



Peacekeeping School

Alioune Blondin Beye de Bamako

EMP-NEWS

November 2020

EMP-ABB NEWS
November 2020
N°1120



Reinforcement of the EMP-ABB's anti-coronavirus apparatus (DAC2020)

In response to an external contamination of an EMP-ABB staff member, to the increase of positive cases of COVID-19 recorded in Bamako, and in order to anticipate any possible contamination of the school, the EMP-ABB management decided on Monday, November 30, 2020, to reinforce its Anti-Covid19 (DAC2020) apparatus implemented since March 2020.

Thus, the measures taken to meet this objective were as follows :

- the temporary resumption of teleworking (organized by management) ;
- the maintenance and reinforcement of continuous screening tests;
- a new spraying operation in all the School's premises by the Civil Protection;
- the temporary suspension of visits and regroupings during the school clean-up period.

EMP-ABB also put in place appropriate security measures to ensure the proper conduct of the 24th session of its Board of Directors chaired by the Minister of Defense and Veterans Affairs, Colonel Sadio Camara.



Let's remain vigilant and together, let's stop COVID-19!

EMP-ABB's November Training Courses

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UNSOC

United Nations
Staff Officers Course
(UNSOC)

Dates and Location

November 2nd – 20th, 2020
EMP-ABB (Bamako, MALI)

Funding

Kingdom of Netherlands

Beneficiaries

23 trainees

Objective

Acquisition of the knowledge and know-how essential to staff officers in a UN Force or Sector Staff



CIMIC

Civil-Military Coordination
of the United Nations (CIMIC)

Dates and Location

November 2nd-13th 2020
EMP-ABB (Bamako, MALI)

Funding

Japon

Beneficiaries

17 trainees

Objective

Underline the importance of Civil-military coordination and gain the knowledge and skills needed to plan and drive activities, as well as the preparation of UN-CIMIC activity reports



RSS and Gender

Security Sector reform
And Gender
(RSS & Gender)

Dates and Location

November 2nd-13th 2020
EMP-ABB (Bamako, MALI)

Funding

Danemark
Danish Refugees for Council
DRC

Beneficiaries

25 trainees

Objective

Make an inventory of the security reform in the context of peace agreement and the reconciliation in Mali from the Algiers agreement



CONNFOND in Niger

Basic Knowledge
(CONNFOND)

Dates and Location

November 5th-9th 2020
ENP (Niamey, NIGER)

Funding

Federal Republic of Germany

Beneficiaries

FDS of NIGER
30 trainees

Objective

Acquiring fundamental knowledge related to peacekeeping operations (OMP)

EMP-ABB's November Training Courses

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GRC in BENIN

Disaster Risk Management (GRC)

Dates and Location

November 9th-20th ,2020
BENIN

Funding

Federal Republic of Germany

Beneficiaries

36 trainees

Objective

Familiarize participants with the concepts and mechanisms of planning and operational disaster risk management



POC

Protection of Civilians
(POC)

Dates and Location

November 16th-27th ,2020
EMP-ABB (Bamako, MALI)

Funding

Japan

Beneficiaries

19 trainees

Objective

Acquisition of knowledge and necessary skills for the protection of civilians in the United Nations peacekeeping operations



GPS

Gender, Peace
and Sécurité
(GPS)

Dates and Location

November 16th-27th ,2020
EMP-ABB (Bamako, MALI)

Funding

Kingdom of Netherlands

Beneficiaries

20 trainees

Objective

Acquisition of theoretical and practical knowledge to gain a better understanding of women's involvement in the process of prevention, negotiation and conflict management.



During the month of November, EMP-ABB had the privilege of strengthening its partnership ties through the signing of a new partnership agreement and multiple meetings, working sessions or exchanges with, among others:

- H.E.M Vegar Brynildsen Ambassador of the Kingdom of Norway in Mali;
- Signature of EMP-ABB - DCAF (Centre for Security Sector Governance - Geneva) convention;
- UNOWAS Dakar (United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel);
- Mr. Edmond Moukala, Head of Office and UNESCO Representative in Mali;
- Commander Edward Black, British Defence Attaché in Mali;
- Anne Bennett, Head of DCAF's Sub-Saharan Africa Division;
- The Defense Attaché of the Kingdom of the Netherlands;;
- General Daniel Sidiki Traoré, Force Commander of MINUSCA (United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Central Africa);
- DCAF webinar on "Mali: New Challenges and New Opportunities for Peace?";
- University of Montreal's Webinar on "Capacity Building in the Era of COVID-19" with contribution to Panel 3: Peacekeeping;
- Webinar with APSTA on "Fifteen Years of Training Senior Mission Leaders in Africa: Workshop on Experiences and Lessons Learned"



EMP-ABB's November Partnerships Closing ceremony of CONNFOND in Niger

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Following exchanges with former and new EMP-ABB partners in Burkina Faso in October 2020, **the General Director of the School also visited Niamey, Niger, in November** to participate in the closing ceremony of the CONNFOND training funded by the Federal Republic of Germany and conducted for the benefit of their Defense and Security Forces.

During his stay, the General Director of EMP-ABB met and exchanged with many partners and stakeholders involved on issues related to stabilization and peacekeeping. The discussions focused on strengthening partnership ties in the area of peacekeeping training and the promotion of a culture of peace in the Sahel-Saharan area, including the Liptako-Gourma border area.

