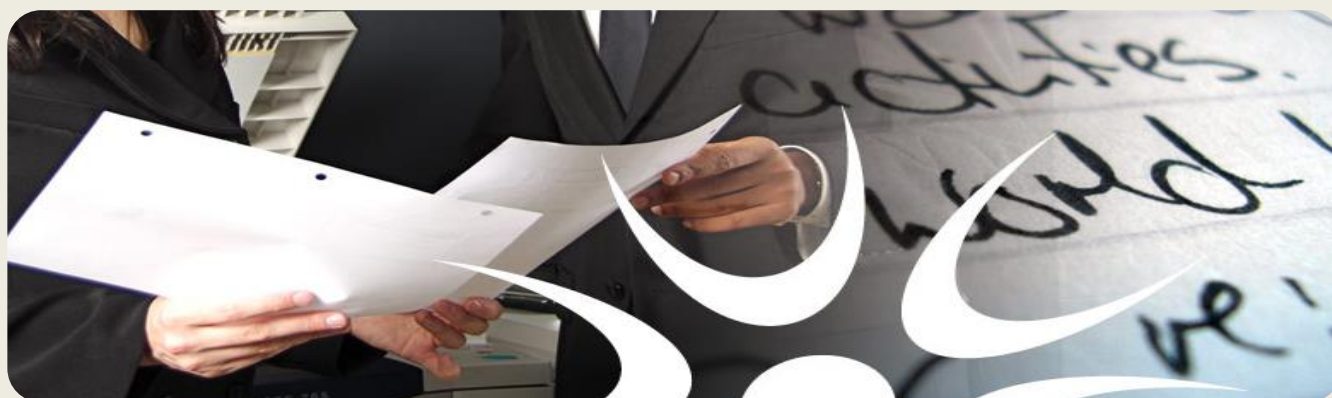


January 2016

Newsletter



BIS



BIN



BIG



BIM



**TAMWEEL
AFRICA HOLDING**



Banque Islamique du Senegal



Banque Islamique du Niger



Banque Islamique de Guinée



المصرف الإسلامي الموريتاني
Banque Islamique de Mauritanie

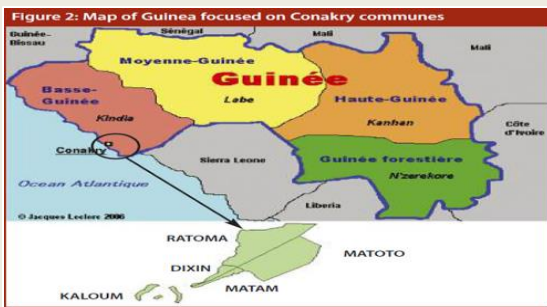


Tamweel Africa Holding Ongoing Projects



- ✓ Tamweel Africa Holding and Affiliates new websites
- ✓ Tamweel Africa Holding and Banque Islamique du Sénégal new head office
- ✓ Affiliates Name change project
- ✓ Commercialization of Tamweel cash prepaid card in TAH affiliates
- ✓ Harmonization of communication tools
- ✓ Tamweel Africa Holding network expansion in West Africa

Guinea



UN declares end to Ebola virus transmission in Guinea; first time all three host countries free



The United Nations health agency today declared the end of Ebola virus transmission in Guinea, where the epidemic began two years ago before spreading to neighbouring Liberia and Sierra Leone and, ultimately by land and air travel to seven other countries, killing over 11,300 people. But experts called for continued vigilance against any new outbreak stemming from the virus's lingering in male semen even after the bloodstream has been cleared. "This is the first time that all three countries – Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone – have stopped the original chains of transmission that were responsible for starting this devastating outbreak two years ago," World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Director for Africa Matshidiso Moeti said in a news release, of the largest-ever epidemic of the deadly disease. "I commend the governments, communities and partners for their determination in confronting this epidemic to get to this milestone. As we work towards building resilient health care systems, we need to stay vigilant to ensure that we rapidly stop any new flares that may come up in 2016." Forty-two days have now passed since the last person in Guinea confirmed to have Ebola virus disease tested negative for the second time, and the country now enters 90 days of heightened surveillance to ensure that any new cases are identified quickly before they can spread to others.

