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West Africa Report

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

June 8 - 21, 2015



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- Project Management
 - Interim security
 - Training
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- Crisis Response
 - Crisis management
 - Business continuity management
 - Hostile operations support to commercial interests
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Summary

June 8 - 21, 2015



Follow us on Twitter @MS Risk_Security for regular updates on topical security events and issues.

Burkina Faso

On the Ground Reporting

- **17 June 2015** – The wife of former Burkina Faso president Thomas Sankara has called on France to declassify documents related to his death and has urged the government to set up a parliamentary commission to investigate.

Benin

Domestic News

- **9 June 2015** – President Thomas Boni Yayi has announced that he will not run for a third term in office next year, a move that is in accord with the country's constitution and which dismisses suspicions by the opposition that he would try to be re-elected.
 - Benin's president announced Tuesday that countries currently waging a regional fight against Nigerian-based Boko Haram will take significant steps towards establishing a joint task force when they meet in Abuja on Thursday.

Gambia

On the Ground Reporting

- **10 June 2015** – A diplomatic source reported Wednesday that the Gambia has ordered the closure of the Libyan embassy in Banjul and has banned it from resuming work until a stable regime has been installed in the country.
- **9 June 2015** – An airport source reported Tuesday that the EU representative in the Gambia has left the country under an expulsion order, which drew criticism from opposition politicians and which left officials in Brussels "astonished."
- **8 June 2015** – Gambian President Yahya Jammeh has called for the International Criminal Court (ICC) to investigate the deaths of African migrants who are trying to cross the Mediterranean by boat to reach Europe.

International Developments

- **17 June 2015** – According to several diplomats, the expulsion of a European Union (EU) diplomat from Gambia earlier this month has derailed efforts to unlock aid to the West African country.

Ghana

On the Ground Reporting

- **13 June 2015** – On Friday, President John Mahama indicated that positive results are starting to flow from the country's fiscal consolidation plan that includes an aid deal with the International Monetary Fund and a decision by the European Union to renew budget support.
 - Ghana's President John Mahama has indicated that flooding earlier this month, which led to a large explosion at a gas station in the capital, caused over US \$100 million in damages.
- **11 June 2015** – Ghana has suspended a trial for an Ebola vaccine after locals complained that they were needlessly being used as "guinea pigs" in a country that is currently free of the deadly disease.
- **10 June 2015** – On Wednesday, President John Mahama called for national unity as he led a memorial service for the more than 150 people killed in a petrol station fire and heavy flooding.
- **9 June 2015** – The UN's emergency Ebola response headquarters in Ghana's capital city, Accra, will close as the deadly outbreak has slowed.
- **8 June 2015** – On Monday, Ghana began three days of mourning to honor the more than 150 people killed in a petrol station fire during heavy flooding in the capital city Accra.

Guinea

On the Ground Reporting

- **17 June 2015** – According to judicial sources, Guinea has charged embers of the ousted military junta over the 2009 Conakry stadium massacre, in which at least 157 protesters were killed.
- **9 June 2015** – On Tuesday, Amnesty International urged Guinea to reject a proposed law it said could criminalize political dissent as the government was accused of "alarming" attempts to curb press freedom.

Domestic News

- **19 June 2015** – On Friday, Guinea's warring political factions agreed to reschedule next year's local elections in a bid to end a democratic crisis that has sparked violent protests across the West African nation.

Ivory Coast

On the Ground Reporting

- **20 June 2015** – Police and organizers reported Saturday that between 3,000 – 5,000 people demonstrated in the capital city against President Alassane Ouattara, who is the sole declared candidate for the upcoming presidential elections, due to take place in October.

Mali

On the Ground Reporting

- **20 June 2015** – On Saturday, Mali's Tuareg-led rebel alliance signed a landmark deal to end years of unrest in the northern region of the country.
- **17 June 2015** – Loyalist militias disclosed Wednesday that they are refusing to withdraw from a flashpoint town in northern Mali, a decision that violates a condition of the rebel alliance's commitment to the country's fragile peace process.
 - According to the commander of the UN MINUSMA peacekeeping mission in Mali, the mission does not have the training, logistics or intelligence capabilities in order to effectively carry out operations.
- **11 June 2015** – In a rare attack in southern Mali, suspected jihadists killed a policeman in Misseni, located near Mali's border with the Ivory Coast, early Wednesday.

Domestic News

- **12 June 2015** – Malian lawmakers overwhelmingly voted to adopt new Prime Minister Modibo Keita's government programme on Friday.

Regional Reporting

- **12 June 2015** – On Friday, leaders of Mali's Tuareg-led rebel alliance visited Malian refugees in Mauritania to explain to them their decision to sign a peace agreement with the Malian government.

Mauritania

On the Ground Reporting

- **17 June 2015** – A court in Mauritania has convicted three men of belonging to the Islamic State (IS) extremist group and sentenced them to between five and ten years in prison.

Niger

On the Ground Reporting

- **18 June 2015** – Boko Haram militants killed 38 people, mainly women and children, in an attack in southeastern Niger that occurred overnight Wednesday.
- **16 June 2015** – Officials reported Tuesday that thirty more people have been found dead after attempting to cross the Sahara desert in Niger, effectively bringing the total over the past week to 48 dead.
- **14 June 2015** – On Sunday, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) reported that the bodies of eighteen migrants, who likely died of dehydration, were found in the Sahara desert in northern Niger.

Nigeria

On the Ground Reporting

- **18 June 2015** – Chad's military has indicated that it has carried out airstrikes in Nigeria on suspected Boko Haram positions.
 - According to a spokesman for the state-run oil group, Nigeria's four refineries will resume production next month, an announcement that has raised hopes of an end to perennial petrol shortages that have plagued Africa's largest crude producer.
- **17 June 2015** – Bombs located at an abandoned Boko Haram stronghold in northeastern Nigeria, exploded Tuesday afternoon, killing at least thirteen people and injuring 45 others.
 - According to senior health officials, about seventy people have died in the country's oil-rich southern region after they consumed home-brewed gin that was found to contain large amounts of methanol.
- **15 June 2015** – Ten people were killed in two separate blasts in the northeastern Nigerian city of Potiskum.
- **12 June 2015** – A survivor reported Friday that Boko Haram militants have burned down six northeastern Nigerian villages and killed at least 37 people near the insurgent's Sambisa Forest stronghold.
- **10 June 2015** – Police reported Wednesday that three female suicide bombers died in Borno state when the explosives, which were strapped to their bodies, detonated.
- **9 June 2015** – On Tuesday, Nigeria's top military brass and officials from surrounding countries met to discuss plans on how to take on Boko Haram.
- **8 June 2015** – On Monday, Nigeria's military disclosed that it has begun shifting the command center for its battle against Boko Haram from the capital city to Maiduguri in the northeast, following a directive from President Muhammadu Buhari.
 - On Monday, Boko Haram targeted the village of Huyum, which is located in the Askira-Uba district of Borno state.

Domestic News

- **15 June 2015** – President Muhammadu Buhari disclosed Monday that he is planning to visit Cameroon to cement a regional fighting force against Boko Haram.
- **11 June 2015** – On Thursday, President Muhammadu Buhari held talks with regional leaders on Boko Haram, with hopes that a new fighting force will end the militant's six-year insurgency.
- **9 June 2015** – On Tuesday, candidates from the country's main opposition party were elected to head both houses of the legislature in votes that have highlighted cracks in the coalition that brought President Muhammadu Buhari to power.

Regional Reporting

- **15 June 2015** – On Monday, officials in neighboring Chad reported that at least 23 people have been killed and more than 100 injured in suicide attacks carried out in the capital N'Djamena.