Thus, the General Director of EMP-ABB and his delegation met among others:

- The Director of CNESS (National Centre for Strategic Studies and Security), Colonel Major Mahamadou Seidou Magagi;
- Ms. Jolie-Ruth Moran, Project Coordinator at DCAF Niger (Centre for Security Sector Governance - Geneva) and Major General El Hadj Gamou, Inspector of Armed Forces (IGAS);
- The General Director of the National Police of Niger, Commissioner General Souley Boubacar;
- Niamey Military Academy.



Departure: Lt Colonel Peter Maurer, Swiss cooperation and permanent instructor at EMP-ABB

Time flies! Just the time to unpack my suitcase and understand my work at EMP-ABB , my commitment of a hectic year is already coming to an end.

From a Swiss perspective, my work was to establish the testing phase of a cooperation between the Swiss Department of Defense and EMP-ABB, as well as initiating preparations for evaluation to be carried out in late 2021, with the continuing trial phase until spring 2022. From a Malian point of view, it was a sharing of experience and expertise in the field of training and internship organization. This is how I had the opportunity to organize training courses, participate in internships ,teach, evaluate, and develop new courses.

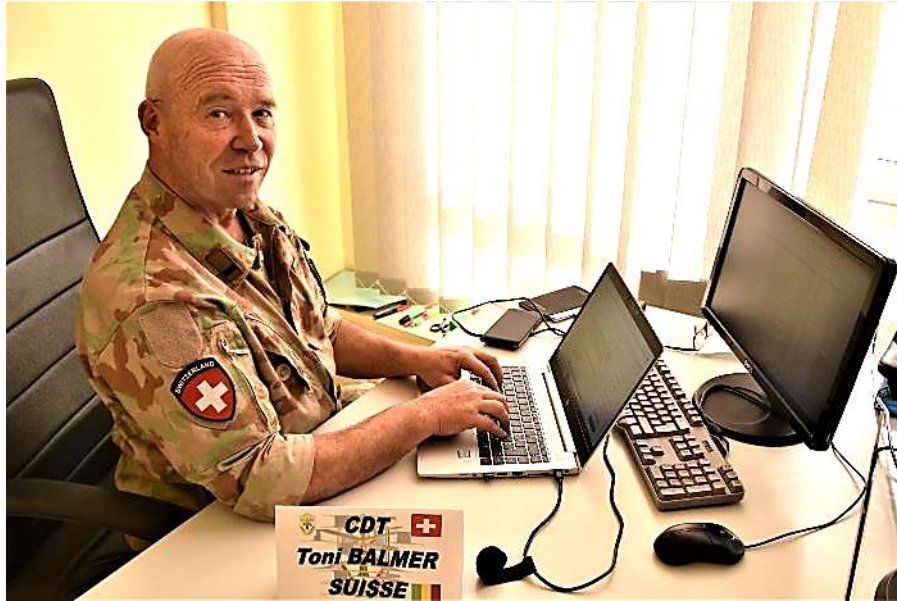
The year 2020 brought a variety of challenges, most of which came from outside the school. Starting with the night curfew and the suspension of all air traffic due to the Covid-19 or popular protest actions until the upheaval of socio-political life. For an international in a new environment, it must be said that these are quite special and memorable living conditions.

This year at EMP-ABB, I have many positive memories: new contacts and friendships that have emerged, the incredibly beautiful landscapes that Mali offers, exciting interactions with trainees, etc. I hope that my successors will have so many positive experiences at the end of their mission. I am sure they will be able to continue and enrich the foundations that I have established at EMP-ABB. I would like to thank all the employees of EMP-ABB, from the General Director to the cleaning staff, for their real commitment because together we can succeed! I wish everyone success in their future lives and may 2021 be a little more "normal" than the previous one.

Africa united for peace!



Arrival: Major Anton Balmer, Swiss cooperation and permanent instructor at EMP-ABB



Enrichment of the EMP-ABB staff with the arrival of Major (= Commander) Anton Balmer as permanent instructor.

On Monday November 16th, 2020, Major Switzerland (Commander) Anton Balmer joined EMP-ABB as a permanent instructor. Throughout his military career, which began in 1979, Major Balmer held numerous positions in the infantry profession as well as in various educational and psychological services. Among his many overseas peacekeeping assignments, he has served several times as a military observer or civilian observer with the United Nations (UN) and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). Major Balmer was deployed to Georgia, Ethiopia and helped monitoring the truce in the Middle East. In the capacity building sector, he has worked at the International Peace Support Training Centre in Kenya (IPSTC) as a trainer, managing the POTI e-learning platform and setting up computer labs.

The presence of Major Anton Balmer is part of the partnership between the Alioune Blondin Beye School of Peacekeeping in Bamako and Switzerland through the Swiss Cooperation Office in Mali (SDC). As a permanent instructor at the school, he participates in coaching and training by sharing his experience and expertise with police, military and civilian trainees on peacekeeping issues.

The School is pleased to have one more member to digitally strengthen its teams of trainers and welcomes Major Anton Balmer to the large family of the EMP-ABB in Bamako.



Photos of the November 2020 Classes Promotions EMP-ABB



UNSOC



CIMIC



RSS



CONNFOND in Niger



Photos of the November 2020 Classes Promotions EMP-ABB



GRC in BENIN



GPS



POC