



The West Africa Report

*Security and Piracy - At Sea - On
Land - Domestic News
and Developments for the
International Resources Sector*

The West Africa Report ~ SUMMARY

September 2 – 15, 2013



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Burkina Faso

- **12 September 2013** - Burkina Faso's government announced on Thursday that amidst the growing unrest over the high cost of living and education in the landlocked West African country, it will lower taxes for civil servants and increase student loans. Under the new plan, the government will boost student loans by US \$50 each month.
- **2 September 2013** - Burkina Faso's President Blaise Compaore has survived an assassination attempt after a renegade soldier attempted to attack him.

Cameroon

- **6 September 2013** - Cameroon's National Communications Council has closed down eleven newspapers, television and radio stations, for what it describes as disrespect of ethics and professional norms, however journalists have stated that these private medial outlets are being silenced as they are critical of the current government.
- **5 September 2013** - With thousands of refugees fleeing northeastern Nigeria following an offensive that was launched by the Nigerian military in mid-May in a bid to tackle Boko Haram militants, neighboring countries like Cameroon have been confronted with a double challenge as they try to meet the needs of civilians fleeing the violence, while also attempting to prevent infiltration by Boko Haram fighters.

Central African Republic

On the Ground Reporting

- **10 September 2013** - Military officials indicated on Tuesday that armed supporters of ousted president Francois Bozize continued to control a number of villages in the northwestern region of the country, where fighting over the past few days has resulted in the deaths of at least seventy-three people.
- **9 September 2013** - On Monday, troops from the CAR battled fighters loyal to the ousted President in what is the second day of clashed which have resulted in the deaths of at least sixty people.

Domestic News

- **13 September 2013** - The rebel group, which swept to power in March after toppling the CAR's former leader, was dissolved Friday by a decree that was issued by the very president the group installed.
- **12 September 2013** - A court in the Central African Republic has sentenced seventeen Seleka fighters to eight years in prison for theft, rape and pillage, making them the first ex-rebels to be punished for a wave of violence that has gripped the country since the group seized power in March of this year. the fighting will continue to target civilians and carry out more atrocities against them."
- **10 September 2013** - Following a weekend of clashes, which killed dozens of people and displaced tens of thousands, the president of the CAR has removed his military chief of staff.
- **6 September 2013** - On Friday, the UN refugee agency reported that aid workers who carried out an emergency mission to the northern region in the CAR found villages abandoned and burned along with evidence of widespread rights abuses.
- **4 September 2013** - On Wednesday, in response to the rampant violence and petty crime that has continued to destabilize the country, officials in the CAR launched a programme to collect unauthorized weapons.

Guinea

- **12 September 2013** - On Thursday, Guinea's opposition stated that they were considering new street protests following the expiration of a 72-hour ultimatum which was given to the government in a bid to fix the flaws that the opposition identified in the roll of registered voters.
- **9 September 2013** - Guinea's opposition parties have threatened to call street protests and boycott the legislative elections, which are set to occur later this month, if the country's election commission does not publish the voter lists within the following 72 hours.
- **3 September 2013** - The EU Electoral Observer Mission (MOEUE) is expected to deploy a twenty-four long-term observer team to Guinea ahead of the country's legislative elections which are slated to occur on the 24 September.

Guinea-Bissau

Domestic News

- **10 September 2013** - On Tuesday, Guinea-Bissau's parliament rejected a bill that would effectively have granted amnesty to the leaders of the latest military coup which stunned the country last year.

International Developments

- **7 September 2013** - The United Nations Special Representative to Guinea-Bissau announced this week that the country's planned November presidential election may need to be delayed.

Ivory Coast

- **14 September 2013** - Officials indicated on Saturday that three members of the Ivorian security forces have been killed in two separate attacks by armed gangs in Yamoussoukro.

Mali

On the Ground Reporting

- **12 September 2013** - On Thursday, the military confirmed that two Malian soldiers were wounded as the army exchanged fire with "bandits" during security operations that were being carried out near the Mauritanian border.

Domestic News

- **10 September 2012** - Mali's new government has announced that it will carry out a "complete inventory" of existing mining contracts, adding that it is ready to renegotiate any contracts which are not in the country's best interests.
 - Meanwhile in the northern regions of the country, Tuareg leaders and civil society groups have welcomed a proposal to begin talks with Mali's newly formed government.
- **8 September 2013** - Mali's first post-war prime minister has appointed a cabinet that features a number of old hands mixed in with a new ministry that has been charged with reconciliation.
- **7 September 2013** - Mali's first post-war Prime Minister began to form a new government as both France and the United States pledged their support and gave an early vote of confidence to the new administration.

- **4 September 2013** - Ibrahim Boubacar Keita has been sworn in as Mali's new president at the Supreme Court in the capital, Bamako.
- **3 September 2013** - On his last overseas visit prior to leaving office on Wednesday, Mali's interim leader Dioncounda Traore thanked the Ivory Coast for its support in resolving its severe political crisis.
- **2 September 2013** - Malian President-elect Ibrahim Boubacar Keita has travelled to Togo. Due to be sworn in next Wednesday, the President-elect was hosted in Kara, which is located in northern Togo, by his Togolese counterpart, Faure Gnassingbe.

International Developments

- **7 September 2013** - The Obama Administration has announced that it will restore a portion of US assistance to Mali after it was suspended last year following a military coup.

Mauritania

Domestic News

- **12 September 2013** - Mauritania announced on Thursday that it will begin providing energy-starved Senegal electricity within the next two years.

Regional Reporting

- **5 September 2013** - Algerian counter-terrorism forces, who have been tasked with monitoring and securing the country's southern borders with Mali and Mauritania, recently killed seven terrorists who were attempting to cross into Mauritania from the Algerian region of Bordj Baji Mokhtar.

Nigeria

On the Ground Reporting

- **12 September 2013** - Authorities on Thursday indicated that gunmen with explosives and rocket-propelled grenades attacked a police station in Nigeria's restive northeastern region, resulting in the killing of two police officers and injuring one other in an incident that is similar to previous raids that have been carried out by Islamist extremists.
- **11 September 2013** - Nigerian troops launched an airstrike and later killed ten suspected Boko Haram militants after clashing with the Islamist extremist group in the country's restive northeastern region.
- **10 September 2013** - Nigeria's second-highest ranking Anglican archbishop was kidnapped over the weekend outside the southern oil city of Port Harcourt, which is the capital of Rivers state.
- **6 September 2013** - Army spokesman Sagir Musa has indicated that about fifty Islamist militants have been killed in northeastern Nigeria after the military raided a number of Boko Haram's camps.
- **3 September 2013** - Reports have indicated that thousands of people in the northern Nigerian town of Kajuru have demonstrated against what they call arbitrary arrests by police after their police officers were killed in an attack that occurred two weeks ago.

Domestic News

- **11 September 2013** - Amidst serious divisions within the governing party, Nigeria's President Goodluck Jonathan has dismissed nine cabinet ministers in a major cabinet reshuffle.
- **3 September 2013** - The party that has controlled Nigeria, since a return to civilian rule in 1999, has found itself in unfamiliar territory as it is rocked by dissent and faces a strong opposition.

Senegal

- **2 September 2013** - Senegal's President has removed his Prime Minister, who had been at the post for the past year and a half, and has replaced him with the country's justice Minister.

Piracy in the Gulf of Guinea

About MS Risk

Security Summaries for West African States

Benin - Although there is currently no travel advisory for Benin, MS Risk advises all travellers to the country to remain vigilant. There is currently a low threat from terrorism. There have been incidents of mugging, personal assault and car-jacking in Cotonou. Armed robberies have also been reported in other areas, most notably in those regions that border Nigeria.

Burkina Faso - [Click Here](#)

Cameroon - [Click here](#)

Central African Republic - [Click Here](#)

Equatorial Guinea - There are currently no travel advisories for Equatorial Guinea. Compared with other countries in the region, the level of violent crime is low; however there are regular reports of petty theft which has affected both visitors and expatriates. MS Risk advises all travellers to avoid walking around Malabo and Bata at night and to avoid travelling by road after dark. Although the political situation has been calm in recent years, you should be aware that political events can lead to an increased presence of police, military or security forces on the streets. Consequently you should avoid any political rallies, demonstrations or large public gatherings. There is a low threat from terrorism; however you should be aware that attacks can occur at any time and place, including those frequented by expatriates and foreign travellers.

Gabon - There is a low threat from terrorism. Crime is increasing in Gabon, particularly in Libreville and Port-Gentil. There have been robberies, armed attacks and rape. Consequently MS Risk advises you to take sensible personal security precautions and maintain a high level of vigilance in public places. Avoid isolated or poorer areas of towns and walking alone at night. There have been a number of car-jackings in Libreville. There have been armed robberies of commercial shipping in the Gulf of Guinea.

Gambia - There is no travel advisory for Gambia, however MS Risk advises all travellers to avoid travel by road from The Gambia to the Casamance, in the southern region of Senegal. The Casamance region of south western Senegal remains affected by incidents involving presumed separatist groups and by incidents of banditry. There is an underlying threat from terrorism. Due to the French military intervention in Mali, coupled with The Gambia's stated commitment to participate in the intervention, there is a possibility that retaliatory attacks that target Western interests in the region, may be carried out. Travellers to the country are warned to remain vigilant as attacks can take place at anytime and anywhere. Following a political disagreement between the government of The Gambia and the Europa Union, pertaining to the deterioration of human rights in The Gambia, there has been an increase of political tensions which may lead to unannounced demonstrations in Banjul as well as in other parts of the country. MS Risk advises all travellers to avoid all demonstrations.