International Developments

- **16 June 2015** – The United States has indicated that it will give US \$5 million (£3.2 million) towards a multi-national task force that is being set up to combat Boko Haram.

Sierra Leone

On the Ground Reporting

- **12 June 2015** – On Friday, Sierra Leone's President Ernest Bai Koroma announced that he was imposing a three-week daytime curfew in the last Ebola-hit areas in a bid to curb a resurgence of the deadly virus.

Security Summaries for West African States

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Guinea-Bissau

There are currently no travel restrictions for Guinea-Bissau. An outbreak of the Ebola virus disease has been confirmed in Guinea and Sierra Leone. While there currently are no confirmed Ebola cases in Guinea-Bissau, the country has taken preventative measures, including closing all land borders with Guinea. MS Risk advises all travellers to Guinea-Bissau to take the necessary precautions, including maintaining strict standards of hygiene and avoiding eating bush meat.

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. While political tensions in Guinea-Bissau remain calm, this could change at any moment. All travellers to the country are advised to monitor the political situation and remain vigilant at all times. 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.

Ivory Coast – Page 22

Liberia

MS Risk no longer advises against all but essential travel to Liberia however we advise all but essential travel to parts of the country, particularly those that are affected by crime. On 9 May, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared Liberia Ebola-free. Officials however continue to caution all those in the country as the outbreak in neighboring Guinea and Sierra Leone continues. We advise that travellers to Liberia continue to practice enhanced precautions as there is a possibility that Ebola may be reintroduced into the country.

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 (including Sinkor beach in broad daylight) 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. There is a low threat from terrorism.

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Senegal

On 17 October 2014, the World Health Organization declared Senegal Ebola-free. An Ebola outbreak has been confirmed in Sierra Leone and Guinea. While Senegal has been declared Ebola-free, due to the intensity of the ongoing outbreak, a second outbreak of Ebola in Senegal cannot be ruled out. MS Risk advises all travellers to the region to remain cautious.

MS Risk advises all travellers to avoid all outdoor rallies and demonstrations as they may turn violent. Although there are currently no travel restrictions for Senegal, MS Risk advises avoiding 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. Severe water shortages in Dakar have led to a number of demonstrations in the suburbs. Youths have blocked some roads with burning tyres and have clashed with police. MS Risk advises travellers to avoid all demonstrations and to leave any affected areas at the first sign that unrest may develop. 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.

Sierra Leone – Page 40

Togo

There is currently no travel advisory for Togo. Crime is on the rise in the capital city 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.

Sahel Region



Security Summary

The current Ebola outbreak affects, Guinea, and Sierra Leone. Some airlines have suspended flights to the affected countries due to the deteriorating public health situation. MS Risk advises all to carefully assess your need to travel to these countries. If you do decide to travel, we advise that you make sure you have adequate arrangements in place for onward travel/exit and have adequate emergency health provisions.

There is a very real threat of kidnap to westerners in the Sahel and surrounding regions. The Sahel region includes Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania and Niger, however the kidnap threat extends to other countries, including Algeria, Cameroon, Libya and Nigeria. Following the military intervention in Mali, which was launched in January 2013, the threat of kidnap and terrorist attacks has increased, with further attacks highly likely to continue.

There are currently around six hostages being held in the Sahel and surrounding regions. Victims in the region have included construction workers, NGO workers, tourists and diplomats of various nationalities, primarily European.

Benin

No Travel Restrictions



Security Summary

On Tuesday, 5 May, protests erupted in the commercial capital Cotonou after security forces attempted to arrest an opposition lawmaker. Thousands of people took to the streets, burning tires and setting alight a fire-brigade truck. Further protests in the coming days may occur. MS Risk advises all travellers in Cotonou to avoid large gatherings as they may turn violent with minimal notice.

Although there is currently no travel advisory for Benin, MS Risk advises all travellers to the country to remain vigilant, especially in areas bordering Nigeria. There is currently an Ebola virus outbreak in Guinea and Sierra Leone. While Benin currently has no confirmed cases of the Ebola virus, MS Risk advises all travellers to remain cautious, including maintaining strict standards of hygiene and avoiding eating bush meat. There is a heightened threat of terrorist attack globally from groups or individuals motivated by the current conflict in Iraq and Syria. Attacks could be indiscriminate and can occur in places where foreigners gather. There have been incidents of mugging, personal assault and carjacking in Cotonou. Armed robberies have also been reported in other areas, most notably in those regions that border Nigeria.

Domestic News

- **9 June 2015** – President Thomas Boni Yayi has announced that he will not run for a third term in office next year, a move that is in accord with the country's constitution and which dismisses suspicions by the opposition that he would try to be re-elected. Speaking on Tuesday following a meeting with French President Francois Hollande in Paris, President Boni Yayi stated that his name "...will not appear in any ballot anymore," adding that he will ensure that a democratic ballot is organized in 2016 to choose a new president. In a written statement, President Hollande praised "the vitality" of Benin's democracy and announced that he will visit the West African country next month. The constitution of Benin imposes a two-term limit on presidential candidates.
 - Benin's president announced Tuesday that countries currently waging a regional fight against Nigerian-based Boko Haram will take significant steps towards establishing a joint task force when they meet in Abuja on Thursday. Speaking to reporters shortly after talks with French President Francois Holland in Paris, President Thomas Boni Yayi sated that the new Nigerian president is "very determined," adding, "the discussions we have had with him reassure us...We are going to put an end to this odious phenomenon... This summit will be decisive." The defense chiefs of Benin, Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria met in Abuja on Tuesday in order to lay the groundwork for the task force. While Benin has not yet deployed any troops in the fight against Boko Haram, the country has agreed in principle to join the forces.

Burkina Faso

Avoid ALL travel to part(s) of country

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



Security Summary

There is currently an Ebola virus outbreak in Guinea and Sierra Leone. While there currently have been no confirmed cases of the Ebola virus in Burkina Faso, MS Risk advises all travellers to remain cautious, including maintaining strict standards of hygiene. As a precautionary measure, Burkina Faso's environmental ministry has banned all special hunting for bats, which is the main carrier of the deadly virus.



While there currently have been no confirmed cases of the Ebola virus in Burkina Faso, MS Risk advises all travellers to remain cautious, including maintaining strict standards of hygiene. As a precautionary measure, Burkina Faso's environmental ministry has banned all special hunting for bats, which is the main carrier of the deadly virus.

Threats and Concerns

There is a general threat from terrorism throughout the Sahel region. 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. 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.

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Kidnapping Threats

There is a heightened risk that terrorist groups, including AQIM and MUJAO, may cross the northern borders from Mali 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. On 4 April 2015, a Western national was abducted in the Tambau Region by an armed group. His current whereabouts remain unknown. 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.

Crime

There is a high risk of armed groups stopping vehicles, including public buses, in order 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 Organizations 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 familiarize themselves with the IFC Voluntary Principles on the Use of Security Forces. This applies to military, police or private security services.

On the Ground Reporting

- **17 June 2015** – The wife of former Burkina Faso president Thomas Sankara has called on France to declassify documents related to his death and has urged the government to set up a parliamentary commission to investigate. Speaking to RFI radio, Miriam Sankara stated, “if France for example declassified secret documents on the assassination of President Sankara, that could help us bring to light what happened.” She further indicated that she wants French authorities to set up a parliamentary investigative committee in order to determine “the responsibilities of one or another” in his death. In May, Sankara’s remains were exhumed in a bid to answer questions over his death. The former president’s relatives have pressed for years for tests to be done on the body, which was buried in an unmarked grave in a cemetery in the capital Ouagadougou.

