



GRADUATION CEREMONY FOR MP3 STUDENTS

Peacekeeping School
Ecole de Maintien de la
Paix Alioune Blondin BEYE
de Bamako

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On Thursday 2 April 2026, the Alioune Blondin Beye Peacekeeping School in Bamako, through its Centre for Analysis and Research on the Sahel-Saharan Region (**CARESS**), held a graduation ceremony for the students of the third cohort of the 'Master's in Peacekeeping and Post-Conflict State Reconstruction (MP3)'.

The ceremony took place in the School's Amphitheatre in the presence of several dignitaries, including the Minister of State, Minister for Reconciliation, Peace and National Cohesion, **Lieutenant General Ismaël WAGUE**, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, **His Excellency Mr Abdoulaye DIOP**, the former Prime Minister and Patron of the graduating class, **His Excellency Mr Ousmane Issoufi MAIGA**, the Inspector General of the Armed Forces and Services, **Brigadier General Bréhima DIABATE**, and the Director General of the EMP-ABB, **Colonel-Major Souleymane SANGARÉ**.

The School's partners, as well as the parents, friends and relatives of the graduating students, also graced the event with their presence.

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In line with its mission to build the capacity of African leaders in the field of peace and security, and in partnership with the University of Legal and Political Sciences of Bamako (USJPB), the EMP-ABB launched this Master's programme in 2018 with the aim of equipping Africa with competent leaders capable of ensuring its moral, economic, cultural, social and political recovery.

Over the course of two years, the graduates of the Ousmane Issoufi MAIGA cohort acquired a wide range of skills, enabling them to understand the complex dynamics of conflict, peace processes and the challenges of reconstruction.

Speaking on behalf of his peers from Benin and Mali, the valedictorian, **Mr ZOUGMOREY Yanne Richmond Kiswendsida** from Burkina Faso, praised the quality of the education they had received and assured the audience of their unwavering commitment to working for peace, security and development in the Sahel and across Africa.





CONFERENCE AND DEBATE ON ENERGY SOVEREIGNTY

The Alioune Blondin Bèye Peacekeeping School in Bamako (**EMP-ABB**) hosted a panel discussion in its conference room on Tuesday 7 April 2026, led by **Dr Aboudramane Coulibaly**, a lecturer and researcher, on the theme: ‘Energy sovereignty in a world where hydrocarbons are synonymous with power’.

The conference was attended by the following dignitaries:

- **Her Excellency Ms Rachna KORHONEN**, Ambassador of the United States of America to Mali,
- **His Excellency Mr Driss ISBAYENE**, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco to Mali,
- **His Excellency Mr Efe CEYLAN**, Ambassador of Türkiye to Mali,
- and **Colonel-Major Souleymane SANGARÉ**, Director General of the EMP-ABB.

In addition, several members of diplomatic missions, the Defence and Security Forces, civil society organisations, as well as the entire staff of the School took part in the meeting.

The aim of this panel discussion was to raise participants' awareness of the vital importance of energy products in today's international relations.

In his presentation, the speaker highlighted the growing use by countries and organisations of hydrocarbons as a geostrategic weapon, either by regulating production to control prices or by controlling supply routes (gas pipelines, sea straits) to create vulnerabilities.

He went on to point out that energy has served as a catalyst for certain wars or has been used as a means of coercion to weaken an adversary on the international stage.

He concluded by stating that the future prosperity of Africa in general, and the Sahel in particular, will depend on their ability to implement a sound energy strategy, which he outlined in four phases:

- Energy resilience;
- Energy self-sufficiency;
- Energy sovereignty;
- And energy abundance.

The question-and-answer session provided an opportunity for **Mr Coulibaly** to elaborate on certain points and for the audience to make substantial contributions regarding the ways and means by which states can achieve energy sovereignty.





On Thursday 9 April 2026, the new Head of the Swiss Cooperation Office and Consular Agency, **Mr Claude WANDELER**, paid a courtesy visit to the Director General of the Alioune Blondin BÈYE Peacekeeping School in Bamako (**EMP-ABB**).

On this occasion, he was accompanied by:

- **Ms Fairlie Chappuis**, Human Security Adviser;
- and **Mr Samba CISSE**, Programme Officer.

This visit was part of a series of introductory meetings initiated by the new Swiss Head of Office with his institutional partners. It also provided him with an opportunity to gain a better understanding of the School's operations and activities.

The Alioune Blondin BÈYE Peacekeeping School in Bamako (EMP-ABB) hosted a working visit by a high-level delegation from the Dutch Ministry of Defence at its premises from 13 to 14 April 2026.

