The General retirement

General, are you retired?

"Yes, I am. What's my retirement? It's to continue the battle in another way. The fight against idleness, absence, disconnection, and non-participation, managing to not become negative minded, remaining useful to my country and other countries, by sharing the acquired expertise and experience during my career. The younger generations need it. In fact, as long as the brain functions and the legs follow... forward, the rate can change."

Thus, General Lamine Cissé never rests, he has always something to do, sometimes even late in the night. And he is often consulted, here and elsewhere. Three days after the outbreak of the crisis in Mali, he has spoken in these terms, in "African Democracy No. 19, April 2010": "..."

We must bear in mind and insist that the Sahel-Saharan strip doesn't only include the four countries of Mali, Niger, Mauritania and Algeria, but it also spreads on the Atlantic (Mauritania, Senegal, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conacry), to the boundaries of Darfur.

The unfortunate action of the Malian military groups hasn't not only accelerated the occupation of a part of the territory of Mali by the Tuareg of Azawad, but it has simultaneously allowed the Al Gaeda in Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) to put a firm foot in the "Sahel region, either directly or by proxy wars, in other words terrorism can set in, openly and by force in all the Sahel strip countries."

In another section on Mali, he said: "... identity claims take often a lot of time to find definitive solutions. The most important is to silence the weapons. After that, everything becomes possible! Then, let's keep on trusting the local and international stakeholders, in order to maintain the interest and willingness of helping one another at a highest level. The most important is that the Malian people, including all ethnic groups, can meet and show their commitment to the path of tolerance and national reconciliation."

Besides, he talked about the difficulties of African countries in these terms: "The resolution of infrastructure issues and social needs is concomitant to strategic issues. The challenge for African leaders is mainly to achieve leading the fight on both fronts." Last November, he said, in the magazine "Magazine de l'Afrique, November 2015 N° 45", with regard to African diplomacy of France: "France does not intend to Gendarme; the paradigm of a French military intervention in Africa, including in its former colonies, have totally changed. However, if the vital interests of France were to be affected, it is possible that France reacts to the new situation and there would be a change of perspectives." It is on the basis of this awesome career through which General Lamine Cissé has accomplished a great job, for a better cooperation between civilian and military and a more inclusive approach related to the national and international security, that this brief biography is written to pay tribute to him.

His decorations

General of the Army Corps, Lamine Cissé holds the following decorations, among others:

- Grand Cross of the National Order of the Lion (Senegal);
- Grand Cross of the Order of Merit (Senegal);
- Officer of the French Legion of Honor;
- Grand Officer of the French Order of Merit;
- Grand Officer of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta;
- National Order of Nigeria.

Cette plaquette a été initiée par Dr Adjaraou Wakh Aïdara Ndiaye,
Directrice Exécutive de Partners West Africa - Sénégal
Senegal.  

Chairman of the Board of Partners West Africa - Senegal. 

Native of Sokone, General Lamine Cissé is an eminent senior officer in the barracks, very distinguished and highly respected in diplomatic and political circles.  

He graduated from some renowned military schools such as Saint - Cyr. General Cissé brilliantly succeeded in a remarkable professional career crowned by the title of a General Chief Staff of the Army in 1996."

After his military retirement, he was appointed as Minister of the Interior. He organized peacefully in 1996, the elections which led to the first political democratic change in Senegal. His high sense of responsibility, his diplomatic skills and his humanly allowed him to be appointed by other countries. The international community has entrusted to him several sensitive issues that he has successfully piloted.

General Lamine Cissé was given several national and international awards, including the French Legion of Honor after the release of a French hostage and "Le Grand Croix de l'Oeuvre National du Lion" in Senegal.  

General Cissé graduated from the Specialized Military School of Saint - Cyr in France in 1963 as a Second-Lieutenant. After some stays in troop corps, he was the Observers Contingent Leader to supervise the ceasefire between the front line, very distinguished and remarkable professional capacity, he was granted with the award of Knight of the Legion of Honor, a decoration of the Armed Forces. He was sent to the United States of America in 1994, for a year at the US National War College, Washington DC, in 1994, and the American National Defense University, Washing­ton DC in 1997, and the United States Command, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, in 1997, and the first African admitted to the Hall of Fame of the National Defense University, Washing­ton DC in 2004.

He was appointed as a Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General in the Central African Republic, and Head of the United Nations Office in central Africa (BONUCA).

From 2007 to 2008, General Cissé was the Special Representative of the United Nations in Darfur for West Africa, and Head of the United Nations for West Africa (UNDOUA), based in Dakar. In the framework of that mission, and as the president of the Cameroon / Nigeria commission for the border dispute in the Basse, he had to oversee the final signing of the delineation of the maritime boundary in this archipelago.

In 2010, General Cissé was the Special Envoy of ECONAPs in Guinea to assess the security system after the reforming sector in that country.

In 2011 he was appointed as the United Nations Coordinator for the Guinea Security Sector Reform.

General Cissé was the first Senegalese admitted to the Hall of Fame of the US Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, in 1997, and the first African admitted to the Hall of Fame of the National Defense University, Washington DC in 2004.

What a coincidence! That is to say, that the Senegalese General GUIDAWAK, launched by the Gambia General Cissé, was actually very convincing and a great success.

Nowadays, the American ACOTA manifests itself throughout the Flintlock trainings including the 2016 one, the most importantly ever well-organized one. It is on process in Senegal and will end on February 99th.

General Lamine Cissé also went through a national and international career

From January 15th, 1998 to the April 1st, 2000, General Lamine Cissé was the Senegalese Minister of Interior. As such, he organized the Parliamentary elections in 1998, the senatorial elections in 1999 and the presidential ones in 2000, which established the first democratic transition in Senegal. It was also the first time that Senegal had experienced a 4th round and a 40 years regime left the power after some far and biologically elections.

From 1991 to 2007, he was appointed as a Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General in the Central African Republic, and Head of the United Nations Office in central Africa (BONUCA).

From 2007 to 2008, General Cissé was the Special Representative of the United Nations in Darfur for West Africa, and Head of the United Nations for West Africa (UNDOUA), based in Dakar. In the framework of that mission, and as the president of the Cameroon / Nigeria commission for the border dispute in the Basse, he had to oversee the final signing of the delineation of the maritime boundary in this archipelago.

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