Gambia

No Travel Restrictions

Security Summary



There is no travel advisory for Gambia, MS Risk advises all travellers to the country to be aware that the Gambian government is currently blocking consular access to all foreign nationals in detention. As a result, Embassies in the Gambia will not be able to provide consular assistance to their nationals who may be detained by the Gambian authorities. MS Risk advises all travellers to avoid travel by road from The Gambia to the Casamance, in the southern region of Senegal. The Gambian government has reopened the country's border with those nations currently affected by the Ebola outbreak. Health officials will continue to screen people entering the country from Ebola affected countries. There are currently no confirmed Ebola cases in the Gambia.

The Casamance region of south-western Senegal remains affected by incidents involving presumed separatist groups and by incidents of banditry. An outbreak of the Ebola virus has been confirmed in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. While there have been no confirmed cases of the virus in The Gambia, as part of efforts to prevent the deadly virus from spreading into the country, Gambia's Ministry of Health and Social Welfare has set up a task force to control the border areas. MS Risk is currently advising all travellers to the country to maintain a high level of vigilance. There is an underlying threat from terrorism. Travellers to the country are warned to remain vigilant as attacks can take place at anytime and anywhere.

On the Ground Reporting

- **10 June 2015** – A diplomatic source reported Wednesday that the Gambia has ordered the closure of the Libyan embassy in Banjul and has banned it from resuming work until a stable regime has been installed in the country. According to a source at the mission, the foreign ministry sent a letter to embassy staff ordering operations to cease “until there is a stable and permanent government in Tripoli,” with the source disclosing that “the embassy ceased operation on Tuesday and is now being guarded by security guards...Gambian security agents including the police took an inventory of the assets within the embassy.” The source further indicated that no Libyan embassy staff members have been expelled and that all remain in the country.
- **9 June 2015** – An airport source reported Tuesday that the EU representative in the Gambia has left the country under an expulsion order, which drew criticism from opposition politicians and which left officials in Brussels “astonished.” A member of the Gambia Civil Aviation Authority confirmed, “Madam Guillaud boarded (Brussels Airlines) on Monday night for Belgium.” According to a government statement read out on state television, on Friday, Ms Guillaud, the charge d'affaires of the European Union delegation in the capital Banjul, was given 72 hours to leave the country. The statement provided no reason for the decision but indicated that the notice period included Friday, adding that the deadline to leave was the end of Sunday. On Saturday, the EU foreign policy spokesman in Brussels disclosed that the bloc was “astonished” by the

ruling and would seek an explanation, adding that the EU had “full confidence” in Guillaud’s work. Meanwhile, Gambia’s opposition leader Ousainou Darboe has described the expulsion as “one of the most ill-considered decisions by the government of the Gambia.”

- **8 June 2015** – Gambian President Yahya Jammeh has called for the International Criminal Court (ICC) to investigate the deaths of African migrants who are trying to cross the Mediterranean by boat to reach Europe. The president, who met with visiting ICC prosecutor Fatou Bensouda at the weekend, has indicated, “we have a right to call the ICC to investigate not only cases of Gambians but the case of thousands of African young people who have died on the European coast under unusual circumstances.” In his comments, which were broadcast on state television Monday, the president criticized rescue efforts in the Mediterranean by European nations, stating “if it is not done deliberately, how is it possible that each time a vessel is capsizing, there is the Italian navy to rescue only a few people.” Last year at the United Nations General Assembly, President Jammeh called for an investigation of what he called the “manmade sinking, capsizing” of boats carrying Africans. According to the International Organization for Migration, nearly 2,000 migrants had died by early May, with about 800 killed in a single shipwreck in April. Many thousands have reached southern Europe by the sea route, with Gambia being one of the leading countries of origin of the migrants.

International Developments

- **17 June 2015** – According to several diplomats, the expulsion of a European Union (EU) diplomat from Gambia earlier this month has derailed efforts to unlock aid to the West African country. The EU had earmarked 33 million euros (US \$37 million) for development projects in the Gambia for 2015-2016 however the funds were frozen partly due to concerns over human rights after the West African nation implemented a tough new law against homosexuality. Brussels was further surprised by Gambia’s order to expel EU charge d’affaires Agnes Guillaud on 5 June, just hours after the first meeting in months between the two parties during which diplomats raised the law and President Yahya Jammeh’s criticism of EU migration police. According to one source, it is highly unlikely that “...the money will be unlocked now,” adding “talks with Gambia were about potentially reopening that (aid) tab...That was a disaster.”

Ghana

No Travel Restrictions



Security Summary

An outbreak of the Ebola virus disease has been confirmed in Guinea and Sierra Leone. There currently are no confirmed Ebola cases in Ghana. MS Risk advises all travellers to Ghana to take the necessary precautions, including maintaining strict standards of hygiene and avoiding eating bush meat.

Although there is currently no travel advisory for Ghana, the country has seen an increase in violent robbery in 2013. Throughout 2014, there have been a number of cases of violent robberies involving foreign nationals who have been attacked and robbed while travelling in taxis after dark. There have also been incidents where an assailant has been concealed in the trunk of the taxi. Recently, a number of foreign nationals in Tamale have been attacked and robbed by machete wielding individuals. MS Risk advises all travellers to the Tamale area to travel by private car and to avoid walking on the roads, or using a motor scooter or bicycle after dark.

Most armed robberies occur at night however there have been some reports 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 travelling to the Northern Region, MS Risk advises you to remain alert to the potential of new outbreaks of flooding which 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.

On the Ground Reporting

- **13 June 2015** – On Friday, President John Mahama indicated that positive results are starting to flow from the country's fiscal consolidation plan that includes an aid deal with the International Monetary Fund and a decision by the European Union to renew budget support. The president has cited a slowdown in the increase in the inflation rate as an example of improvement and stated that the currency, which has fallen to a record low against the dollar, was being hurt partly by speculation. Speaking to reporters, President Mahama stated "we are beginning to see the start of fiscal consolidation," adding that he intended to run for

a second four-year term in 2016 if he is selected by the ruling National Democratic Congress to face opposition leader Nana Akufo-Addo.