The delegation comprised:

- **Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas Van DEN BERG**, from the Civil-Military Cooperation (CIMIC) Office;
- **Lieutenant-Colonel Guido Van DIERMEN**, Defence Attaché at the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Mali;
- **Lieutenant-Colonel Joep HENST**, Senior Planner at the Dutch Joint Force Command;
- And **Major Jaafar TANGI**, of the Army.

The aim of this visit was to strengthen the partnership between the two institutions, particularly in terms of supporting the standard and academic training programmes run by EMP-ABB.

During their stay, the delegation members had the opportunity to tour all of the EMP-ABB's facilities, visiting each of the departments where they held direct discussions with senior staff to gain a better understanding of the activities carried out by the School.

Their visit coincided with the 'United Nations Staff Officers Course (**UNSOC**)', which they attended. They thus had the opportunity to interact directly with the instructors and participants.



08/04/26 – SUISS/DCAF – Courtesy visit by **Ms Fairlie Chappuis**, Human Security Adviser at the Swiss Cooperation Office, and **Ms Valérie Petitpierre**, Head of Office at DCAF, as part of the project to strengthen the capacity of the Malian Armed Forces (FAMa) in the areas of Civilian Protection (PoC), Human Rights (HR), International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and Leadership.



08/04/26 – LIVIA LAMOURE – A courtesy visit by a delegation led by **Mr BARANDAO Débaa**, Headteacher of the 'LIVIA LAMOURE' School, to express their gratitude following the dictation competition sponsored by the Director General of EMP-ABB, **Colonel-Major Souleymane SANGARE**.



Du 20 au 21/04/26 – SENEGAL – Participation of **Colonel-Major Souleymane SANGARE**, Director-General of EMP-ABB, in the 10th Dakar International Forum on Peace and Security in Africa.

24/04/26 – OCLEI – Signing of the partnership agreement between the Alioune Blondin BEYE Peacekeeping School (EMP-ABB) and the Central Office for the Fight against Illicit Enrichment (OCLEI). This cooperation aims to promote research and capacity-building in the following areas:

- Good governance and strengthening the rule of law;
- Integrity, transparency and ethics;
- Prevention and combating of corruption and illicit enrichment.





UNSOC 1-26 Maroc

United Nations Staff Officers' Course (**UNSOC**)

Date and Place

From 13th to 30th april 2026
EMP-ABB (Bamako, MALI)

Founding

Morocco

Beneficiaries

DSF Course
21 trainees
including 01 woman

Objective

To equip participants with the technical and tactical skills and professional attitudes, both individual and collective, required to perform the duties of a Force or Sector Staff Officer in the context of a peacekeeping operation.

43th Edition

'Re-establishing political and community mediation in Mali: a critical analysis of ancestral knowledge for social cohesion'



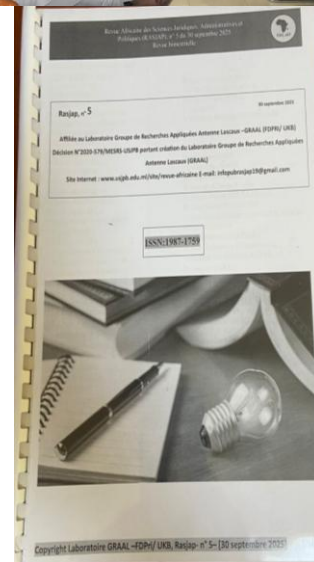
The Alioune Blondin Bèye Peacekeeping School in Bamako (EMP-ABB), through its Centre for Analysis and Research on the Sahel-Saharan Region (CARESS), held the 43rd edition of its book club on Thursday 9 April 2026 in the CARESS reading room.

For this session, the work in the spotlight was: 'Re-rooting political and community mediation in Mali: a critical analysis of ancestral knowledge for social cohesion', presented by Dr Ahmadou TOURE, an expert in public governance and community mediation.

In a context where imported solutions sometimes reveal their limitations, Dr Toure invites us to explore the richness of our traditional mechanisms to restore the social fabric. In this book, he thus offers an in-depth critical analysis of the potential of ancestral knowledge to revitalise mediation processes and strengthen social cohesion.

As usual, the question-and-answer session gave participants the opportunity to contribute to the discussion and gain a deeper understanding of the book.

For this edition, the Book Club brought together members of CARESS, students from the Institut des Hautes Etudes de Management (IHEM) and Club members comprising researchers, PhD students and master's students from CARESS, not to mention the author's parents, friends and supporters, who enriched the discussions with their contributions.





Promotions APRIL 2026 EMP-ABB



**United Nations Staff Officers' Course (UNSOC 1-26 Morocco)
EMP-ABB
Trom 13th au 30th april 2026**

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