Ghana - Although there is currently no travel advisory for Ghana, the country has seen an increase in violent robbery in 2013. In May, an expatriate's vehicle was stopped by an armed individual who forced his way into the car demanding money. On being paid, the individual left the vehicle. In a separate incident, an expatriate was robbed of her wallet while attempting to pay a taxi driver. There have also been reports of two westerners being shot while driving alone at night. In a separate incident, two westerners were robbed at gunpoint while at a restaurant. Both incidents occurred in the Accra Area however there have been reports of robberies in the Tema area in which one incident resulted in the death of a westerner. There have also been reports of foreign nationals being held at gun-point in their homes and while walking in the street. Most armed robberies occur at night however there have been some reported incidents of such incidents occurring during daytime. A common tactic has been to deliberately cause a minor road traffic accident in order to force the targeted vehicle to stop. As a result of ongoing local Chieftancy and land disputes, isolated inter-ethnic violence and civil unrest can occur at any time, including in the Northern, Upper East and Volta regions. A dusk to dawn curfew has been put in place on the Hohoe community in the Volta region. This is due to communal clashes over the exhumation of the Chief Imam of Hohoe. If you are considering to travel to the Northern Region, MS Risk advises you to remain alert to the potential of new outbreaks of fighting. Flooding is common in the Upper West, Upper East and Northern Regions during the rainy season, which spans from March to November. We advise that you monitor the local weather reports and expect difficulties when travelling to affected areas during this season.

Guinea - [Click Here](#)

Guinea-Bissau - [Click Here](#)

Ivory Coast - [Click Here](#)

Liberia - MS Risk advises against all but essential travel to parts of Liberia, specifically those regions of the country that border with the Ivory Coast. There is a high level of crime in Monrovia, including armed robbery. The Liberian National Police has a very limited capability to prevent or detect crime, or to provide emergency response in any part of the country. Foreigners have been mugged in the Mamba Point and Sinkor areas of Monrovia, where most international visitors stay. The

roads from Monrovia to Roberts International Airport, the port town of Buchanan and to the border with Sierra Leone at Bo Waterside, and to the border with Guinea at Ganta, are mainly paved and in reasonable condition. Most other roads outside Monrovia are unpaved. Driving and road conditions will significantly deteriorate during the rainy season, which occurs from May to November. Many roads during this time become impassable. MS Risk advises against all travel at night outside of Monrovia, except to or from Roberts International Airport. This is because roads are treacherous and all the roads are unlit. Furthermore, vehicles often do not have any lights. As a result, travellers after dark are more vulnerable to being robbed at an illegal barricade. Liberia has become increasingly stable since the internal conflict ended in 2003. However the security situation remains fragile. There is a low threat from terrorism. There is a possibility that retaliatory attacks could be carried out in Liberia, this is due to the country's participation in the intervention in Mali. UNMIL peacekeepers are deployed to the main population centers around Liberia, and patrol the main roads.

Mali - [Click Here](#)

Mauritania - [Click Here](#)

Niger - MS Risk advises against all travel to the following parts of Niger: all areas of the country north of the city of Abalak, including the Air Massif region; the province of Agadez (including the road linking Assamakato Agadez and the city of Agadez); areas of Tahoua province north of the city of Tahoua, including the city itself; the area of Tillaberi province north of Niamey, including the road from Niamey to Gao and the road from Niamey to Menaka; areas within 40 km of the border with Nigeria in Diffa, Zinder and Maradi provinces. MS Risk advises against all but essential travel to the rest of Niger, including the capital city of Niamey. There remains a high threat from terrorism, including kidnapping, in Niger. On 1 June 2013, three guards were killed and twenty-two inmates escaped from the main prison in Niamey during an attack that was launched by suspected Islamist militants. Travellers in Niamey should continue to monitor developments and be alert to announcements and remain vigilant at all times. On 23 May 2013, a military barracks in the town of Agadez and a uranium processing facility near the town of Arlit, approximately 150 miles north of Agadez, were attacked. A number of people were killed and injured. The terrorist group which claimed responsibility for the two attacks has publicly threatened to carry out further attacks in Niger. On 14 May 2013, the Government of Nigeria declared a state of emergency in its northern states of Adamawa, Borno and Yobe. Both Borno and Yobe border southern Niger. Consequently there is a risk that instability may spill over the border from Nigeria to Niger. There is a high threat of kidnapping from terrorist groups including AQIM and MOJWA. These groups have kidnapped Westerners in Niger and in the wider Sahel region, including in Niamey and the north and west of Niger. Further kidnappings are likely to occur. There is a threat of retaliatory attacks in Niger, due to the country's participation in the French-led intervention in Mali. Levels of crime are high, especially in the capital city of Niamey. Thefts, robberies and residential break-ins can occur at any time. Banditry, smuggling and other criminal activity is common in border areas, especially after dark. Bandits are thought to be operating in the border area with Nigeria, south of Zinder. MS Risk advises to avoid crossing the border with Nigeria during the hours of darkness.

Nigeria - [Click Here](#)

Senegal - [Click Here](#)

Sierra Leone - There is currently no travel advisory for Sierra Leone. Violent incidents have taken place under cover of crowds in the streets of Freetown. There are also occasional small riots between rival groups of youths in the central and eastern areas of Freetown. If you encounter such an incident, you should leave the area immediately. There is a low threat from terrorism. There is a possibility that retaliatory attacks may be carried out in Sierra Leone. This is due to the country's participation in the intervention in Mali. During the rainy season, May to October, roads can become extremely difficult, even for off-road vehicles. On 9 August a bridge in the capital city of Freetown collapsed due to a landslide that was caused by heavy rain. At least six people were killed in the incident. MS Risk therefore advises all travellers in the country to exercise due caution when travelling by road throughout the season.

Togo - There is currently no travel advisory for Togo. Crime is on the rise in Lome. Local authorities warn of a rise in violent robberies and car-jacking incidents that target both foreigners and Togolese alike. Togolese authorities have also warned motorists to only stop for individuals in uniform, particularly after dark. You should avoid travelling alone where possible even within Lome city limits, especially after dark. There is a possibility of retaliatory attacks in Togo, due to its participation in the intervention in Mali.

Avoid ALL travel to part(s) of country



Security Summary

Any citizens traveling to, and residing in, Burkina Faso are urged to exercise and maintain a high level of security awareness at all times.

Threats and Concerns

There is a general threat from terrorism throughout the Sahel region. Given the on-going French military intervention in Mali, the threat of retribution against Western private sector interests, especially French, has increased.

Although there are currently no known Islamist operatives in Burkina Faso, the country's shared border with Mali may enable such elements to gain access. Furthermore, such militants may have disguised themselves as refugees in an attempt to blend in and to cross the border without detection. The regional Islamist elements that could threaten Burkina Faso include: al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), Movement for Oneness and Jihad in West Africa (MUJAO), Ansar al Dine, Ansar al Sharia and Boko Haram.



Kidnapping Threats

There is a heightened risk that terrorist groups, including al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) and the Movement for Unity and Jihad in West Africa (MUJWA), may cross the northern borders from Mali and Niger into Burkina Faso in order to carry out kidnaps. MS Risk therefore advises against all travel to the areas of Burkina Faso north of the town of Boulsa, which is 25 km north of the capital of Ouagadougou. We particularly advise against all travel to the regions that border Mali and Niger. Since 2008, over 25 Westerners have been kidnapped in the Sahel region, and a number of these hostages continue to be held. AQIM operates directly or through criminal gangs who carry out kidnappings on their behalf or pass on their kidnap victims in return for payment.

There is also a high risk of armed groups stopping vehicles (including public buses to rob them. Such incidents have occurred in various parts of the country, particularly at night. Therefore, all travel between towns by road at night is to be avoided, especially from Ouagadougou to Po where there is a heightened risk. This is especially severe on market days when bandits often target merchants with stock or cash en route to and from the urban areas.

MS RISK Guidance to Organisations in Burkina Faso:

Although the biggest concern at this time remains in the northern areas of the country, specifically along the porous Mali border and at the junction of the Niger border, the attack and kidnapping in Algeria has demonstrated that such attacks can occur at any place and at any time. In addition, the attack on BP in Algeria came just days after Islamists announced that they would retaliate against French interests in the region. Consequently, it is highly likely that more attacks will take place over the coming months.

There is an increased Burkinabe military presence in the north of the country and companies should review their respective security situations and consider the following:

- Location and safety of personnel
- Security controls, communications and contingency plans at static locations
- Work tempo implications
- Journey management systems in place and working
- Liaison with the military - use of military escorts, coordination between multiple assets, confirmation that military escorts are coordinated and competent for the task.
- Reviewing all crisis management contingencies including but not limited to the following:
 - Kidnap (for ransom or ideological purposes)
 - Medical emergency and evacuation cycle for northern area
 - Interdiction of road moves for personnel and any convoys
 - Loss of communications with remote locations - enhanced comms options, access to stores if replenishment is restricted or cut off.
- Media and public affairs contingency

Companies relying on police escorts in the northern region of the country should ensure that travel patterns do not become predictable. Varying routes is difficult due to the limited road networks; therefore, it is even more important to vary the types of vehicles used as well as the times of the journeys and to avoid travel patterns becoming widely known. This is especially critical given the current tensions along the Mali border and the impending ECOWAS operations. All companies linked to the World Bank/International Finance Cooperation should familiarise themselves with the IFC Voluntary Principles on the Use of Security Forces. This applies to military, police or private security services.

Finally, unconfirmed reports suggest there is an elevated banditry threat on the main routes south and east of the town of Fada N'Gourma en route to Pama and Diapala respectively. Road moves to these areas should be risk assessed and liaison with police should occur until the nature of the threats has been clarified. Companies with operations in the region are invited to report incidents to MS Risk to aid in assessing local conditions. Liaising with insurers to ensure appropriate cover is in place to meet special risks where needed is also strongly advised.