- Ghana's President John Mahama has indicated that flooding earlier this month, which led to a large explosion at a gas station in the capital, caused over US \$100 million in damages. Speaking to journalists Friday night, president Mahama stated that the "conservative figure" was an estimate, adding that a final report on the 3 June disaster was still being prepared.
- **11 June 2015** – Ghana has suspended a trial for an Ebola vaccine after locals complained that they were needlessly being used as "guinea pigs" in a country that is currently free of the deadly disease. The West African country had previously agreed to join other countries in carrying out trials to test the safety and effects of two experimental vaccines against the virus. Phase 1 of the safety tests on the vaccine, which was developed by US pharmaceutical giant Johnson and Johnson and Denmark's Bavarian Nordic, had started in the southeastern region of Volta, in which each volunteer was given a mobile phone and 20 cedis, (US \$4.70) each. However faced with growing opposition to the trial, Health Minister Alex Segbefia, who is currently out of the country, decided to suspend the tests. On Wednesday, his spokesman Tony Goodman, stated, "the minister has got a lot of calls from numerous Ghanaians saying that they are not interested in any trial... So he said...the trial should be suspended until he returns to look at the issues." Leaders of the ruling National Democratic Congress in the Volta region have also indicated that the trial was a "needless experiment." In a statement, officials indicated "we have cases of malaria, cholera and HIV/AIDS among others. We need vaccines or remedies for these diseases... Why should a country that is not threatened by Ebola risk the lives of its citizens for an unnecessary experiment?"
- **10 June 2015** – On Wednesday, President John Mahama called for national unity as he led a memorial service for the more than 150 people killed in a petrol station fire and heavy flooding. The President has indicated that the provisional toll from the fire and flooding has reached 152 and that government agencies have begun clearing illegal structures and enforcing environmental laws. The president also promised that the city's ageing and undeveloped sewerage system would be overhauled. Heavy flooding during two days of torrential downpours last week caused drains to overflow, inundating homes and businesses and making roads impassable. Locals had complained that rubbish was blocking open drains, effectively preventing rainwater from outlying districts from running off into the sea. The Ghanaian government is now facing allegations that poorly managed city planning contributed to the tragedy, with critics, including the opposition Progressive People's Party, calling on Accra's mayor to resign. Residents and experts both agree that the capital city lacks a proper system to deal with annual rains. While over the past fifteen years, the city has grown by more than half a million people, to an estimated 2.3 million, many areas lack sufficient gutters and where they do exist, they are quickly filled up with garbage that accumulates in the absence of public trash cans. The president's speech on Wednesday capped three days of national mourning.
- **9 June 2015** – The UN's emergency Ebola response headquarters in Ghana's capital city, Accra, will close as the deadly outbreak has slowed. The head of the mission, Peter Graaff, who met with the Ghanaian president in order to thank the country for hosting the agency since it was set up in September last year, indicated that a small team will stay until the end of June in order to coordinate air operations. In a statement, Mr Graaff indicated that "by allowing us to set up our headquarters in Accra, President Mahama demonstrated extraordinary leadership and solidarity," adding "he made Ghana the only open gateway to Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone thus allowing the movement of thousands of Ebola responders and medical and essential supplies when they were most needed." The mission, known as UNMEER, set up its headquarters in Accra as it was far enough away from the affected countries, where there was logistical lockdown, however it was close enough to the epicenter of the outbreak.

- **8 June 2015** – On Monday, Ghana began three days of mourning to honor the more than 150 people killed in a petrol station fire during heavy flooding in the capital city Accra. The government has asked that the public wear black as a sign of respect to those who died, with officials indicating that they have begun to distribute relief materials, including water, food and non-food items to those affected. Red Cross disaster management coordinator Francis Obeng has reported that the agency has “...been able to identify a total of 9,250 people who were affected by the flood and fire, 1,125 houses were damaged while 67 people were hospitalized as of the weekend,” adding that a final death toll and full assessment of damages caused by the disaster are expected to be released in about a month’s time. UN agencies have been drafted in to work with national bodies to help those affected by the tragedy. The country’s emergency department has also announced that search operations have begun to locate missing relatives. A statement released by his office indicated that President John Dramani Mahama will attend a service in memory of the victims on Wednesday near the site of the fire at Kwame Nkrumah circle. On Thursday, a fire and explosion at the Ghana Oil Company (GOIL) filling station killed scores of people who were seeking shelter from torrential rains that caused widespread flooding. The fire is believed to have spread from a nearby residence and destroyed a nearby pharmacy and several neighboring buildings.

Guinea

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



Security Summary

MS Risk currently advises against all but essential travel to Guinea, except for those who are involved in the direct response to the Ebola outbreak. Over the past several weeks, there have been a number of violent demonstrations that have occurred in the capital city Conakry and across the country. Violent demonstrations are likely to further take place, particularly in the run up to the Presidential elections, which are due to take place in October. MS Risk advises all travelers to Guinea to maintain extreme vigilance, to monitor the local media and to avoid large gatherings.

MS Risk advises all to carefully assess your need to travel to Guinea. If you do decide to travel, we advise that you make sure you have adequate arrangements in place for onward travel/exit and have adequate emergency health provisions. Due



to the Ebola outbreak, general medical facilities throughout the country are currently under particular strain. Dedicated healthcare facilities for Ebola can also be under pressure and many medical facilities expect to be paid up-front. Enhanced screening measures have been introduced for outbound passengers at Conakry airport. Delays are likely to be experienced at Guinea's land border crossings, particularly those with Liberia and Sierra Leone. This is due to enhanced screening measures.

There is currently a low threat from terrorism. Areas of Guinea that border Senegal, Guinea-Bissau, the Ivory Coast, Liberia and Sierra Leone are often tense and have an increased military presence. Therefore, MS Risk advises against all travel to the regions bordering the countries listed above. There have been regular reports of robberies on the routes Mamou,

Faranah, Kissidougou, Guekedou, Macent and Nzerekore. MS Risk advises all travellers on these routes to remain vigilant and to avoid 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.

On the Ground Reporting

- **17 June 2015** – According to judicial sources, Guinea has charged embers of the ousted military junta over the 2009 Conakry stadium massacre, in which at least 157 protesters were killed. On 28 September 2009, security forces opened fire on demonstrators after tens of thousands had gathered in the capital city's main stadium to protest against the regime led by Moussa Dadis Camara. During the incident, women were raped, hundreds of people were wounded and dozens are still missing. On Wednesday, a judicial source confirmed that "at least 13 people have been charged," adding that these were on top of the eight people that have already been charged since the legal proceedings opened in 2010. The source further disclosed that the latest accused, which include a policeman, the then housing minister and a civilian adviser to the junta, have been summoned, questioned, charged and bailed over a period of recent months.
- **9 June 2015** – On Tuesday, Amnesty International urged Guinea to reject a proposed law it said could criminalize political dissent as the government was accused of "alarming" attempts to curb press freedom. While the London-based group welcomed a public order bill, which was passed by lawmakers on Tuesday and which outlaws the use of force by police during political protests except as a last resort, it warned in a statement that the law, which still needs to be approved by President Alpha Conde, contains loopholes that could result in an erosion of the right to peaceful assembly. Amnesty's Francois Patuel has indicated, "new legislation to ensure force is only ever used as a measure of last resort, and under strict conditions, is welcome but needs to be strengthened and enforced if Guinea's history of violence is not to repeat itself in the coming elections." Amnesty has indicated that the law would not allow for spontaneous assemblies, while security forces retain powers to disperse groups of peaceful protesters if one amongst them was believed to be carrying a weapon, adding "Guinea's authorities should be doing everything possible to facilitate peaceful protest, both to respect freedom of assembly and to ensure stability and safety ahead of key elections." According to Amnesty, over the last decade, at least 357 people have died and thousands have been wounded during demonstrations.

Domestic News

- **19 June 2015** – On Friday, Guinea's warring political factions agreed to reschedule next year's local elections in a bid to end a democratic crisis that has sparked violent protests across the West African nation. Justice Minister Cheick Sacko announced Friday the compromise after he chaired two days of talks in the capital with senior figures from both the ruling party and the opposition coalition. Speaking at a news conference, the minister stated, "it was not easy but the different parties came together," adding that the country's independent election commission would set a new date for the elections. While local elections were initially set for 2014, the timetable was scrapped after Guinea was hit by the Ebola outbreak. Opposition parties hoped that the regional voting would still go ahead before the October presidential elections, however they were dismayed when the local polls were scheduled for 2016.

Ivory Coast

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

Security Summary



An outbreak of the Ebola virus disease has been confirmed in Guinea and Sierra Leone. While there currently are no confirmed Ebola cases in the Ivory Coast, the country has taken preventative measures and is at a particularly high risk as it borders Guinea, which has been severely affected by the current outbreak. A previous ban on all flights from countries that have been affected by the outbreak has now been lifted. MS Risk advises all travellers to the Ivory Coast to take the necessary precautions, including maintaining strict standards of hygiene and avoiding eating bush meat. There is an outbreak of cholera in the Abidjan area. As of December 2014, the epidemic has infected 264 people and resulted in 19 deaths. The most affected areas are: Attecoue, Koumassi, Port Bouet and Yapougon.



