on Malian territory.

While this innovation has many advantages, it nevertheless has certain limitations. Indeed, it should be noted that the challenge of training by videoconference depends on the quality of the connection and equipment. The EMP-ABB is fortunate to have the appropriate resources and state-of-the-art equipment, which is not necessarily the case for the facilitator or instructor. It therefore requires the facilitator to have a good material preparation in advance so that he or she is in phase with the EMP-ABB.

As for the outcome of the expectations, I would say that it is easier for a class made up of trainees all coming from the EMA, in other words a promotion of learners who knew each other before the training, to participate in a more active and committed way. When it comes to a more heterogeneous class, where the trainees are not from the same promotion or during integrated courses composed of military, civilian and police; that may impact the participation of the trainees during the training. It will be less active.

Finally, allow me to thank the Course Director and all the facilitators for their constant availability, allowing the success of this training by videoconference. I am not forgetting this promotion from EMA, the school from which I graduated (2002-2003). It is a very active promotion and I have no doubt that it is full of great financiers and logisticians. I would like to thank the EMP-ABB for their confidence.

## Entretien avec le Commissaire Lieutenant-Colonel Gumedzoe des Forces Armées Togolaises





The Centre d'Analyse et de Recherche de l'Espace Sahelo-Saharien (CARESS) is a structure of the Ecole de Maintien de la Paix Alioune Blondin BEYE (EMP-ABB) in Bamako, specialized in scientific research and training of both academic and practical types. The themes addressed revolve around the triptych of peace, development and security. The mission of EMP-ABB is to deepen and enrich the culture of peace by providing a reading grid of events that affect the stability of the country and to seek solutions based on the experience gained from the management of crises and conflicts in the region during the various peacekeeping and peace support operations.

CARESS offers a Master's degree in Peacekeeping, supported by an Executive Master's degree in partnership with the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Grenoble (IEP) and also participates in numerous meetings at national and sub-regional level. In order to be able to respond to the need for up-to-date and adapted documentation, CARESS has a Documentation Center specializing in issues of peacekeeping, security, geopolitics, Transitional Justice, etc. The Center is also a member of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). Our library is open to everyone because we believe that making these documents available to the general public contributes to the promotion of the culture of peace. This public service mission is carried out by very experienced librarians.

The pedagogical teams in charge of the Teaching Units of the different Masters come mainly from Mali and the sub-region. In addition to that, CARESS also calls upon international expertise in order to bring together the most specialized expertise on issues related to peacekeeping and to exchange on the most appropriate responses to local and sub-regional needs. Teachers who are abroad conduct their training via our videoconferencing system.

CARESS also aims to strengthen existing partnerships and to explore other avenues in order to accelerate the digitization process of its Documentation Center; to increase collaborations and to share content with other online libraries; to finalize new online training courses such as the one planned in collaboration with UNODC in the framework of the "Education for Justice" (E4J) initiative and the Portal for the Sharing of Electronic Resources and Laws on Crime (SHERLOC) team in accordance with the Doha Declaration; to increase the staff of CARESS and thus be able to meet all the demands and needs of peace learners and stakeholders.

**Interview with  
Dr. Coulibaly, assistant  
director of CARESS**





# UN LOG – EMA of Koulikoro – DEU From Mai 26 to June 05, 2020 at EMP-ABB

