**MaliWatch** \_ALL MEMBER MEETING MINUTES, Sunday, 17 September 2016 | 16:00 GMT

Present:

Ablo Doucoure

Fatim Diallo

Jim Barry

Harouna Maiga

AGENDA

>> 1- MSAS: ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND NEXT STEPS.

Harouna’s summary:

Overall one of the best MSAS meetings. Minister of Higher Education and President were both involved. About 300 people attended, five good plenary sessions. These were all well attended as they were scheduled between 12 noon and I:00pm while people were free from smaller conference presentations, gathering to wait for lunch. A good scheduling.

Harouna reads in French listing the Plenaries. The new Cancer research head speaks very good French and did a good a great job. Good organization and participation. Eight ministers arrived and participated in presentation. Agriculture had the most attendees. 4 classes, on different computer topics.

Opening: The Mayor opened with the local MSAS committee, Diola presented for MaliWatch, Wilfred gave a speech. Diola also commented on the History of MaliWatch and MSAS. Minister of Higher Education spoke to open the conference.

Harouna was the moderator of numerous forums and topics. Aissata Thiam also helped moderate. Fad, Doulaye, etc. all helped.  FB Keita, the daughter of the Prime Minister, Modibou Keita was there, she resides in Canada. She was very active in the support, enabling the dinner with the Prime Minister. She is a member of MSAS, efficient and humble.

She was involved in MaliLink for many years.

The plan for MSAS was presented to the President, to work with the government but be independent. It was adopted after minor changes. Fad and Doulaye have been retained to work on the final document. The President stayed three hours with the group which was quite unusual, he usually allows just thirty minutes. He accompanied people to the exit of the Presidence and quite evidently enjoyed the intellectual atmosphere of the group. He knows we’re Scientists and Educators, just trying to help the country and are very knowledgeable. We don’t have another agenda for ourselves.

We would like MSAS to work every day not every two years. We would like an office and a budget. This is being worked upon. The president committed himself to this on television. We want it to have by January 2017. It has to be fast as there are no major incidents, issues or an election right now.

As long as the organization has this funding together with its independence it will be good. The president supported us with 36 million CFA for the conference. He is very supportive.

Ablo - How can we help and keep the momentum? There are several researchers based in the US who are willing to take on students if they can “represent” well. This is important to keep MaliWatch going well. We can act as a bridge for institutional partnerships.

Dr Gangbo (key person in MSAS) and Jim should get together after he is informed by MaliWatch.

MW needs to maintain strength and presence at all events. Keep Jim Gates and others involved, including STEM in progress.

We need to have events that bring people together.  Possibly we could have a west coast event. This could occur at a University having a related event. East coast has the embassy that makes it logical to meet there.

>> 2- STATUS OF TREASURY

August Bank statement is reconciled and balance at $2023.31(MSAS owes $100 some) Mohomodou has been notified. Web hosting and TurboBridge are split evenly. WebHosting is $26.43 per month.

Harouna volunteered to be MaliWatch Treasurer but needs to have access to the account. Amadou Niang has been busy and if he agrees, treasury will be turned over to Harouna. Fatim will need to give him access to the account. There is difficulty accessing the PayPal transfers. (Harouna has this and could do it all if given access to the account)

Fatim will confer with Amadou to make sure this is OK, MW Treasurer with access to all.

>> 3- UPDATE ON WEBSITE

(Amadou Wane will be contacted. - Jim will check to see if he can international web addresses. Fatim will wait for an update. )

Jim can do it for free. If Amadou Wane can do MSAS probably he should be able to do the same for MaliWatch

The website is small but important. Archives are now available, Amadou Wane fixed the link so it works.

Finished Minutes will be sent from Fatim to Amadou Kane to be posted including old minutes.

>> 4- OUTSTANDING ISSUES

Dakouo will be called and sent a card in name of MaliWatch to congratulate him for his new baby girl.