MS Risk advises against all but essential travel to the western regions of Dix-Huit Montagnes, Haut-Sassandra, Moyen-Cavally and Bas-Sassandra. Since August 2012, there have been a number of shootings around the capital of Abidjan. Attacks have mainly occurred at night with the targets usually being police and military officials. Further such incidents cannot be ruled out at this time, consequently MS Risk advises those in the capital city to remain vigilant at all times. As of 21 November 2014, there is a curfew in place from 10PM to 5AM in the town of Bondoukou, which is located in the northeastern region of the country. The curfew has been put in place in response to a high number of robberies that have been occurring at night. There is an underlying threat from terrorism. Attacks could be

indiscriminate, including in places frequented by foreigners.

On the Ground Reporting

- **20 June 2015** – Police and organizers reported Saturday that between 3,000 – 5,000 people demonstrated in the capital city against President Alassane Ouattara, who is the sole declared candidate for the upcoming presidential elections, due to take place in October. On the ground sources have reported that many participants of Saturday’s rally, which was organized by the Ivorian opposition coalition, chanted “Free (Laurent) Gbagbo.” After a period of conflict, which was sparked by Gbagbo’s refusal to accept electoral defeat in 2010, the former president was arrested in April 2011 and extradited later that year to the International Criminal Court (ICC) in The Hague. According to Mamadou Koulibaly, ex-president of the National Assembly under Gbagbo and founder of the National Coalition for Change (NCN), “this gathering is not yet enough to make Ouattara feel afraid.” The NCN, which gathers some twenty Ivorian politicians, including ex-prime minister Charles Konan Banny, was established on 15 May.

Mali

Avoid ALL travel to part(s) of country

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



Security Summary

Summary

MS Risk strongly advises against all travel to the northern parts of Mali and along the border with Mauritania. This is due to ongoing military operations in the region and the increasing threat of attacks and kidnappings targeting westerners. Despite ongoing military operations, Mali continues to face significant security challenges due to the presence of extremists and militant factions that continue to operation in the northern region of the country.

On 10 June, there was an attack by armed men on Malian security forces in the town of Misseni, which is located near the border with Ivory Coast. MS Risk currently advises to take extra care if you travel in Sikasso region.

MS Risk advises against all 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.

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. Night



time checkpoints continue to operate in Bamako, largely controlling access to military and government facilities. Checkpoints are in place from approximately 9PM until dawn.

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 organizations 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 Organizations 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 organizations 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

- **20 June 2015** – On Saturday, Mali's Tuareg-led rebel alliance signed a landmark deal to end years of unrest in the northern region of the country. The Algiers Accord aims to bring stability to the country's vast northern desert. The agreement had already been signed in May by the Malian government and local militias however the Coordination of Azawad Movements (CMA) had been holding out until amendments were agreed.
- **17 June 2015** – Loyalist militias disclosed Wednesday that they are refusing to withdraw from a flashpoint town in northern Mali, a decision that violates a condition of the rebel alliance's commitment to the country's fragile peace process. According to Me Harouna Toureh, a spokesman for a coalition of pro-government armed groups from the north, known as the Platform, "in front of UN officials in Mali, the people, the prominent citizens of Menaka, asked us to keep our troops in the town for their safety, so we are staying." A source from the UN peacekeeping mission in Mali, MINUSMA, confirmed that Menaka is "still occupied by armed groups supporting the government of Mali." The source further disclosed "peacekeepers are also within the city, and the Malian army," adding that fighters from the rebellion, known as the CMA, were dug in about 30 kilometres (20 miles) from the town. In April, the fighters seized the town of Menaka from the Tuareg-led alliance in an operation that sparked several violations of a ceasefire agreement and which left many dead on both sides. On Saturday, the CMA is due to sign the Algiers Accord, an agreement that is the product of months of talks under the auspices of the UN and which aims to bring stability to northern Mali. The agreement has already been signed by the Malian government and loyalist armed groups. Toureh has denied that the pro-government fighters' stay in Menaka will jeopardise the process, adding that "our rebel brothers understand the situation." However CMA spokesman Almou Mohamed has demanded that "in accordance with the commitment made in Algiers, militias of the Malian army in Menaka must leave the city, and let the UN mission ensure the safety of the people," adding that the if Platform does not leave the town, the CMA will begin internal consultations in order to decide whether Saturday's signing ceremony will go ahead as scheduled. A MINUSMA source has disclosed that so far, the ceremony is on course "until we hear different." The CMA gained a number of concessions as a condition for giving its backing to the Algiers Accord. Amongst them are a stipulation that its fighters and other combatants be included in a security force for the north, that the residents of the north be represented in government institutions and for a "security arrangement" mandating the departure of pro-government forces from Menaka. **Update (19 June)** – Pro-government fighters disclosed Friday that they have retreated from a flashpoint town in northern Mali, a move that effectively paves the way for the signing of a landmark peace agreement.
 - According to the commander of the UN MINUSMA peacekeeping mission in Mali, the mission does not have the training, logistics or intelligence capabilities in order to effectively carry out operations. On Wednesday, MINUSMA commander Major General Michael Lollesgaard stated, "I possess some good assets but overall we have some major shortfalls that make us extremely vulnerable." According to the Danish general, the gaps in intelligence, as well as in troop training, safety and supplies, are a major concern, adding "because of insufficient pre-deployment training, I believe we have had losses that could have been avoided...Many of my troops are not good enough at these basic skills." Lollesgaard pointed to weaknesses in identifying landmines or calling for help from helicopters to evacuate the wounded, adding that closer contact with the local population and better protection, whether out on patrol or on the bases, are also key. Amongst the UN's 16 missions worldwide, the force in Mali has suffered the largest losses, with peacekeepers regularly being targeted by militants that operate in the country's restive north. Since the mission's deployment in

2013, 36 soldiers have been killed and more than 200 have been wounded, effectively making this the deadliest mission since Somalia in the 1990's. MINUSMA peacekeepers have been killed in suicide attacks, ambushes and mortar fire on their bases. Lollesgaard himself was part of a convoy that came under attack in late May, in an incident that was later claimed by al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM).

- **11 June 2015** – In a rare attack in southern Mali, suspected jihadists killed a policeman in Misseni, located near Mali's border with the Ivory Coast, early Wednesday. A local councilor has reported that around 30 jihadists arrived at 2:00 AM and briefly occupied the town's army camp. The militants opened fire on local policemen, killing one officer before escaping. Local Malian sources have reported, "the terrorist jihadists led an organized attack." Unconfirmed reports have indicated that the militants, who escaped around 5:00 AM, left behind a copy of the Koran and a piece of paper on which was written Ansar Dine, a known jihadist group with links to al-Qaeda. Wednesday's incident marks the most southerly point in the West African nation where the insurgents have struck as previous attacks have occurred in the northern desert region, which has been in turmoil for the past three years. More recently, militants have also carried out attacks in the capital city, Bamako.

Domestic News

- **12 June 2015** – Malian lawmakers overwhelmingly voted to adopt new Prime Minister Modibo Keita's government programme on Friday. The Prime Minister's programme, which focuses on the safety of people and goods, improving living conditions and pushing for justice, was approved by 116 MP's with 16 voting against. Opposition leader Soumaila Cise, however has indicated that he was "skeptical" of the prime minister's programme, charging that it contained "inaccuracies. Keita, who has been leading peace negotiations with rebel groups, took over as prime minister in January. He presented his programme to Mali's 146-member parliament on Monday. Modibo Keita is the third premier appointed by President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita (no relation), with his two predecessors both lasting less than a year.