Domestic News

- **12 September 2013** - Burkina Faso's government announced on Thursday that it amidst the growing unrest over the high cost of living and education in the landlocked West African country, it will lower taxes for civil servants and increase student loans. Under the new plan, the government will boost student loans by US \$50 each month. In turn, civil servants' salaries are expected to go up by about 5 percent as a result of the tax changes. According to a statement released by the government, the new measures have been taken in order to provide "an adequate response to the

concerns of different groups.” The move also appears to be aimed at calming a growing sense of unrest a country where the president has been in power since 1987. While some applauded the government’s new move, others have indicated that the changes are not enough as the tax cuts will marginally increase salaries. Burkina Faso, a deeply impoverished nation of some 17 million people, has battled a growing cost of living and is currently struggling to educate its youth. Uprisings began in February 2011 when students protests following the death of a student who was in police custody at the time. While the country’s president has attempted to stem the unrest, by dissolving the government and removing the country’s security chiefs, relations have continued to remain tense and in July of this year, students in the capital set more than a dozen cars ablaze after failed negotiations with university officials over their housing situation. In turn, the last few years have been rocky for President Blaise Compaore. Last month, a former bodyguard was killed in an exchange of gunfire while attempting to penetrate the grounds of the presidential palace. In turn, the president survived a 2011 mutiny which led to hundreds of soldiers being prosecuted and removed from the army.

- **2 September 2013** - Burkina Faso’s President Blaise Compaore has survived an assassination attempt after a renegade soldier attempted to attack him. Officials have indicated that shortly after the incident, which took place on Friday night, a former member of the presidential guard, Romuald Tuina, was shot dead in a gun battle with security forces. While Tuina had a previous criminal record, the fact that a wanted soldier could successfully penetrate the president’s security has raised concerns about the efficiency of the country’s security. Tuina was wanted for crimes, including a bank robbery in which he allegedly made off with millions of West African francs (several thousand US dollars). Before this incident, Tuina had reportedly been in hiding in an unnamed neighboring country. The ministry of justice revealed that a prison certificate of discharge that was issued from a foreign country was found on Tuina at the time of his death.



Avoid all but essential travel to part(s) of the country

Security Summary

The killing of a Cameroonian police officer on 19 August has prompted officials in Cameroon to close its border with the Central African Republic (CAR). The death of the officer occurred after a number of Seleka fighters crossed over the border into Cameroon, where they were stopped by officers patrolling the border region.

Despite being escorted over the border, the fighters returned and attacked the police. It is currently not known how long the border will be closed. Consequently MS Risk advises against all travel to the border regions with the CAR as it is highly likely that militant groups and pro-Seleka fighters may be patrolling the areas and may at times attempt to cross into Cameroon.



On 14 May 2013, the Government of Nigeria declared a state of emergency in the states of Adamwa, Borno and Yobe. Both Adamawa and Borno border Cameroon's far North, North and Adamaoua provinces. It is possible that military operations there might have an impact across the border in Cameroon.

MS RISK advises against all travel to the Bakassi Peninsula as well as within 20km of the

border with Nigeria in the Ndiain Division of the South West Province. We also advise against all travel to within 40km of the border with Chad in the North and Far North Provinces. This is due to a

heightened risk of banditry and armed poachers in Bouba Ndjidda National Park in the North Province. There is currently a travel advisory north of Maroua in the Far North Province resulting from the heightened threat of armed banditry and other threats associated with the borders of Chad and Nigeria. The Government of Cameroon is expected to cut fuel subsidies in the near future which may cause strikes and civil unrest throughout the country.

Finally, there have been attacks on commercial shipping vessels in the Gulf of Guinea, including the coastline of Cameroon around the port of Douala. Vessels travelling throughout this area have been advised to exercise extreme caution.

On The Ground Reporting

- **6 September 2013** - Cameroon's National Communications Council has closed down eleven newspapers, television and radio stations, for what it describes as disrespect of ethics and professional norms, however journalists have stated that these private medial outlets are being silenced as they are critical of the current government. On Friday morning, Cameroon's state radio CRTV announced the suspension of three radio stations, a television station and seven newspapers. The state radio also indicated that Cameroon's National Communications Council had suspended a journalist along with two other publishers. The suspension order also indicates that with the exception of one radio station, media outlets may re-open next month, after the elections which are set to occur on September 30. While the journalists and media organizations have all been accused of failing to respect professional norms and ethics, a number of the media outlets affected by the closure have called the act an abuse of press freedom and that publishers should have been informed and warned prior to the these sanctions being meted out.
- **5 September 2013** - With thousands of refugees fleeing northeastern Nigeria following an offensive that was launched by the Nigerian military in mid-May in a bid to tackle Boko Haram militants, neighboring countries like Cameroon have been confronted with a double challenge as they try to meet the needs of civilians fleeing the violence, while also attempting to prevent infiltration by Boko Haram fighters. Boko Haram's insurgency, which began in northern Nigeria in 2010 has resulted in thousands of civilians being injured and killed. The ongoing threats, coupled with an increase in attacks, resulted in a large-scale military offensive being launched earlier this year in three northern states. Since then, security forces have restricted media access to the front lines, and cell phone communications have been cut throughout much of the northeast. While it is difficult to know exactly how many people have arrived in Cameroon, a number of UN agencies place the figure between 3,000 and 8,000 refugees, however local government and civil society sources have stated that the number is closer to 20,000 and that most of the refugees are women and children. A large number of these refugees fled following threats and brutal attacks that were carried out by Boko Haram militants.

Avoid ALL travel to part(s) of country

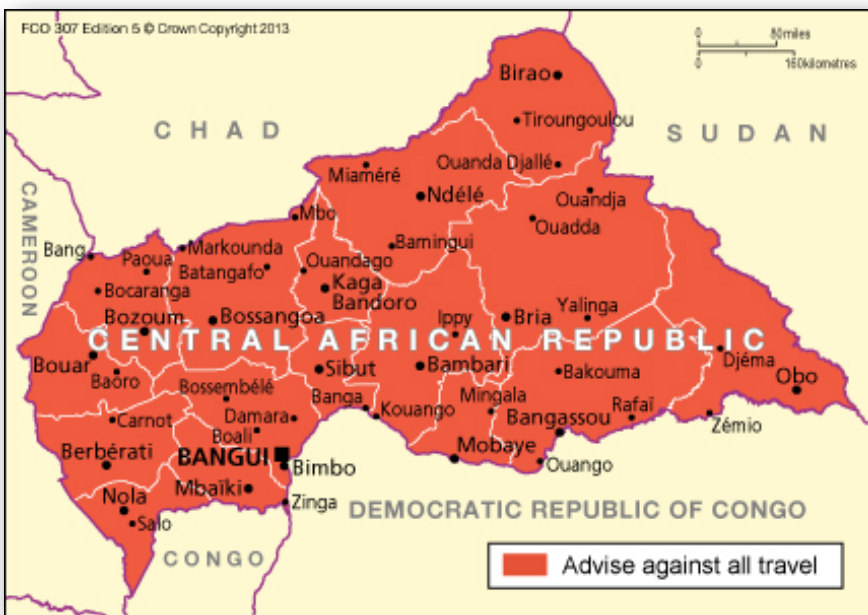


Security Summary

MS Risk advises against all travel to the Central African Republic (CAR). The armed rebel coalition Seleka has renewed its offensive against President Francois Bozize’s government and has taken control of the capital, Bangui. With Michel Djotodia officially sworn into office on August 18, security throughout the country has continued to deteriorate. Reports of rebel activity, banditry and hostage-taking have occurred across the region. In the capital, Bangui, the security situation also remains fragile with reports of continued looting and gunfire. There is currently a curfew in place from midnight to 4AM. It is therefore advised that you should avoid being on the streets during this period. At other times, MS Risk advises that you should take extreme caution and travel in groups whenever possible. There are armed patrols at night in Bangui and roadblocks - both official and unofficial - that are likely to be manned by armed personnel and particular care should be taken when approaching these.

It is therefore advised that you should avoid being on the streets during this period. At other times, MS Risk advises that you should take extreme caution and travel in groups whenever possible. There are armed patrols at night in Bangui and roadblocks - both official and unofficial - that are likely to be manned by armed personnel and particular care should be taken when approaching these.

Any individuals in the country are advised to leave now. Anyone who remains should take all necessary precautions and stay in a safe place with sufficient stocks of food and water. If the situation deteriorates further, leaving the country by commercial means will likely become increasingly difficult. Currently regional country flights have been suspended. We advise anyone remaining in the country to keep up to date with local political developments and to avoid all political rallies, demonstrations and large public gatherings.



Any individuals in the country are advised to leave now. Anyone who remains should take all necessary precautions and stay in a safe place with sufficient stocks of food and water. If the situation deteriorates further, leaving the country by commercial means will likely become increasingly difficult. Currently regional country flights have been suspended. We advise anyone remaining in the country to keep up to date with local political developments and to avoid all political rallies, demonstrations and large public gatherings.