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=52913#.Voo4r7bJy8>

Guinean franc depreciates against other currencies: The reasons, according to the Minister of Finance and the Governor of the BCRG



The depreciation of the Guinean franc in recent times has become so serious that it could not fail to be mentioned at the press briefing of the Minister of Economy and Finance on Tuesday gave on the occasion of the end of mission of experts of the IMF and the World Bank in Conakry.

Is the issuance of the new 20,000 bank notes the cause of the current depreciation of the Guinean franc? On the issue, the responses of the Minister of Economy as well as those of the Governor of the BCRG are categorical and conclusive. According to the State Minister, Mohamed Diaré, the new 20,000 tickets have absolutely nothing to do with the depreciation of the franc. For him, the stall of the Guinean franc against the dollar is in no way a surprise. This, he argues, is a virtuous cycle, a normal dynamic favorable to the dollar today so much so that it almost appreciated all other currencies. "The Euro is stronger than the Guinean franc because it is well supported. This year, the euro has won vis-à-vis the dollar. So if the Guinean franc also comes off vis-à-vis the dollar, this should not be a surprise. It is the same for the CFA Franc. It is a virtuous cycle, therefore, a normal dynamic", said the Minister of Finance.

<http://guineenews.org/franc-guineen-deprecie-face-aux-devises-les-raisons-selon-le-ministre-des-finances-et-le-gouverneur-de-la-bcrg/>

IMF: "The growth of Guinea could rebound to around 4 percent in 2016"



The joint IMF-World Bank Mission led by Abdul Aziz Wann, sealed off this Tuesday, December 15 its working visit to Conakry. This mission that lasted about two weeks, was sanctioned by a press release summarizing the preliminary observations of the World Bank-IMF experts on the general situation of the economy as well as that relating to the various commitments made in the Government of Guinea under the sixth and seventh reviews of the Extended Credit Facility program (FEC). This preliminary report is a real diagnosis of the state of Guinea of the economy, shows that it has been plagued by two negative shocks initially related to the Ebola outbreak since 2014 and its impact then quite devastating for the economy to the drastic drop in commodity prices on the world market. According to the findings of the mission led by Mr. Wann, this drop in commodity prices has had consequences, decreased production and gold exports from Guinea. And not only. It also caused, says one, reduced foreign exchange earnings and government revenue. Speaking further about the economic outlook, the mission says they have improved mainly because of the approaching end of the Ebola epidemic and the peaceful holding of the presidential election.

<http://guineenews.org/fmi-la-croissance-de-la-guinee-pourrait-rebondir-a-pres-de-4-pour-cent-en-2016/>

Mauritania



Mauritania welcomes a new bank, IBM



The Monetary Policy Council of the Central Bank of Mauritania (BCM) recently granted approval to a new credit institution called "International Bank of Mauritania" (IBM). Given that the country has twenty institutions, including fifteen actually in operation. Four foreign banks, including the subsidiaries of French Societe Generale Group and the Moroccan Attijariwafa Bank group, are among the operational banks. According to agencecofin.com website, IBM has a capital of six billion ouguiya (about 19.70 million US dollars), totally freed. The institution of this round is made up of local businessmen (Cheibany Ould Weddady, Yaye Diaw, Ould Mohamed Lemine Wedady and Abdoulaye Dieng). The start of the bank's activities is expected during summer 2016.

http://cridem.org/C_Info.php?article=679103

Maghreb Investment Bank: launch of a branch in Nouakchott in 2016



The first branch of the Maghreb Bank for Investment and Foreign Trade (BMICE), which has just been officially launched, will open in 2016 in Mauritania, according to the minutes signed at the close of the meeting of the constitutive general assembly of the bank, held on Monday in Tunis.