Regional Reporting

- **12 June 2015** – On Friday, leaders of Mali's Tuareg-led rebel alliance visited Malian refugees in Mauritania to explain to them their decision to sign a peace agreement with the Malian government. According to Mohamed Attaye Ag Mohamed, of the National Movement for the Liberation of Azawad (MNLA), which is a member of the Coordination of Azawad Movements (CMA), "we have come to the camps in Mauritania after a meeting with the Azawadian diaspora in Nouakchott to tell our citizens why we are signing this agreement, which falls far short of their aspirations." Ag Mohamed told Malians in the Mbera refugee camp in southern Mauritania that "the international community has recognized the relevance of the amendments proposed by the CMA as part of the Algiers Accord...Even if this should lead us to failure, we have to journey together." He has called for the people of northern Mali to unite behind their decision. While the CMA had been holding out, it has now agreed to commit to the Algiers Accord at a ceremony that is due to take place on 20 June. The CMA won a number of concessions as a condition for giving its backing to the deal. They include a stipulation that their fighters and other combatants be included in a security force for the north, and for the residents of the north to be represented in government institutions. The Mbera camp has housed up to 70,000 Malians who fled the north in 2012 – 2013, when Islamists seized control of the

region's main towns and cities before being ousted by a French-led military intervention. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, which runs the camp, has indicated that it expects to house 48,000 refugees this year.

Mauritania

Avoid ALL travel to part(s) of country

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



Security Summary

Summary

Due to the current Ebola outbreak in Guinea and Sierra Leone, Mauritania has closed some of its southern border crossings. MS Risk advises all travellers to the area to check with local officials. Mauritanian authorities have decided to deny entry to citizens arriving from those African countries that have been affected by the current Ebola outbreak.

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.



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. On 14 May 2013, the Government of Nigeria declared a state of emergency in the states of Adamawa, 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.

On the Ground Reporting

- **17 June 2015** – A court in Mauritania has convicted three men of belonging to the Islamic State (IS) extremist group and sentenced them to between five and ten years in prison. The court convicted the three late Tuesday on charges of terrorism, terrorist activities and possessing terrorist propaganda. On Wednesday, Public Prosecutor Ahmed Ould Moustapha disclosed that the group leader had received a sentence of ten years in prison while the other two received five and seven year sentences. The men were arrested last year during a demonstration, with authorities indicating at the time that they had IS flags and photos of the group's leader in their possession.

Niger

Avoid ALL travel to part(s) of country

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



Security Summary

A state of emergency is current in effect in the region of Diffa. This is due to Boko Haram attacks, which occurred earlier this year. A curfew is also in place, resulting in residents to stay indoors between 20:00 and 06:00 local time (19:00 and 05:00 GMT). Officials have banned the use of motorcycles, which is a common mode of transport, in order to prevent infiltration by Boko Haram militants. On 18 June, Boko Haram militants killed 38 people in an attack carried out overnight in the villages of Lamana and Ngoumao, which are located in southeastern Niger.

Violent protests have erupted in the capital city Niamey and in Zinder, Niger's second largest city. The protests, over the depiction of the Prophet Muhammad in the French satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo, have resulted in the deaths of at least four civilians. Further protests are likely to occur in the coming days. MS Risk advises all travellers to remain vigilant and to avoid large demonstrations.

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 Tillabéri 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.



On the Ground Reporting

- **18 June 2015** – Boko Haram militants killed 38 people, mainly women and children, in an attack in southeastern Niger that occurred overnight Wednesday. According to Niger's Interior Minister Hassoumi Massaoudou, "members of the Boko Haram terrorist group have attacked the villages of Lamana and Ngoumao...The initial death toll is 38 civilians, among them 14 men, 14 women and 10 children." The minister added that three people had been wounded and hospitalized in Diffa's provincial capital and that Boko Haram had also set fire to more than 100 homes in its latest raid. The villages that were attacked by the militants are located in the Gueskerou area of Diffa province, near Nigeria. According to one resident, the attackers arrived shortly after 8:00 PM (1900 GMT), stating that they were "shooting and burning everything in their path... Some civilians were burned by Boko Haram members, others were shot dead using firearms." Another source disclosed that Boko Haram fighters crossed over into the region from Nigeria, after they were taken in vehicles to the border. The latest attack is the deadliest in Niger to be carried out by the militant group since a raid in April on an island in the West African country's side of Lake Chad killed 74 people, 46 of them were soldiers.
- **16 June 2015** – Officials reported Tuesday that thirty more people have been found dead after attempting to cross the Sahara desert in Niger, effectively bringing the total over the past week to 48 dead. Local authorities have disclosed that the victims probably died several months ago and their remains have only now come to light, adding that they were believed to be heading to Libya, where many migrants attempt to cross the Mediterranean Sea to reach Europe. According to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the bodies were found in Dirkou, northeast of Agadez, Niger. The town is a major launching point for Africans across the continent who want to escape poverty, and in some cases oppressive governments, at home.
- **14 June 2015** – On Sunday, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) reported that the bodies of eighteen migrants, who likely died of dehydration, were found in the Sahara desert in northern Niger. According to the IOM's chief of mission in Niger, Giuseppe Loprete, the migrants, most of whom came from West African countries, are believed to have died on 3 June after a sandstorm threw them off their route from the northern town of Arlit to Algeria. William Lacy Swing, the IOM's director general, has disclosed "this tragedy highlights a feared but hitherto little-known danger too many migrants face long before they risk their lives at sea," adding "the Sahara may be as deadly as the Mediterranean for this wave. All too tragically many of these deaths go unreported." The deadly included 17 men and one woman who had come from Algeria, Central African Republic, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Mali, Niger and Senegal.

Nigeria

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 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. We advise against all but essential travel to Kano state, Kaduna State, Jigwa State, Katsina State, Sokoto State, Zamfara 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.



There is currently a high threat from terrorism. Over the past few weeks there have been a number of explosive attacks in Damaturu, Kano, Jos, Kaduna, Abuja and Lagos. Further such attacks are highly likely to occur. MS Risk currently advises all travellers in Nigeria to avoid public places, especially where crowds gather.

Northern Nigeria

Travelling anywhere in the northern region of Nigeria is extremely dangerous as there is a high risk of travellers being kidnapped or caught up in a terrorist or other violent incident. While taking the right precautions will aid in reducing the risks, this will not eliminate them all together. MS Risk advises all travellers to the northern region of the country to not maintain regular patterns of travel or movement.

If you live in northern Nigeria, you are advised to review your security regularly and to strengthen it accordingly. Due to the risks, particularly of terrorism, having increased in the past few years, good security two years ago is unlikely to be adequate now.

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.