On The Ground Reporting

- **10 September 2013** - Military officials indicated on Tuesday that armed supporters of ousted president Francois Bozize continued to control a number of villages in the northwestern region of the country, where fighting over the past few days has resulted in the deaths of at least seventy-three people. A military source has stated that “villages around Bossangoa are held by men claiming to serve the ex-president. But the defense and security forces control the town of Bossangoa.” While the villages remain under the control of men loyal to Francois Bozize, military officials and residents in Bangui reported no fighting on Tuesday morning. According to General Bozize’s spokesman Levy Yakete, the battles against the Seleka forces have been waged by troops who consider themselves part of the former regular army (FACA), which is loyal to Bozize who ruled for ten years after a coup in 2003. The spokesman noted that “by way of these attacks, the FACA have given their response to the inadmissible atrocities carried out by Seleka elements against the population,” adding that “this is the start of operations to restore power to president Bozize, who was democratically elected, and to reestablish constitutional order.” However on Monday, Guy-Simplice Kodegue, spokesman for the country’s new ruler, accused Bozize’s men of “taking revenge against the Muslim population.” Kodegue also reported that at least sixty people had been killed in two days of clashes, however no details of the casualties have been given. Two members of Paris-based humanitarian organization, ACTED, were also confirmed killed while trying to evacuate the civilians.
- **9 September 2013** - On Monday, troops from the CAR battled fighters loyal to the ousted President in what is the second day of clashed which have resulted in the deaths of at least sixty people. The fighting, which is believed to be on of the deadliest outbreaks to occur since the March coup, erupted on Sunday near Bossangoa, which is located some 250 kilometers (150 miles) north of the capital city, and which is in the home region of Francois Bozize. The clashes killed around ten people on Sunday. According to the presidency’s spokesman, Guy-Simplice Kodegue, militiamen described as Bozize loyalists infiltrated the villages around Bossangoa, destroying bridges and other infrastructure and “taking revenge against the Muslim population.” The presidency also indicted that at least four fighters from Seleka were killed in the clashes. Military sources have also indicated that on Monday morning, “heavy and light arms fire” was heard in the district of Bouca, which is located on the road that leads to Bossangoa. Two local employees of the humanitarian organization ACTED were also killed near Bossangoa on Saturday. The Paris-based NGO confirmed the deaths in a statement that was released over the weekend, stressing that the pair were involved in efforts to facilitate the evacuation of civilians affected by the fighting and were clearly identifiable as aid workers.

Domestic News

- **13 September 2013** - The rebel group, which swept to power in March after toppling the CAR’s former leader, was dissolved Friday by a decree that was issued by the very president the group installed. According to the statement, which was broadcast on Friday, “the Seleka Coalition is dissolved over the length and breadth of the Central African Republic’s territory. Only the Central African security force is in charge of protecting our territorial integrity. Any individual or group of individuals who act in the name of Seleka...after the publication of the present decree...will expose themselves to the full sanctions under the law.” The Seleka Coalition invaded the capital city on 23 March 2013 and effectively ousted the nation’s former president and installed Michel Djotodia in his place. Since then, however, the rebels have looted businesses and killed civilians.
- **12 September 2013** - A court in the Central African Republic has sentenced seventeen Seleka fighters to eight years in prison for theft, rape and pillage, making them the first ex-rebels to be punished for a wave of violence that has gripped the country since the group seized power in March of this year. Abel Daouda, president of the criminal court which handled the case, also fined each of the men 2000,000 CFA francs (US \$410). Five other fighters from the rebel alliance were due to be tried however they had already escaped amidst the chaos that has reigned since gunmen swept

down from the north and ousted President Francois Bozize. The sentencing of Seleka fighters comes one month after rebel leader Michel Djotodia, who officially became president of the CAR last month, pledged to crack down on impunity. On Tuesday, after days of fighting between his forces and gunmen loyal to Bozize, which resulted in the deaths of at least 100 people, President Djotodia dismissed the head of the armed forces. In response to the most recent clashes, medical charity Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) has indicated that it treated women and children amongst the people who had been injured by machetes and gunshots in the fighting. The group stated that “some were apparently summarily executed. Houses were burned down as well. All of this leaves MSF deeply concerned that all parties to the fighting will continue to target civilians and carry out more atrocities against them.”

- **10 September 2013** - Following a weekend of clashes, which killed dozens of people and displaced tens of thousands, the president of the CAR has removed his military chief of staff. A statement signed by President Michel Djotodia, and read out on state radio on Tuesday, indicated that Jean-Pierre Dolle-Waya would be replaced by Ferdinand Bombayake, a former national security director. The change comes after a weekend of clashes, in which suspected pro-Bozize fighters clashed with Seleka fighters throughout several locations in the northwestern region of the country, including a town located close to former president Francois Bozize’s home. On Monday, the government indicated that the fighting had claimed at least sixty lives.
- **6 September 2013** - On Friday, the UN refugee agency reported that aid workers who carried out an emergency mission to the northern region in the CAR found villages abandoned and burned along with evidence of widespread rights abuses. According to Melissa Fleming, spokeswoman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, “the UNHCR team confirmed widespread lawlessness in the region...local people spoke of physical assaults, extortion, looting, arbitrary arrest and torture by armed men” adding that “we are, in general, increasingly worried about the civilians caught in the middle of the fighting and who are at the mercy of anyone with a gun.” Last week, the UNHCR team travelled to the town of Paoua, located some 500 kilometers (310 miles) north of the capital Bangui, where “they found seven villages burned to the ground and deserted - and an eight village partially burned - with villagers hiding in the bush.” Residents of Paoua, along with people who fled to the town to escape fighting, told UN staff members that they were spending the night in the bush for safety reasons and only returning during the day, keeping away from roads to avoid detection. According to the UNHCR spokeswoman, it currently remains unclear who is responsible for the fighting in the region however local communities have indicated that the spike in violence in the north may have been in retaliation for a clash last month with civilian groups who were trying to protect their families and property. Furthermore, given the security problems and restricted access, it is currently difficult to say how many people have been displaced in the fresh violence that has gripped the northern region in recent weeks. However prior to the Seleka seizing power, the north was home to almost 160,000 people. As of Wednesday morning, UNHCR staff had registered 3,020 displaced people in the region around Paoua since the violence erupted two weeks ago, however agency spokesman Baba Baloch has indicated that thousands more are believed to have fled from other parts of the nation, adding to the estimated total of at least 206,000 displaced people across the country since December. In turn, as many as 62,000 have also spilled across the CAR’s borders into neighboring countries. Almost 44,000 are in the Democratic Republic of Congo, while a recent wave of more than a thousand people brought the number in Chad to at least 13,000. More than 4,000 residents have also fled to Cameroon.
- **4 September 2013** - On Wednesday, in response to the rampant violence and petty crime that has continued to destabilize the country, officials in the CAR launched a programme to collect unauthorized weapons. Security Minister Jose Binoua announced the programme at the police headquarters in the capital, Bangui, stating that the disarmament programme will target civilians as well as Seleka fighters bearing weapons outside six authorized security installations. The programme is expected to last at least ten days, in which during that time, the boundaries of Bangui will be closed, meaning that vehicles will not be allowed to travel to and from the provinces. The

Security Minister has also called on Seleka elements to deposit any unauthorized weapons at a gendarmerie post in Bangui, adding that anyone caught violating weapons regulations will be severely punished. In July, a regional peacekeeping force launched a separate disarmament programme, however the force has a limited presence outside the capital and the programme overall has had minimal effect. The ceremony at the police headquarters was attended by President Michel Djotodia, who has been criticized for failing to restrain his fighters, who have been accused of killing and raping civilians and carrying out massacres outside the capital city. However Djotodia's government has repeatedly blamed the violence on the other armed groups that are not part of the Seleka rebel coalition which overthrew ex-president Francois Bozize in March.



Avoid all but essential travel to part(s) of the country

There is currently a low threat from terrorism. Nearly 100 people were reported to have been killed in July in an outbreak of ethnic violence that occurred in the "Guinea Forestiere" region in the far south-east of Guinea. A large number of injuries were also reported and properties were destroyed. Areas of Guinea that border with Senegal, Guinea-Bissau, the Ivory coast, Liberia and Sierra Leone are often tense and have an increased military presence. As such, MS Risk advises against all travel to the regions bordering the countries listed above. There have been regular reports of robberies on the route Mamou, Faranah, Kissidougou, Guekedou, Macent and Nzerekore. MS Risk advises all travellers on these routes to remain vigilant and to avoid all travel after dark. Official and unofficial checkpoints may be set up along these routes. Vehicles and passengers are submitted to checks on documentation and baggage. It is advised that you approach such checkpoints with caution as corruption and extortion are common at roadblocks. Occasionally, checkpoints can be a pretext for armed robbery. Road travel is hazardous during the rainy season which occurs from May to October. Torrential rains can cause floods and landslides. MS Risk advises you to monitor the local weather reports and expect difficulties when travelling to affected areas during this season. After democratic elections, President Alpha Conde was sworn into office on 21 December 2010. Although legislative elections to form a new National Assembly have been long-delayed, officials in the country have confirmed that they will be held on 24 September. There remains a volatile and tense political period which may be characterized by unpredictable outbreaks of violence. A number of deaths and injuries were reported during the most recent outbreaks which occurred in March, April and May in the capital of Conakry. MS Risk advises all to monitor the local media reports and to keep away from any large gatherings or military barracks.

