

OFFICE CENTRAL DE LUTTE

REPUBLIQUE DU MALI

CONTRE L'ENRICHISSEMENT ILLICITE

Un Peuple-Un But-Une Foi

GENERAL SECRETARY

REPORT OF THE WORKSHOP WITH RELIGIOUS ON THE FIGHT AGAINST ILLICIT ENRICHMENT

Subject: *"Conference - Debates on illicit enrichment from a religious*

Perspective"

Organiser: Central Office on the fight against the illicit enrichment

Partner: The Ministry of the Reconstruction of the State, in charge of relations with institutions ; the High Islamic Board of Mali through the Malian League of Muslims and Academics of Mali (LIMAMA); the Catholic and Protestant churches

Date and Venue: Thursday, 15 of July 2021 at MAEVA palace Bamako.

Duration : 4 hours (10h - 14h)

Speakers :

- Gaoussou MINTA, Deputy General Secretary of LIMAMA ;
- Calixte TRAORE, Former National President of of the Malian Laity, Archdiocese of Bamako ;
- Reverend Pastor Djibril Kalane TOURE, General Secretary of 'AGEMPEM ;
- Prof Hamidou MAGASSA, **Anthropologue** – Reasearcher ;

Moderator : Mrs Jacqueline KONATE, Lecturer.

Rapporteur : Salam TOURE Islam Hight Consul of Mali ; Gaousou KOUYATE of Islamic Association of salute.

Attendance : List in appendix

OVERVIEW OF THE OBJECTIVES AND RESULTATS:

Overall Goal aims to inform and to sensitize the public and Senior Officer on the fight against illicit enrichment on religious view.

The specific objectives are mainly 3:

1. Comment and present Holy Writings on the phenomenon of corruption;
2. Exchange on the socio-religious values of prevention of Illicit enrichment;
3. Identify the action means of prevention of illicit enrichment by using the socio-religious values principles.

Expected outcomes:

1. Provide OCLEI with the tools to be inspired by the religious beliefs of the Muslim and Christian religions to strengthen the preventive mechanism in the fight against illicit enrichment;
2. Inform and sensitise Officials, agents of the administration and leaders of civil society organisations on the repugnant nature of corruption as prescribed in the holy books
3. Get religious leaders to engage in the crusade against illicit enrichment through daily preaching to the faithful.

OPENING CEREMONY

The opening ceremony has officially marked by the intervention of Dr. Moumouni GUINDO, Hamed SAM AND and Abraham BENGALY, respectively President of OCLEI ; le Representative of Supreme Court and Secretary General of the Ministry of Reconstruction of the State in charge of the relation with Institutions. Between the interventions of the President Moumouni GUINDO and that of M. Abraham BENGALY, the participants have benefited the model class from Professor Hamidou MAGASSA, Anthropologist – Researcher. The model class allowed the participants to have an overview of the phenomenon of corruption in Malian society and the role

and the place of religion in the combat against corruption. The lesson took 15 minutes.

PANELISTS

Mr. Gaoussou MINTA, representative of LIMAMA, in his presentation, made the first presentation; he has explained the phenomenon of corruption. He pointed out that Islam prohibits corruption because of its disastrous consequences on the economy and our morals. The Holy Quran and the Hadiths clearly condemn corruption in all its forms. The Holy Book makes no distinction between a corruptor and a corrupted. Their punishment is specified in verse 33 of Surah "Al ma'ida". This punishment extends from the worst of torments to banishment, added Gaoussou MINTA

Calixte TRAORE of the Catholic Church defined corruption in four dimensions. He spoke of the organic dimension, which is characterised by the deterioration of the body, damage and decomposition. The moral and social dimension, which is found in the alteration of a judgment and the degradation of morals. The spiritual and religious dimension, which is perversion, degeneration of the spirit, defilement of the soul, etc. Finally, the economic dimension, which is what we all know and experience in our public structures and services.

The Catholic Church representative added that corruption is also a threat to peace. Indeed, according to him, peace is threatened when the dignity of a person is not respected; and it is even more so when coexistence is not intended to ensure the common good in the interest of each person. Calixte TRAORE concludes by saying that corruption is a sin punished by the distance from God. The corruptor will never benefit from God's mercy as long as he does not repent of his actions.

The Reverend Djibril Kalane TOURE adds that two passages in the Bible show that corruption is in radical contrast to the demands of the Christian faith. In Exodus 23:8, God gives the following prescription to the people of Israel: "You shall not receive gifts; for gifts blind the open-minded and corrupt the words of the righteous. Also, it is said in Job 15: 34: "The house of the ungodly shall be barren, and fire shall devour the tent of the corrupt. Pastor TOURE focused his speech on the behaviour of believers in the face of corruption. What should the believer do in the face of corruption? He recalled the role of sensitisation and not repression of the church. However, corruption will only be defeated when believers become aware and accept to put their faith before personal gain, concluded Pastor TOURE.

THE DISCUSSION

The discussions focused on issues relating to the place of the religious in the fight against corruption and illicit enrichment; the corruption of the religious man himself; the relationship between religious and corruptors; the relationship between worship and justice in the face of corruption; the use of the proceeds of corruption to get closer to God, etc. These different issues raised a number of debates and concerns including the weakness of awareness in places of worship; the interference of religious figures in the handling of cases at the level of justice; the weakness of justice; the establishment of impunity as a system; the poor governance of places of worship; the education of children, etc. Among others,

The three Christian and Muslim panellists and Professor MAGASSA provided details on these issues. It emerged from the interventions of the panellists that the revealed religions proscribe corruption and invite man to distance himself from it by improving his conduct in his relations with public affairs. They explained that in no way could the use of the proceeds of corruption in the path of Allah be used to erase the sin of corruption.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- The commitment and empowerment of Christian and Muslim leaders to multiply information and awareness-raising activities in mosques and churches and during social events;
- The increase of gender initiatives by the OCLEI;
- The fight against impunity.

The day ended with a lunch offered by OCLEI

Bamako the 22 of July 2021

The rapporteur

Seybou KEITA / Head of Communication Department OCLEI