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

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

- **18 June 2015** – Chad's military has indicated that it has carried out airstrikes in Nigeria on suspected Boko Haram positions. In a statement, the Chadian government disclosed that the strikes were in response to the "cowardly and barbaric" bombing on Chad's capital, N'Djamena, on Monday. According to the Chadian military, the group suffered heavy casualties and six of its bases were destroyed. However Nigeria's military has reported that the strikes did not occur on its territory. In a statement, Nigerian officials disclosed that it had identified the targets but the raids probably hit Niger. While Chad has previously carried out strikes on Nigerian territory, these latest strikes are the first since Monday's twin blasts, which killed more than twenty people and wounded more than 100.
 - According to a spokesman for the state-run oil group, Nigeria's four refineries will resume production next month, an announcement that has raised hopes of an end to perennial petrol shortages that have plagued Africa's largest crude producer. Ohi Alegbe of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) has disclosed "the refineries at Warri, Port Harcourt and Kaduna will resume next month after a successful turn-around-maintenance (overhaul) of their facilities," adding "the turn-around-maintenance has been on for some time. We did not just want to make any noise about it. The refineries will start production as soon as they have delivery of crude oil for refining." The NNPC has four refineries – two in Port Harcourt in the south, one in northern Kaduna and another in southern Warri, with a combined installed capacity of 445,000 barrels per day. A network of pipelines and depots located across the country link these refineries.

- **17 June 2015** – Bombs located at an abandoned Boko Haram stronghold in northeastern Nigeria, exploded Tuesday afternoon, killing at least thirteen people and injuring 45 others. According to locals, at least two of the devices went off as people were taking them past a market to be defused at a military base. Sources have disclosed that the explosives were found in a bag on the side of a road outside the town of Monguno in Borno state. Umar Zannah, a member of a local militia force set up to defend the town, reported, “the bombs killed 10 of our members and three other persons nearby.”
 - According to senior health officials, about seventy people have died in the country’s oil-rich southern region after they consumed home-brewed gin that was found to contain large amounts of methanol. Somiari Harry, permanent secretary of the health ministry in Rivers state, has disclosed that the deaths from drinking the gin, which is known locally as “ogogoro,” were recorded in five local government areas, confirming, “the death toll so far recorded from the consumption of ogogoro is about 70.” The deaths, which first came to light earlier this month, have led to Rivers state authorities imposing a total, state-wide ban on the manufacture, sale and distribution of the drink. Health ministry officials have also been deployed across the state in order to enforce the ruling. According to Nnanna Onyekwere, the director of the center for disease control in River state, there were 80 reported cases in the five areas, with the state capital, Port Harcourt, being one of the areas affected, adding that no new cases have been reported in the past weeks. These latest deaths come after more than twenty people died from drinking local gin in the southwestern town of Ode-Irele in April.
- **15 June 2015** – Ten people were killed in two separate blasts in the northeastern Nigerian city of Potiskum. The first bomb exploded at around 1:00 PM in the office of a group set up to defend local people against such attacks. Eyewitnesses reported that a suicide bomber detonated a device at an outdoor tea drinking area a few minutes later. No group has claimed responsibility for the attack however the bombings bear the hallmarks of previous attacks that have been carried out by Boko Haram.
- **12 June 2015** – A survivor reported Friday that Boko Haram militants have burned down six northeastern Nigerian villages and killed at least 37 people near the insurgent’s Sambisa Forest stronghold. Ahmed Ajimi, a fighter in the anti-Boko Haram Nigerian Vigilante Group, disclosed that many victims of the attacks, which occurred Wednesday night, were farmers who had recently returned home after soldiers earlier this year forced the militants out of the area. Locals have reported that the insurgents shot from the back of pickup trucks and threw firebombs, which quickly set ablaze homes in the town. Many spent the night in the bush over fears that the militants would return to carry out further attacks.
- **10 June 2015** – Police reported Wednesday that three female suicide bombers died in Borno state when the explosives, which were strapped to their bodies, detonated. According to State Police Commissioner Aderemi Opadokun, the bombers died on Tuesday while on their way to the state capital Maiduguri. No one else was killed in the incident. It remains unclear whether Boko Haram was behind the attempted attack, however the militant group has previously used suicide bombers and homemade explosives in its six-year insurgency.
- **9 June 2015** – On Tuesday, Nigeria’s top military brass and officials from surrounding countries met to discuss plans on how to take on Boko Haram. The meeting of chiefs of defense staff from Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria, as well as a high-level military official from Benin, comes before talks, which are due to be held between heads of state and the government on Thursday. According to a statement released by the Nigerian military on Monday, the military meeting is designed to determine strategies for a new, African Union-backed regional force against the rebels. Speaking in Paris, Benin’s President Thomas Boni Yayi promised that Thursday’s meeting would be “decisive” in the fight against the militant group. While his Nigerian counterpart Muhammadu Buhari has vowed that taking on the group is the new

administration's top priority, the latest attack, which is the 12th to take place since Buhari's inauguration at the end of May, has underscored the ongoing threat from the rebels, despite claimed military successes in recent months.

- **8 June 2015** – On Monday, Nigeria's military disclosed that it has begun shifting the command center for its battle against Boko Haram from the capital city to Maiduguri in the northeast, following a directive from President Muhammadu Buhari. An army statement disclosed "a reconnaissance and advance team for the establishment of Military Command and Control Centre (MCCC) for OPERATION ZAMAN LAFIYA for the fight against terrorism and insurgency has moved to Maiduguri." Army spokesman Sani Usman has indicated that the advance team is working to set up a fully functioning "forward command base" to coordinate the offensive against the militants, adding, "from now on, the fight against terrorism and insurgency would be monitored, coordinated and controlled from this center." He further indicated that another command center was being set up in Yola, the capital of neighboring Adamawa state. In his inaugural speech on 29 May, President Buhari announced the move, stating that the militants would not be defeated until military command and control was transferred to the city that is at the heart of the uprising adding that "the command center will be relocated to Maiduguri and remain until Boko Haram is completely subdued."
- On Monday, Boko Haram targeted the village of Huyum, which is located in the Askira-Uba district of Borno state. According to local residents, the attack began at about 2:00 PM and saw the militants open fire and raze homes after dousing them in petrol. Bukar Zira, a local resident who fled to the commercial hub of Mubi in neighboring Adamawa state as the rebels moved in, reported "the whole village was burnt by Boko Haram gunmen. We lost around 500 homes," adding "we have so far lost 15 people and one was injured. People in the whole village moved out to different parts of Borno and Adamawa." Reports have indicated that since President Buhari was inaugurated at the end of May, at least 109 people have been killed in a wave of attacks in Borno state, particularly in the state capital, Maiduguri." Militants have targeted military barracks and installations as well as mosques and markets.

Domestic News

- **15 June 2015** – President Muhammadu Buhari disclosed Monday that he is planning to visit Cameroon to cement a regional fighting force against Boko Haram. While last week, President Buhari met with his counterpart from Benin, Chad and Niger at a summit in Abuja, Cameroon's leader Paul Biya was noticeably absent and was represented by his defense minister. During his first week in office, President Buhari visited neighboring Chad and Niger, adding that he would have gone to Cameroon's capital Yaoundé to hold talks with Biya had he not been invited to attend the G7 summit in Germany. On the sidelines of the African Union (AU) summit in Johannesburg, he stated "but on my return to Nigeria now, I will try to go to Cameroon."
- **11 June 2015** – On Thursday, President Muhammadu Buhari held talks with regional leaders on Boko Haram, with hopes that a new fighting force will end the militant's six-year insurgency. After two days of preparatory discussions, which involved military top brass and defense ministers, heads of state and government from Benin, Cameroon, Chad and Niger arrived in the capital city, Abuja. The five-nation Multi-National Joint Task Force (MNJTF) was initially agreed upon in May last year. While it was due to be operational in November 2014, wrangling between Nigeria and its neighbors led to its delay. Reviving the force was brought to the fore in January and an 8,700-member unit, backed by the African Union, was