Domestic News

- **12 September 2013** - On Thursday, Guinea's opposition stated that they were considering new street protests following the expiration of a 72-hour ultimatum which was given to the government in a bid to fix the flaws that the opposition identified in the roll of registered voters. Opposition spokesman Aboubacar Sylla stated on Thursday that while the country's election commission had provided the electoral list on a thumb drive, the list that they were given contains more than 5 million names, making it virtually impossible for them to check its veracity. The spokesman further noted that the coalition had demanded that the body publish the electoral list nationwide, which would enable voters to check if their names appeared in their respective polling stations ahead of the September 24 legislative elections. Instead, they had received the list on a thumb drive, which had not been requested.
- **9 September 2013** - Guinea's opposition parties have threatened to call street protests and boycott the legislative elections, which are set to occur later this month, if the country's election commission does not publish the voter lists within the following 72 hours. Late on Monday, a spokesman for the opposition parties accused the government of President of Alpha Conde of manipulating the voter lists, through the electoral commission, so that they would favor the ruling party. Aboubacar Sylla stated on Monday that "we have asked that the electoral lists be made public for a few days to allow Guineans to actually see that the many anomalies on the lists have been corrected," adding that the opposition would not participate in the upcoming elections if the lists were not made public. In response to the accusations, both the government and the electoral commission have denied the charges, with government spokesman Moustapha Naite stating that the boycott threat is a sign that the opposition parties are desperate as it knows that it will be defeated in the polls. The elections, which were originally slated to occur in 2011, will be last step in a transition to civilian rule after the military seized power following the death of long-time leader Lansana Conte in 2008. In turn, they are essential to unlocking nearly 200 million euros (£163.93m) of European Union aid to Guinea and critical to reassuring investors in the mineral-rich West African state. The Guinean government and the opposition reached a UN-brokered deal in July of this year in order to hold the long-delayed elections on September 24.
- **3 September 2013** - The EU Electoral Observer Mission (MOEUE) is expected to deploy a twenty-four long-term observer team to Guinea ahead of the country's legislative elections which are slated to occur on the 24 September. According to the EU mission in Guinea, the observers will assist in assessing the electoral process in the country's eight province. In December 2008, Guinea endured a coup which was followed by violence throughout the country over the legislative vote. The impending polls are therefore essential towards restoring stability in the West African country. Political parties throughout Guinea have already embarked on an early campaign to garner support for their candidates. A total of 1,800 candidates are expected to contest for the 114 seats on the day of the Parliamentary election. Due to tensions between the rival parties, the legislative elections, which were originally due to take place within six months after the November 2010 presidential elections, have since not come off.

No Travel
Restrictions for
this Country



There are currently no restrictions on travel to Guinea-Bissau. Although the security situation is currently calm, the current political situation remains uncertain throughout the country and the possibility of civil or military unrest in Guinea-Bissau remains high. MS Risk advises against all travel to the northwestern regions of the country, specifically those which border the Casamance region of Senegal, including the Sao Domingos/ Mpack road.

Domestic News

- 10 September 2013** - On Tuesday, Guinea-Bissau's parliament rejected a bill that would effectively have granted amnesty to the leaders of the latest military coup which stunned the country last year. According to acting speaker Briama Sori Djalo, the motion put forward by the transitional government needed a majority amongst the country's 100 lawmakers, however only 40 gave it the go-ahead while a quarter of lawmakers were absent during the voting. While the national assembly did not reveal the specific details of the bill, a number of legislators have indicated that it would have handed immunity from prosecution to civilians and military personnel implicated in the coup. Since gaining its independence from Portugal in 1974, Guinea-Bissau, a nation of just 1.6 million, has suffered chronic instability. This instability has resulted in poverty and has attracted South American drug cartels, which have transformed the country into a hub for cocaine trafficking into West Africa. The latest military coup occurred on 12 April 2012 when former army chief Antonio Indjai overthrew the regime of former premier Carlos Gomes Junior prior to agreeing to hand power over to a civilian transitional government. The transitional regime, which is headed by President Manuel Serifo Nhamadjo, is due to hold presidential and parliamentary elections on November 24.

International Developments

- 7 September 2013** - The United Nations Special Representative to Guinea-Bissau announced this week that the country's planned November presidential election may need to be delayed. Although presidential elections are scheduled to occur on November 24, reports have indicated that Jose Ramos Horta, who was President of East Timor prior to becoming the head of the UN peace-building office in Guinea-Bissau this year, indicated to the Security Council on Thursday that due to financial and logistical reasons, the polls may be delayed. However he did specify that a short delay would not create new challenges, though a more significant postponement could "destabilize the political situation, undermining the efforts we have achieved so far." In April 2012, soldiers overthrew the government of the West African nation which has already seen a number of coups that have previously destabilized the country.



Avoid all but essential travel to part(s) of the country

MS Risk advises against all but essential travel to the western regions of Dix-Huit Montagnes, Haut-Sassandra, Moyen-Cavally and Bas-Sassandra as the situation in these regions remains unstable due to the intercommunity tensions as well as the presence of armed groups. All air, land and sea borders with Ghana have now re-opened following their closure on 22 September 2012. There have been a number of widely-reported shootings which occurred around Abidjan in August 2012. Although these attacks occurred mainly at night and targeted police and military installations, further incidents cannot be ruled out. Consequently the security situation in Abidjan could deteriorate at short notice. There was a recent banditry attack in the Boufla CI concession by a group of about ten armed men. According to on the ground sources, the attack lasted for fifteen minutes during which the victim's personal belongings were stolen from him. However no injuries were reported. The attack occurred during daylight hours. Consequently any individuals in this particular region are reminded to be extremely vigilant.

On The Ground Reporting

- **14 September 2013** - Officials indicated on Saturday that three members of the Ivorian security forces have been killed in two separate attacks by armed gangs in Yamoussoukro. According to mayor Kouakou Gnrangbe, "gendarmes and policemen were attacked Tuesday and Friday while on duty in Yamoussoukro." The mayor further noted that two gendarmes were killed in the first attack while the police officer was killed during the second attack. The city's governor also confirmed the attacks and death tolls. Local media has reported that the attackers behind the incidents are bandits who have been ambushing vehicles on the roads of the west African country.

Avoid ALL travel to part(s) of country



Security Summary

Summary

MS Risk advises against all but essential travel to Bamako. We also advise against all travel to the rest of Mali, especially to the northern regions of the country. Although Bamako is generally calm, the situation throughout the rest of the country is still volatile. Presidential elections were held on July 28 and August 11, however the new government of President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita has not yet taken office. If you are in Bamako, MS Risk advises you to maintain a high level of vigilance, to keep a low profile and to stay alert to the local political developments. We also advise that you avoid sensitive areas, including military installations and large gatherings of people.

During the rainy season, which runs from May until October, torrential rains can cause floods and landslides, and may result in houses collapsing. In late August, there were reports of flash



flooding that occurred in Bamako. The neighborhoods of Bankoni, Taliko, Lafiabougou, Djicoroni Woyowayanko, Lafiabougou Bougouba and Bougoudani were all hit by floods during the rains storms which lasted most of the day. MS Risk advises anyone in the capital city to monitor the local weather reports and to expect difficulties when travelling to affected areas during this season.

Terrorism

There still remains a high threat from terrorism in Mali. No curfew is currently in place however MS Risk advises those in the country to monitor the local media for reports of any new measures.

Attacks could be indiscriminate, including in places that are frequented by expatriates and foreign travellers. There is also a high threat of kidnapping in Mali by al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) and by the splinter group, the Movement for Unity and Jihad in West Africa (MUJWA). Although AQIM uses the northern region of Mali as an operating base, it has proven its capability of travelling long distances in order to carry out attacks, some of which have occurred in neighboring countries. As such the kidnap threat cannot be isolated within the northern regional stronghold. In turn, criminal gangs have previously been engaged to carry out kidnappings for terrorist groups in return for financial rewards. Subsequently attacks can take place throughout Mali.

There have been incidents of armed banditry, car-jacking, and kidnap in the northern regions of Mali. Bandits and smugglers are particularly active across the Mali-Algeria, Mali-Burkina Faso, Mali-Mauritania and Mali-Niger borders and pose a threat to travellers, especially after dark. Authorities in Mali have provided the following numbers in case of emergencies:

- 80 00 11 14
- 80 00 11 15
- 20 22 13 35
- 20 23 95 15
- 20 23 95 11

Kidnapping

In the past, a number of Westerners have been kidnapped by terrorists in Mali and in the Sahel region. Since 2008, over 25 Westerners have been kidnapped in the Sahel. Victims have included tourists, NGO workers and diplomats of a variety of nationalities, primarily European. These attacks have on occasion resulted in the murder of the hostages. The recent kidnapping of a French citizen in the western region of the country has come as a shock as the area where he was taken has been perceived as being stable and under governmental control. In the past, kidnap threats have typically emanated from the Azawad region in the north and east part of the county, as such this incident in the west has caused great concern. MS Risk forecasts that there will be an increased and sustained kidnap threat across Mali and in certain border-regions for some time to come. Incidents of kidnap are likely to occur for three primary reasons:

- For Ransom - insurgents will raise finances for future operations. With the impending ECOWAS operation, this is accelerating as a concern.
- Human Shields - Insurgents will kidnap persons in order to deter/reduce the risk of direct action by governmental forces against them.

- Ideological - Kidnappings will occur for political purposes.

Since the coup in March 2012, and due to the ongoing political unrest, MS RISK judges that there is a continued heightened threat of kidnap for ransom in Mali and as such further attacks and kidnappings are highly likely to occur. Furthermore, although it is difficult to forecast how severe this threat will emerge, all affected organisations are recommended to review their current operations and contingencies which is in line to the previous advice which has been given. MS RISK currently advises against all travel to Mali.

Local Travel

Although the military intervention has regained control of the major northern cities in Mali, the situation remains tense in the region and there continues to be a high risk of retaliatory action by terrorist groups. MS Risk advises against all travel to the northern region of Mali, especially to the cities/towns of Gao, In Khalil, Kidal, and Timbuktu as well as the surrounding areas. Landmines have been used by groups operating in the north and northeast of Mali.

Night-time checkpoints continue to operate in Bamako. These checkpoints largely control access to military and Government facilities. Checkpoints are in place from approximately 9PM until dawn. MS Risk advises to keep vehicle and personal identification documents with you at all times while travelling by road. Furthermore, approach security checkpoints slowly and comply with instructions that are given.