The board of directors of that institution held its first regular session in mid-January 2016. The Board of Maghrebian institution is composed of 10 members (two from each country of the Maghreb) plans to develop its action plan within six months. The Maghreb Bank has an initial capital of \$ 150 million (more than 305 million dinars) and aims to contribute to the economic and social integration through the strengthening of capital flows, investment and trade bilateral.

http://cridem.org/C_Info.php?article=679037

Mauritania: a capitalized and liquid, but vulnerable banking sector (IMF)



The Mauritanian banking sector "is well capitalized and liquid, but remains vulnerable to shocks," according to a recent report by the International Monetary Fund (IMF). This observation is motivated by "a high concentration of credit (including credit to the government), exposure to currency risk, low profitability due to limited business model and increased competition exacerbating the banking vulnerabilities. Although the banking system seems properly capitalized throughout, some banks do not meet the minimum capital requirement and are under provisioned. And asset quality remains weak: in the second quarter of 2014, non-performing loans represented 20% of the overall mass of the loans. On 31 December 2014, the Central Bank of Mauritania (BCM) has revoked the licenses of MAURISBANK (a bank under capitalized) and FCI, a financial institution with negative equity and some credit business. "The case of MAURISBANK was finally brought to court. The Mauritanian banking system currently has twenty institutions, following a recent explosion that resulted in the issuance of multiple approvals from the Monetary Policy Council (MPC) of the Central Bank of Mauritania (BCM).

http://cridem.org/C_Info.php?article=678999

Niger



2016: African economies faced by political uncertainties



Investors do not like the uncertainty prevailing in the major presidential elections in Africa. Therefore, political risk premiums should soar in 2016 with 16 of the 54 countries of the continent holding presidential elections. Economies as diverse as Gabon, Djibouti, Chad, Benin, Central African Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Uganda, Congo Brazzaville, DRC, Gambia, Ghana, Zambia, Comoros, Niger, Cape Verde and Sao Tome and Principe will host presidential elections which do not take place all in a peaceful political climate. This presidential record makes 2016 a year of election issues outweighing economic issues. Yet the economic situation requires a tight control given the economic slowdown in emerging policies and the exhaustion of the economic model of export of raw materials. Thus, countries exporting raw materials will have to pay the price for the Chinese slowdown and sluggish global demand. Oil importers will theoretically gloat even if it is clearly demonstrated that the fall of 64% of international oil prices since mid-2014 has had no significant impact on the fuel pump.

<http://news.aniamey.com/h/64594.html>

More sophisticated bank cards to counter hackers



According to "Le Parisien", the majority of banks are currently testing the "dynamic cryptogram" technology. The objective: to stop fraud in the bank card, which cost just over € 230 million in 2014.

Since its invention in 1974, the smart bank card has steadily become more sophisticated in order to better fight against piracy. After the introduction of contactless payment in bank cards which already represented 57.5% in October in France, banks have already started to experiment new technologies to enhance transaction security, reveals Le Parisien. If they are both interested in bank cards, it is also because it is the most used means of payment in France. Gemalto, the world leader in the manufacture of smart cards, has already started marketing new generation bank cards, equipped with a "dynamic cryptogram". According to Le Parisien, almost all credit institutions are currently experimenting the technology and plan to equip their customers very soon. While biometrics - including payment systems fingerprint recognition - seems to make its way in the banking field, the other essential tool on which banks rely is the cryptogram.

http://www.lejecos.com/De-nouvelles-cartes-bancaires-plus-sophistiquées-pour-contrer-les-hackers_a6850.html

West Africa: The CFA Francs celebrates its 70th anniversary



The CFA has quietly celebrated its 70th birthday on December 26, 2015. This currency has its followers and protesters. The currency of the French colonies in Africa was created December 26, 1945, following the signing by France, the Bretton Woods agreements. Then it became the Franc of the African Financial Community with regard to the Member States of the West African Monetary Union (WAMU) and the Franc of Financial Cooperation in Central Africa with regard to the member countries Monetary Union of Central Africa (UMAC). Sixteen countries of Central Africa and West Africa possessed the CFA franc as the single currency until 1993. Today, that currency is separated into two separate CFA francs in particular for the Central African region and West Africa, now comprising 14 sub-Saharan countries. The CFA franc notes are still manufactured in France.