finally agreed, with the headquarters based in Chad's capital city, N'Djamena, under Nigerian Major General Tukur Buratai. On Wednesday, the head of the Lake Chad Basin Commission security group, Sanusi Imran Abdullahi, stated that the headquarters will cost some US \$30 million to run over the next year. The new MNJTF will effectively replace an existing coalition of Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria, which since February has claimed a series of successes against Boko Haram. On Monday, Nigeria's chief of defense staff Alex Badeh disclosed that this week's meetings indicated the countries' "common resolve to put an end to a menace that has become a regional and...global problem...If there is any time for us to rise in one voice, irrespective of our differences, it is now." The meetings come after the Nigerian president appealed to world leaders at the G7 summit in Germany last weekend for additional help in combating the extremism and after recent visits to neighboring Chad and Niger. President Buhari, 72, has made ending the militants' reign of terror his top priority, and has already moved the military's command center from Abuja to Maiduguri, which is the rebels' northeastern stronghold. The increase of activity since his 29 May inauguration is in stark contrast to the years of apparent inaction in tackling the group by his predecessor, Goodluck Jonathan. **Update (12 June)** – As coalition partners met to discuss military strategies, on Thursday, Nigeria called for one of its commanders to be put in charge of a new regional fighting force until Boko Haram is defeated. President Buhari disclosed his desire to control the counter-insurgency, suggesting a six-month rotational command structure between the five nations could harm the fighting. According to the president, "such a process will undermine, even if it is not intended, the military capacity to sustain the push against the insurgents," adding that a single commander would improve "the effectiveness of military strategy, since Nigeria will be providing the bulk of the troops and the main theater of the war is on Nigerian soil."

- **9 June 2015** – On Tuesday, candidates from the country's main opposition party were elected to head both houses of the legislature in votes that have highlighted cracks in the coalition that brought President Muhammadu Buhari to power. Furthermore, former governor and two-term Senator Bukola Saraki has been voted as head of the country's Senate, effectively making him the third most powerful figure in the country. While Saraki belongs to Buhari's coalition, he was not the party's choice for Senate president. While President Buhari's coalition still holds more seats in both houses, candidates with backing from the opposition People's Democratic Party (PDP), of the recently defeated President Goodluck Jonathan, managed to get elected, with PDP candidate Yakubu Dogara being elected head of the House of Representatives, narrowly defeating a candidate from Buhari's coalition. Experts have indicated that having opponents in powerful positions, such as the legislature, will not make the president's job any easier, particularly since his own coalition is made up of politicians from many different political parties, including defectors from the PDP. Furthermore, the two victories for the PDP may be a sign that the political party is rebuilding its power base following its electoral defeat.

Regional Reporting

- **15 June 2015** – On Monday, officials in neighboring Chad reported that at least 23 people have been killed and more than 100 injured in suicide attacks carried out in the capital N'Djamena. Eyewitnesses reported that attackers on motorcycles blew themselves up outside two police buildings. According to witnesses, one of the bombers on a motorcycle blew himself up after security officers fired at him outside a building where the national police chief is based while the second explosion went off at the headquarters of the national police academy. The Chadian government has blamed the attacks on Nigerian-based Boko Haram, however the militant group has not commented. Hours after the attack, Communications Minister

Hassan Sylla Bakara stated that Boko Haram had “made a mistake targeting Chad,” and that the group would be “neutralized.” The Communications Minister condemned the “appalling and barbaric attack,” stating that it “would not diminish Chad’s determination and commitment to fighting terrorism.” The minister added that all four of the attackers had been killed. On the ground sources have reported that in the wake of the attack, large numbers of troops have been deployed on the streets of the capital and a ban has been imposed on cars with tinted windows. Chadian forces have played a key role in helping Nigeria battle the jihadist group, and the headquarters of a regional force that is being set up in N’Djamena. While the group has never targeted N’Djamena before, this attack should not come as a huge surprise, given the country’s role in fighting the insurgency. Boko Haram has previously criticized and taunted Chadian President Idriss Deby in its videos. In a statement United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon condemned the bombings and praised Chad’s “courageous role” in fighting Boko Haram.

International Developments

- **16 June 2015** – The United States has indicated that it will give US \$5 million (£3.2 million) towards a multi-national task force that is being set up to combat Boko Haram. US official Linda Thomas-Greenfield’s remarks that Boko Haram “was not just a Nigerian problem,” come after the militant group was blamed for carrying out suicide bombings that killed more than twenty people in neighboring Chad on Monday. MS Thomas-Greenfield, the US assistant secretary of state for Africa, has disclosed that the US is in talks with President Muhammadu Buhari’s government on how it could assist more in the campaign against the militants. Relations between Nigeria and the US appear to be improving after they were strained during the country’s previous administration, led by Goodluck Jonathan, which was seen to have been dragging its heels over the creation of a multi-national force, as it feared that it would undermine the country’s sovereignty. Last year, the US also turned down a request by Mr Jonathan’s administration to sell it weapons. The request was denied because of poor human rights record of its military. The issue led to a diplomatic row, with Nigeria accusing the US of refusing to help land a “killer punch” against Boko Haram.

Sierra Leone

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



Security Summary

MS Risk advises against all but essential travel to Sierra Leone. This is due to the current Ebola outbreak in the country. 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. MS Risk therefore advises all travellers in the country to exercise due caution when travelling by road throughout the season.



On the Ground Reporting

- 12 June 2015** – On Friday, Sierra Leone's President Ernest Bai Koroma announced that he was imposing a three-week daytime curfew in the last Ebola-hit areas in a bid to curb a resurgence of the deadly virus. The curfew announcement comes after the country on Thursday extended its nationwide state of emergency for 90 days, despite calls from opposition politicians to relax restrictions in the country's Ebola-free districts. The president made

the announcement on state television, stating that he was imposing “with immediate effect a 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM chiefdom-level curfew” in parts of the northwestern districts of Kambia and Port Loko, which are the only areas that are still reporting new infections. The president has indicated that people in the worst-hit chiefdoms, or areas, of those districts will be confined to their homes for 21 days, warning that anyone found flouting the order would find themselves in jail for the same period. Grocery stores and markets, which have been ordered to close at 6:00 PM, will now be allowed to stay open until 9:00 PM in most parts of the country, while restaurants, which also had a 6:00 PM curfew, have been granted an extension until 10:00 PM. Motorbike taxis, which were previously barred from operating after 7:00 PM, have been given an extra two hours. The latest lockdown has been called over fears that the disease, which has killed about 3,900 people in Sierra Leone, was making a comeback in the northwestern region of the country. Palo Conteh, head of the National Ebola Response Centre, has attributed the recent spike in Port Loko and Kambia to “people just being stubborn and engaged in the wrong things that fuel the transmission,” adding “some washing of bodies and secret burials are going on and people are taking the sick to herbalists.” A lawmaker is on bail awaiting trial for allegedly ordering the washing, dressing and burial of his 106-year-old father in Kambia in May. Amadu Koroma, a local government clerk in Kambia, has disclosed that herbalists were frequently bypassing official entry and exit points to treat patients in southern Guinea, the epicenter of the outbreak, adding “people have also been escaping from quarantined homes at night and ending up in Port Loko where relatives bring in herbalists to treat them in locked rooms.” While neighboring Liberia was declared Ebola-free in May, hopes that Sierra Leone and Guinea would quickly follow suit have, in recent weeks, been dashed. On Wednesday, the World Health Organization (WHO) announced that the retreat of the virus “that was apparent throughout April and early May has stalled.” Sierra Leone’s health ministry has reported that 22 people are in Ebola treatment centers, all in Kambia and Port Loko, while 342 people are in quarantine in those districts and the Western Area, which includes the capital city, Freetown.



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