MS RISK Guidance to Organisations in Mali:

With western diplomatic missions all warning against unnecessary travel to Mali, those companies with fixed interests in the country need to take measured precautions if they have not done so already. This is especially an issue for organisations with any interest in the so-called Azawad region - that portion of the country which is under insurgent control. Preparations should include the following:

- Thinning out non-essential staff and dependents
- Restricting expat and local national internal travel
- Seeking advice from the security forces
- Ensuring journey management systems are in place and work
- Reviewing crisis management contingencies and carrying out exercises of these plans
- Registration of expatriates with relevant diplomatic missions and seeking advice on what support will be forthcoming (if any) if conditions deteriorate
- Liaison with insurers to know any exclusions or limits to existing cover

On The Ground Reporting

- **12 September 2013** - On Thursday, the military confirmed that two Malian soldiers were wounded as the army exchanged fire with "bandits" during security operations that were being carried out near the Mauritanian border. This is the first time that separatist Tuareg rebels and Malian

government forces have clashed since the two sides signed a peace accord in June. According to army spokesman Souleymane Maiga, as part of a week-long “operation to secure people and property,” the troops had been on patrol around the market town of Lere when they encountered gunmen on Wednesday, adding that “there was an exchange of gunfire...two of our soldiers were very slightly injured and we arrested a dozen armed bandits.” While media reports have stated that the fighters were from the National Movement for the Liberation of Azawad (MNLA), a Tuareg separatist group that has agreed to be confined to camps as part of a peace deal signed with the government, Maiga rejected the claims, stating that “we were not faced with MNLA fighters, we were confronted by armed bandits who were preventing people going about their daily lives.” The army spokesman added that the security operations would continue until the end of the week. The MNLA and the transitional government reached an agreement in June of this year which effectively allowed Malian troops to enter the rebel bastion of Kidal ahead of the nationwide presidential elections which eventually saw former prime minister Ibrahim Boubacar Keita elected president. The agreement also allowed for the release of fighters who were detained during a Tuareg uprising last year and outlines that talks between the new administration and Tuareg rebels, pertaining to autonomy for a large part of northern Mali, will occur within the next two months. Tuareg leaders however have warned that if the current president fails to reach a negotiated solution, then the MNLA will not hesitate in taking up arms again.

Domestic News

- **10 September 2012** - Mali’s new government has announced that it will carry out a “complete inventory” of existing mining contracts, adding that it is ready to renegotiate any contracts which are not in the country’s best interests. In a brief interview after taking office, Mines Minister Boubou Cisse stated that “the government has decided to carry out a complete inventory of what exists - mining contracts, titles, licenses - be it in the mining or the oil sector,” adding that “if there are contracts which it is necessary to revise in the interests of Mali, we will start negotiations with the partners in question.” Mr. Cisse, a 39-year-old former World Bank economist, indicated that the inventory would be conducted under complete transparency and its results would be made available to the public. He also noted that his ministry aims to increase the contribution of the mining sector in the national economy from around 8 percent at present to 15 to 20 percent in the long term. Mali produces around fifty tonnes of gold a year. Randgold Resources and AngloGold Ashanti are amongst a number of international companies that operate in Mali.

 - Meanwhile in the northern regions of the country, Tuareg leaders and civil society groups have welcomed a proposal to begin talks with Mali’s newly formed government. The talks, which are set to begin within two months according to an agreement that was signed by the government and Tuareg rebels back in June, are intended to resolve longstanding issues in the undeveloped northern region that have fueled a cycle of rebellions that goes back decades. The talks are slated to be organized by Cheick Ouamar Diarrah, who on Sunday was named reconciliation minister in the new cabinet that will serve under President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita.
- **8 September 2013** - Mali’s first post-war prime minister has appointed a cabinet that features a number of old hands mixed in with a new ministry that has been charged with reconciliation. Oumar Tatam Ly, named as head of President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita’s government last week, appointed 34 ministers and deputy ministers, including a number of politicians who had held portfolios in previous regimes. A new Department of National Reconciliation and Northern Development, which is headed by diplomat Cheick Oumar Diarrah, will be charged with healing the scars of an Islamist insurgency that followed a coup last year. It will also be charged with improving conditions in the impoverished north. In another gesture to the need for national unity, Zahibi Ould Sidi Mohamed, a member of the Arab minority and one-time leader of a rebel movement in the northern desert, has been selected as foreign minister. Moussa Coulibaly Sinko will retain his post as interior minister while Soumeylou Boubeye Maiga, a former chief of the intelligence services and holder of several

cabinet posts, will reprise the role of defense minister which he held under the presidency of Alpha Oumar Konare in the 1990's. The new administration also includes four women, of whom the most high profile will be Finance Minister Bouare Fily Sissoko, an economist who has worked for the World Bank.

- **7 September 2013** - Mali's first post-war Prime Minister began to form a new government as both France and the United States pledged their support and gave an early vote of confidence to the new administration. Oumar Tatm Ly, who was named as head of President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita's government on Thursday, will be taking over the role from interim premier Diango Cissoko. The newly appointed Prime Minister will be expected to deliver the promises put forth by the President, which include reuniting a deeply divided nation and cracking down on corruption. Following the selection of the new Prime Minister, Mali's new administration received a significant boost on Friday when the US State Department indicated that Washington would resume development aid to Mali, which had been suspended after the ex-president was ousted in a coup last year. A statement released by the State Department indicated that the transition means "a democratically elected government has taken office in Mali," adding that Washington would continue to assess the situation prior to renewing military assistance. US support of the new administration came shortly after French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius welcomed Ly's appointment. In a statement released by his office, Mr. Fabius stated that "alongside President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita, the competence of Oumar Tatam Ly will be a valuable asset in confronting the challenges facing Mali and the Sahel," adding that "as Mali opens a new page, it can count on France, which will be its partner, ally and friend." The newly appointed Prime Minister has spent most of the last two decades as a central bank functionary and is therefore expected to rely on advisers who have greater political experience. He will also be responsible for selecting colleagues for a cabinet that has been charged with returning stability to a country that was upended by a military coup and Islamist insurgency last year. While Mr. Ly began consultations with potential ministers immediately after being appointed to the post on Thursday, officials have not indicated who was in consideration for the major portfolios. Born in Paris, France, Mr. Ly quickly became a promising academic, gaining degrees in history and economics from a number of prestigious French universities, including the Sorbonne, and ESSEC, which is one of Europe's top business schools. He began his career at the World Bank before moving via the general secretariat of the president of Mali to the Central Bank of West African States in 1994. He rose to become national director for Mali and then adviser to the governor. While he has never held high public office, Mr. Ly comes from a family that has been deeply involved in West African politics and is considered to be a close confidante of the current president.
- **4 September 2013** - Ibrahim Boubacar Keita has been sworn in as Mali's new president at the Supreme Court in the capital, Bamako. Prior to taking his oath of office, transitional leader Dioncounda Traore handed over power at a ceremony inside the presidential palace. Mr. Traore and defeated presidential candidate Soumalia Cisse, were amongst the more than 1,000 politicians, diplomats and military personnel who were present at Wednesday's inauguration. Shortly after taking his oath of office, Mr. Keita stated that "I will not forget for a moment that you put me where I am to take care of all aspects of the life of our nation." The 68-year-old also reiterated that national reconciliation was his priority, noting that "I want to reconcile hearts and minds, restore true brotherhood between us so that all the different people can play their part harmoniously in the national symphony." A larger inauguration ceremony, in which French President Francois Hollande has been invited to, will be held later this month.
- **3 September 2013** - On his last overseas visit prior to leaving office on Wednesday, Mali's interim leader Dioncounda Traore thanked the Ivory Coast for its support in resolving its severe political crisis. During talks with his Ivorian counterpart Alassane Ouattara, Mr. Traore stated that "Mali has come a long way, we went through extremely difficult months but we can say today that we've reached the end of the tunnel after retaking all our territory." The Ivory Coast contributed troops to an African force which was deployed to Mali as part of a French-led international intervention. Mr.

Traore's office indicated that the interim leader is expected to address Malians later Tuesday after returning to Bamako where his successor, Ibrahim Boubacar Keita, will be sworn in Wednesday. Over the past several weeks, the interim leader has visited a number of West African countries in order "to say good-bye to those who helped Mali."

- **2 September 2013** - Malian President-elect Ibrahim Boubacar Keita has travelled to Togo. Due to be sworn in next Wednesday, the President-elect was hosted in Kara, which is located in northern Togo, by his Togolese counterpart, Faure Gnassingbe. After arriving at Niamtougou airport from the Burkina Faso capital, Ouagadougou, on Saturday, Mr. Keita thanked Togo for its assistance throughout the crisis in Mali. Togo deployed a 733-strong contingent to Mali on 17 January 2013 as part of the International Support Mission for Mali (AFISMA). This recent trip to Togo is part of a regional tour by Mr. Keita which will aid him in being acquainted to regional officials and which has provided him with the opportunity to personally thank some of the countries which participated in France's military intervention in Mali. From Togo, Mr. Keita is expected to head to Niger, which is the last stop on his regional tour.

International Developments

- **7 September 2013** - The Obama Administration has announced that it will restore a portion of US assistance to Mali after it was suspended last year following a military coup. On Friday, the US State Department indicated that the decision to provide US 97.2 million in development aid was taken after the inauguration this week of a new democratically elected president. The department further noted that a resumption in suspended military assistance would come only after an additional review was completed. The US suspended both economic and military aid to Mali after the March 2012 coup d'état. At the time, US officials had indicated that about half of the US \$140 million in annual assistance to Mali could be affected by the action.



Avoid ALL travel to part(s) of country

Avoid all but essential travel to part(s) of the country

Security Summary

Summary

MS Risk advises against all travel to the provinces of Tiris Zemmour, Adrar, Tagant, Hodh el Chargui, Dakhlet-Nouadhibou and Inchiri. We also advise against all travel to the northern and eastern regions of the country, especially the desert areas north of Oualata-Tichit-Ouadane-Zouerat line, as well as the border areas with Algeria, Mali and Morocco. MS Risk also advises against all but essential travel to the rest of the country, which includes travel along the Nouakchott-Nouadhibou corridor which comprises of the north-south arterial road that runs between these two cities and which passes through Nouamghar. This is due to extremist groups and armed smugglers that are active in these areas which has resulted in high threats of terrorism as well as a heightened risk of banditry and kidnapping.