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/201512310524.html>

Senegal



New lines of financing for Coris Bank



The mega pan-African bank, Coris Bank International receives a good breath of fresh air. The Fund OFID (OPEC Fund Group) headquartered in Vienna has granted this Wednesday, December 23, 2015 a line of financing to support the SME segment (small and medium enterprises) in the amount of 10 million Euros (6, 5 billion CFA francs).

Coris bank that went on the offensive with the opening of subsidiaries in Ivory Coast, Mali, Togo and its participation via its technical platform in the new Banque de Dakar, also received last December 16 from OIKOCREDIT, funds based in the Netherlands, a four billion CFA francs line of financing. This line will allow the financing of small and medium enterprises in the context of an ambitious program to support private entrepreneurship in Burkina Faso and in the countries where its subsidiaries operate. Coris Bank International led by the young tycoon, Idrissa Nassa consolidates its leading position on the banking market in the Burkinabe accompaniment and support of the local industrial fabric.

http://www.lejecos.com/Burkina-nouvelles-lignes-pour-CorisBank_a6823.html

Mauritania: BCI opens in Dakar



The establishment of the Bank for Trade and Industry in Senegal (BCI) takes place in an economic context marked by the revival of economic activity with an expected growth rate of more than 5, 4%, in 2015 against 4,7% in 2014, argued Thursday in Dakar Pape Ndiaye Mody, CEO of the bank. M .Ndiaye argues that the commercial offer of BCI Senegal is for corporate clients, institutional clients and the individuals while being a privileged partner of the State particularly in the implementation of the Plan for the Emergence of Senegal including some funding already granted even in the framework for the realization of all these projects. The CEO of BCI ensures that "With twenty banks present in Senegal, their structure is obliged to offer what the others do not, that is to say the bank thinks differently" accompanying specifically and SMIs but also other

economic sectors in general. BCI has a special feature for SMEs and SMIs, "there are many ways to support small and medium enterprises because they have constraints to take into account as far as possible in order to assist them in the implementation and realization of their activities. For SMEs, professionals and large companies, BCI Senegal offers a variety of credit to finance investment requirements, operational needs and trade finance, said Mr. Ndiaye. He added that the BCI Account will soon expand its mobile banking services in Banking, Internet Banking to all electronic banking products to customers ensuring maximum comfort and efficiency in their dealings with the bank and other partners .Finally the bank also plans to install in all African countries.

http://www.lejecos.com/Banques-LA-BCI-offre-un-dispositif-particulier-aux-PME-PMI_a6797.html

How Zoheir Wazni tricked three Senegalese banks



This businessman has nearly 22 billion CFA francs to three of the largest institutions in the country. Survey Madoff instead Dakar. Don Corleone Senegalese local Madoff, Grand Caid ... Nicknames abound to qualify Zoheir Wazni. Mid-December is for infringement case against a competitor that this man of Lebanese origin Senegalese business is faced justice. But he attended court and made a lot of attention in recent months, it is for defrauding banks instead Dakar. Officially, it must nearly 22 billion CFA francs (about 33 million) accumulated at Societe Generale bank in Senegal (SATS, 8.9 billion CFA francs), to Bank of Africa (BOA) in Senegal (6000000000) and Senegal Atlantic Bank (6.85 billion). In that case, its modus operandi seemed perfectly oiled: after collecting the money borrowed from these large institutions, it would have organized the bankruptcy of its businesses. This is the case of five of the companies in its holding company, the group Hallegro: Siplast (active in the manufacture of plastics), Siparco (cosmetics), Atol (laundry), Semco (producer of mineral water fountain) and EDS (distribution). "These companies have filed for bankruptcy after having received loans, this may be a voluntary act, said a source following the case closely. And that's why Societe Generale filed a complaint for fraudulent bankruptcy, causing the arrest of Wazni and its placement in custody.

<http://www.jeuneafrique.com/mag/286287/economie/zoheir-wazni-sest-joue-banques-senegalaises/>