On 22 August, officials in Mauritania announced that they have postponed the October 12 elections by six weeks after a coalition of



opposition parties indicated that it would boycott the polls in an attempt to cause the vote to fail. The country's election commission has since indicated that the first round of parliamentary and local elections will occur on November 23 while the second round, if necessary, will occur on December 7. With opposition parties threatening to boycott these elections, demonstrations may be held in a number of locations across the country, including Nouakchott. Although demonstrations have generally been peaceful, some have involved clashes with police. Consequently, MS Risk advises you to avoid political gatherings and demonstrations.

Terrorism

Following the French military intervention in Mali there has been a heightened possibility of retaliatory attacks that may target Western interests in the region. Attacks could be indiscriminate and by occur in places that are frequented by foreigners. Consequently we advise vigilance.

Kidnapping

There is a high risk of kidnapping throughout Mauritania and Westerners are the favoured target. In the past, hostages have been held captive for several months before being released. MS Risk advises anyone traveling to Mauritania to take particular caution in the region of Inchire (Akjoujt is the capita) as well as in the areas that border Mali and Morocco.

For companies with employees remaining in Mauritania, MS Risk advises you to arrange a trustworthy escort that is familiar with the country. The use of varied and unpredictable routes and schedules when moving from one location to another is also highly advised. Exercise a high awareness of personal security at all times and monitor the local developments.

Domestic News

- **12 September 2013** - Mauritania announced on Thursday that it will begin providing energy-starved Senegal electricity within the next two years. The announcement came as the leaders of both countries concluded a summit in Dakar where Mauritanian leader Ould Abdel Aziz spent Tuesday and Wednesday meeting with President Macky Sall. A joint statement released by the two countries has indicated that starting from March 2015, Mauritania will sell its West African neighbor 80 megawatts at cost price, with the possibility of increasing to 12 MW. The statement further noted that the cost and completion dates for power lines between the two countries have not yet been set out. According to several sources in Nouakchott, the gas that will be used to generate the electricity will be extracted from Mauritania by a British-led consortium. The World Bank estimates that the Senegalese endure 12 days when there are power outages during the average month, this is due to the fact that state-owned Senelec, like many African power companies, is unable to match supply with demand. Senegal and Mauritania already have a number of agreements that are in place, most notably in the fields of hydrology, security and fishing. This most recent agreement is seen as further

Regional Reporting

- **5 September 2013** - Algerian counter-terrorism forces, who have been tasked with monitoring and securing the country's southern borders with Mali and Mauritania, recently killed seven terrorists who were attempting to cross into Mauritania from the Algerian region of Bordj Baji Mokhtar. According to local reports, on the night of August 31, two combat helicopters from the 6th region of Tamanrasset were used in order to chase and killed the terrorists. The operation resulted in Algerian

forces seizing two 4x4 vehicles registered in Libya, along with a number of Kalashnikov-type weapons, RPG's and a large quantity of ammunition. While officials in Algeria have indicated that "the terrorists were trying to cross the border into southern Mauritania, where training camps run by Salafist groups are located," Mauritanian officials have denied the existence of such groups. Since the outbreak of the crisis in Mali in March of last year, border security across the five countries surrounding Mali has become a top priority. As the region now faces a retreat by the Islamist militants who had previously operated in Mali, countries including Algeria, Burkina Faso, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal have recently announced that they have taken measures in order to secure their borders with Mali. However while either closing the borders entirely, or at least reducing the numbers of people crossing them, will result in a reduction in cross-border travel, attacks such as the one carried out on a gas complex in Algeria in January of this year have demonstrated that it is difficult to keep watch over the thousands of kilometers of desert and that jihadist elements, many of which are difficult to identify, are difficult to track as they can easily blend in with those refugees who are fleeing conflict-ridden states, such as Nigeria.

Avoid ALL travel to part(s) of country

Avoid all but essential travel to part(s) of the country



Security Summary

Summary

On 14 May, the Nigerian Government declared a State of Emergency in the states of Adamawa, Borno and Yobe. Since the announcement, military operations have been going on in all three states and curfews have been put in place in parts of Maiduguri, Borno state and Adamawa state. Curfews can be imposed, amended and lifted at a short notice. Consequently you should be alert to announcements made by the respective State Governments and you are advised to monitor any developments in the affected states. There may be an increased threat of retaliatory attacks elsewhere in Nigeria following the commencement of military operations. MS Risk advises against all travel to: the Riverine areas of Delta, Bayelsa, Rivers, Akwa Ibom and Cross River States; Warri city, Kano city, Okene City.

We advise against all travel to Adamawa State, Borno State, Yobe State, Gombe State and Bauchi State. This is due to the frequent violent attacks which have been occurring over the past months. More recent attacks have increasingly focused on public places, including bars and restaurants. These attacks have resulted in a large number of deaths and injuries. We also advise against all travel to Kano City and Okene City, which has also seen a frequent number of high levels of violence.



We advise against all but essential travel to Kano state, Kaduna State, Jigwa State, Katsina State, Sokoto State, Kebbi State, Jos City, Riyom and Barkin Ladi Local Government Areas in Plateau State; Okene Region of Kogi State. These areas have witnessed an increase in violent attacks. We also advise against all but essential travel to Mubi Town in Adamawa State and the area north of Mubi Town that borders Borno State where there has also been a rise in violent attacks. We also advise against all but essential travel to the non-riverine areas of Delta, Bayelsa, Rivers and Akwa Ibom States, Abia State, Kaduna City, Zaria City.

Companies with workers in northern Nigeria, even in areas which are not subject to specific advice against travel, will require a high level of security. In light of the recent kidnappings of Westerners, employers are advised to review their security arrangements and to ensure that compounds are protected.

There is a high threat of terrorism occurring in Nigeria. A bomb attack that occurred at a bus station in Kano city on 18 March 2013 resulted in multiple casualties. Attacks could be indiscriminate, including government, security and educational institutions, international organisations as well as public venues and areas such as restaurants, bars, markets, hotels, shopping centers, places of worship and other areas that are frequented by expatriates, foreign tourists and business travelers. Terrorist attacks have been known to occur on religious and public holidays. There have been regular attacks on churches in northern Nigeria at times of worship. The US government has published an Emergency Message for US citizens, detailing information that Boko Haram may be planning attacks in Abuja. This information has been assessed as being credible and attacks could occur at any time, including against international hotels that are frequently visited by Westerners. There is also an increased level of kidnap threat in Nigeria in which foreign nationals have typically been the targets of such kidnaps.

Kidnapping

Although recent incidents of kidnapping have mostly occurred in northern Nigeria, MS Risk advises that such kidnappings can take place anywhere in the country.

- On 16 February 2013, after storming the compound of Lebanese-owned construction firm Setraco in Bauchi state, gunmen killed a security guard and abducted a Briton, an Italian, a Greek, two Lebanese and two Syrian workers. The British construction worker is believed to have been killed along with the six other foreign nationals. This was the worst case of foreigners being kidnapped in the mostly Muslim north of Africa's most populous country since an insurgency by Islamist militants intensified two years ago.
- In December 2012, a French national was kidnapped by armed men in Katsina State in northern Nigeria, reportedly from a residential compound.
- In 2012, a Lebanese national was kidnapped in Kaduna State. His Lebanese colleague was killed during the abduction
- In January 2012, a German national was killed in Kano city. He was killed on 31 May 2012.
- In May 2011, a British national and an Italian national were kidnapped together in Kebbi State. Both hostages were killed in Sokoto on 8 March 2012.

Threats and Terrorism

Attacks by Islamist groups in northern Nigeria have become the biggest threat to stability in Africa's top oil producing country. This has been exacerbated by the fact that Western governments are currently concerned that militants may link up with groups elsewhere in the region, including al-Qaeda's North African wing, AQIM. These concerns have been further intensified by the conflict and military intervention in nearby Mali.

On The Ground Reporting

- **12 September 2013** - Authorities on Thursday indicated that gunmen with explosives and rocket-propelled grenades attacked a police station in Nigeria's restive northeastern region, resulting in the killing of two police officers and injuring one other in an incident that is similar to previous raids that have been carried out by Islamist extremists. According to Adamawa state police spokesman Mohammed Ibrahim, "the heavily armed gunmen headed to the police station and burnt it down using IED's and RPG's before engaging our men in a shootout in which we lost two officers while a third sustained gunshot wounds." He further added that the attackers had stormed the village of Ga'anda on Wednesday, where they burnt down the police station with homemade bombs and grenades. On the ground sources have indicated that the attackers arrived in the village in cars and on motorcycles. The attack lasted two hours and so far no arrests have been made.
- **11 September 2013** - Nigerian troops launched an airstrike and later killed ten suspected Boko Haram militants after clashing with the Islamist extremist group in the country's restive northeastern region. The military has indicated that its troops clashed with "fleeing Boko Haram terrorists" late on Tuesday after two alleged Boko Haram camp in the Konduga area of Borno state had been destroyed. In a statement released by the military, Lieutenant Colonel Sagir Musa indicated that the clashes followed an "air strike and subsequent destruction of two Boko Haram terrorist camps at Mada, Kondunga local government area of Borno state." The statement added that the clashes occurred on the road as the troops were travelling to the town of Biu. Ten Boko Haram militants were killed in the clashes while some ammunition, including four AK-47 rifles, five AK-47 magazines and 250 rounds of assorted ammunition were recovered. Ten motorcycles belonging to the

insurgents were also destroyed during the air and land raids. While details pertaining to the air strike and other aspects of the raid remain unclear, since launching an offensive in May, which is aimed at ending Boko Haram's four-year insurgency, Nigeria's military has previously used air power in order to destroy the group's bases and hideouts.

- **10 September 2013** - Nigeria's second-highest ranking Anglican archbishop was kidnapped over the weekend outside the southern oil city of Port Harcourt, which is the capital of Rivers state. According to police spokeswoman Angela Agabe, "archbishop Ignatius Kattey was kidnapped along with his wife around Eleme (outside Port Harcourt) at about 10:45pm (2145 GMT) on Friday," adding that "his wife was later abandoned in the bush by their abductors." A national spokesman for the Anglican Communion in Nigeria, Foluso Taiwo, confirmed the abduction however he stated that the circumstances surrounding the incident remained sketchy. Kattey is the dean of archbishops of the Anglican Communion in Nigeria, effectively ranking him second to the primate of the Anglican Church in the country. Kidnapping for ransom, especially of high profile officials such as Kattey, occurs regularly in the southern oil-producing Niger Delta region. The victims are often released unharmed after the payment of a ransom, however authorities in the region rarely admit to making payments. This is in stark contrast to what occurs in the northern regions of the country, where Islamist extremists have killed a number of hostages. **Update (15 September 2013)** - Police have confirmed that Nigerian Archbishop Ignatius Kattey has been released by armed men. Police spokesman Angel Agabe has indicated that "the archbishop was released at about 6:30PM yesterday behind a filling station at Eleme in Rivers State," adding that "his captors dropped him when the police were about to close in on them. No ransom was paid." The archbishop's abduction is arguably the most high-profile kidnapping since the mother of Nigeria's Finance Minister and former World Bank Managing Director Ngozi Okojo-Iweala was taken in December of last year. She was released last year.
- **6 September 2013** - Army spokesman Sagir Musa has indicated that about fifty Islamist militants have been killed in northeastern Nigeria after the military raided a number of Boko Haram's camps. According to the spokesman, Nigerian troops "pursued the terrorists to their camps and destroyed them with air support." The military has indicated that the deceased gunmen are responsible for attacks that were carried out this week on two towns, in which at least twenty people were reportedly killed. This most recent military operation began on Wednesday after gunmen attacked the town of Gajiram, which is located 75 km (46 miles) north of Maiduguri. The incident occurred at a time when the town was crowded with traders for market day. Residents, who have now fled to Maiduguri, reported that buildings were burnt and that at least fifteen people died in the market. Another five people were killed by gunmen early on Thursday in Bulabilin Ngaura, a small town located 35 km southeast of Maiduguri. According to local residents, "they invaded the village from nowhere. They just opened fire...they killed five people going to the mosque for prayers. Boko Haram has so far not commented on the camp raids or on the town attacks. Although last month, Nigeria's army announced that Boko Haram's leader Abubakar Shekau had been killed, these reports have not been confirmed, and the militants' attacks have continued despite the state of emergency and ongoing military intervention which was launched in mid-May of this year. Furthermore, in recent weeks, vigilante groups, which have been encouraged by the military to help tackle Islamist militants, have increasingly been targeted. A number of international observers have indicated that it appears that Boko Haram is taking revenge against such groups, adding weight to fears that such vigilante groups may add to the already escalated violence in northeastern Nigeria.
- **3 September 2013** - Reports have indicated that thousands of people in the northern Nigerian town of Kajuru have demonstrated against what they call arbitrary arrests by police after their police officers were killed in an attack that occurred two weeks ago. On the ground sources have indicated that protesters blocked the roads leading into Kajuru with barricades. Residents have reported that two suspects were arrested Saturday while riding their bikes while earlier on Tuesday, police rounded up seven more suspects from their homes. Kaduna police spokesman, Aminu Lawan, has indicated that the arrests are in connection with the August 20 raid on the town's police

headquarters in according to police, attackers with sophisticated weapons had freed a number of suspected criminals who were detained at the station.

Domestic News

- **11 September 2013** - Amidst serious divisions within the governing party, Nigeria's President Goodluck Jonathan has dismissed nine cabinet ministers in a major cabinet reshuffle. The move comes just two weeks after seven of the country's most powerful state governors, along with former Vice-President Atiku Abubakar, formed a splinter group within the ruling People's Democratic Party (PDP). The dismissed ministers include Foreign Minister Olubenga Ashiru, Education Minister Ruqayyatu Ahmed Rufai, and Housing Minister Ama Pepple. Furthermore, the national planning, environment and science, and technology ministers were also removed in addition to the junior ministers for defense, agriculture and power. High profile ministers such as Finance Minister Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala and Oil Minister Diezani Alison-Madueke remain in place. While presidency spokesman Reuben Abati confirmed the names from the 39-member cabinet, no specific reason was given for the reshuffle, which comes as the president battles infighting within his PDP party, coupled with a rising opposition party that could pose a major challenge in the 2015 vote. President Jonathan's PDP party has controlled the presidency since a return to civilian rule in 1999, however in recent weeks, it has been rocked by internal dissent coupled with facing a stronger opposition. Much of the opposition to the president within his own party is based on an unwritten pact intended to rotate control of the presidency between Nigeria's predominately Christian south and mainly Muslim north. According to many northerners, Jonathan, a Christian from the oil-producing Niger Delta region, should have never been allowed to run in the 2011 elections as it has been the north's turn. While he has yet announced his intentions, many believe that he will seek re-election in 2015.
- **3 September 2013** - The party that has controlled Nigeria, since a return to civilian rule in 1999, has found itself in unfamiliar territory as it is rocked by dissent and faces a strong opposition. The combination of internal dissent against President Goodluck Jonathan, coupled with serious efforts by the country's main opposition groups to unite, have come amidst early strategizing for the 2015 presidential elections. Whether the ruling People's Democratic Party (PDP) can resolve the issues, and keep the growing opposition at bay, will likely have extreme implications for Africa's most populous nation, which is also the continent's largest oil producer. The 2015 vote will come after four years of deadly attacks that have been carried out by Boko Haram militants in the north, coupled with oil theft in the south which is estimated to cost the country some US \$6 billion (4.5 billion euros) per year in revenue. However the latest development came on Saturday, when a PDP convention in Abuja exposed the party's divisions as seven of the party's 23 state governors (Nigeria has a total of 36 states) along with others, including former Vice-President Atiku Abubakar, walked out of the event and met nearby for a parallel meeting of what they now call the real PDP. While this division shocked the country, the rift within the PDP has been in the making for months as factions have increasingly been opposed to Jonathan's re-election.



No Travel
Restrictions for
this Country

Although there are currently no travel restrictions for Senegal, MS Risk advises to avoid road travel in the Casamance region, to the west of Kolda. The Casamance region of south-western Senegal (between the southern border of Gambia and the northern border of Guinea-Bissau) remains affected by incidents involving armed separatist groups and banditry, particularly in the regions of Bignona and Sindian. There has been an increase in clashes between the Senegalese army and suspected elements of the armed separatist group Movement of the Democratic Forces of Casamance (MFDC). MS Risk advises against all road travel in the Casamance region to the west of Kolda, other than on the main road from Ziguinchor to Cap Skiring (which is often used by groups of tourists during daylight hours) and on the road north of the Guinea-Bissau/Senegal border, from Sao Domingos to Ziguinchor (N4 bis). If you travel on either of these roads, you should do so only during daylight hours and monitor the local security situation before travelling. There have been a number of deaths and injuries. There is currently an underlying threat from terrorism. Attacks could be indiscriminate, including in places frequented by expatriates and foreign travellers. With the ongoing French military intervention in Mali, authorities in Senegal have increased security in the capital city as well as along the border with Mali. MS Risk advises that al-Qaeda militants may cross the border into Senegal and they may target Western interests as well as foreigners.

Domestic News

- 2 September 2013** - Senegal's President has removed his Prime Minister, who had been at the post for the past year and a half, and has replaced him with the country's justice Minister. Although President Macky Sall did not disclose a reason behind the announcement of Abdoul Mbaye's departure on Sunday, a statement issued by a presidential spokesman indicated that "the president thanks the outgoing prime minister." The government later announced that the Prime Minister would be replaced by Justice Minister Aminata Toure, who has long been a rights activists and anti-corruption campaigner. Toure has also been the driving force behind the government's efforts to press ahead with the long-delayed trial of former Chadian leader Hissene Habre, who has been accused of crimes against humanity during his 1982 - 1990 rule. While Senegal's President ousted former longtime leader Abdoulaye Wade in a presidential runoff vote in March 2012, and has since been tasked with attempting to address the high levels of unemployment and rising costs of living in Senegal, the newly chosen Prime Minister indicated to journalists shortly after being selected for the post that it would be a difficult task to address these problems amidst the global economic downturn. Toure, 50, is the second woman to occupy the post of prime minister in Senegal, after Mame Madior Boye, who headed the government between March 2001 and November 2002.



At Sea

Hijacks

- None reported during this time period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies

-

Weather Analysis

- **Gulf of Guinea** - Southerly winds of 10 - 15 knots and seas of 5 - 7 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** - Southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots and seas of 5 - 7 feet.
- **Synoptic Discussion** - The Gulf of Guinea is under the influence of high and low pressure systems, bringing strong southerly winds and moisture into the area. Expect mostly cloudy conditions with rain showers and possible thunderstorms.



About MS Risk

MS Risk is a privately owned company domiciled in the Isle of Man. It is underwritten by syndicate 2525 of Lloyd's of London for special risks case management in all jurisdictions. It also acts as retained advisors to syndicates in the Lloyd's of London specialty risk insurance markets: kidnap for ransom, extortion, hijack, illegal detention, illegal war tax, malicious product tamper, terrorism, political and war risk.

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 - Interim security
 - Training
 - Special assignments
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 - Crisis management
 - Business continuity management
 - Hostile operations support to commercial interests
- Virtual Security Director service for clients lacking a full time security executive.

References are always available.

More information is found at www.msrisk.com

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