

MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE ACCOUNT-NIGER

MCA-NIGER



MINUTES OF THE TWELVETH ORDINARY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NIAMEY, FEBRUARY 23, 2021

The Board of Directors of the Millennium Challenge Account-Niger ("MCA-Niger") held an ordinary meeting on Feb., 23, 2021 from 9:30 AM to **11:45 AM** in Niamey, in accordance with:

- (i) The Bylaws of MCA-Niger, dated July 4, 2017;
- (ii) Decree N°2016-706/PRN, dated December 23, 2016, on the creation, attributes, composition and functions of MCA-Niger;
- (iii) the Millennium Challenge Compact between the United States of America, acting through the Millennium Challenge Corporation ("MCC") and the Government of Niger (the "Government"), dated on July 29, 2016 (the "Compact"); and
- (iv) the Program Implementation Agreement between the United States of America, acting through the Millennium Challenge Corporation ("MC ") and the Government of Niger (the "Government"), dated on July 29, 2016 ("Program Implementation Agreement").

Capitalized terms used but not defined herein shall have the meanings given such terms in the Bylaws, the Compact or the Program Implementation Agreement.

I. ATTENDEES :

1. Board Members in attendance by teleconference and constituting a quorum were:

Names	Positions	Voting members Vs. Non-Voting members	Board member / Alternate
M. GADO Foumakoye	Minister ,Chief of Staff of the President of the Republic, Chairperson of the Board	Voting members	Board member
M.ZAKARIA Abdourahamane	Acting Minister of Hydraulics	Voting member	Board member
M. BARKAI Issouf	Acting Minister of Agriculture et and Livestock	Voting member	Board member

M. DIOP Mamadou,	Minister of Finances	Voting member	Board member
M. MALLAM ZANEIDOU Amirou	Acting Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development	Voting member	Board member
Mme MOUMOUNI Amina	Acting Minister of the Promotion of Women and Child Protection	Voting member	Board member
M. MARA Boubacar	Chief of Staff of the Prime Minister	Voting member	Board member
M. BAGNA Djibo	President of the Peasant Platform, Representant of the Civil Society	Voting member	Board member
Mme PENN Kristin	Country Resident Director of MCC in Niger,	Non-voting member	Board member
M. ANNOU Mamane	General Director of MCA-Niger, Secretary of the Board of Directors	Non-voting member	Board member
3. Mme FODI Halima	CONGAFEN, training Officer, Representant of Women Organisations of the Civil Society	Voting member	Board Member

2. Board Members absent :

<u>Names</u>	<u>Positions</u>	<u>Voting members Vs No Voting members</u>	<u>Board member / Alternate</u>
Mme KANE Aichatou Boulama,	Minister of Planning,	Voting member	Board member
M. ABDOULAYE OUMA Ahmet	General Secretary, Ministry of Equipment	Voting member	Alternate
M. BETY Ali	Minister ,High – Commissioner to the 3N	Voting member	Board Member
DJADAH Abdoulaye	Deputy Chairperson of the National Chamber of Commerce, Industry of Niger, Representant of the Private sector	Voting member	Board member

Guests :

<u>Names</u>	<u>Positions</u>
M. Soulemame KOUOTOU NGAPOUT	Director of Legal Affairs, MCA-Niger

Mme Hassana GOURO	Legal Specialist, MCA-Niger ;
M. Bachirou IDRISSE MOUSSA	Legal Specialist, MCA-Niger ;
M. Kamil AGALI	Senior Executive Assistant, MCA-Niger
Mme Hélène OSSE Fakorede	Administrative and Finance Director MCA-Niger
Mme Aminata SAMAKE	Manager Irrigation and Market Access Facilities , MCA-Niger
M. Abdallah MAIGUIZO,	Director CRC, MCA-Niger
M. Justinien BACIRONGO	Croos Cutting Affairs Director , MCA- Niger
M. Souley BOUBE	Acting Procurement Director , MCA-Niger
Mme Hadiza ALI OUSSEINI	Human Resources Management and Administration Manager, MCA-Niger
M. Diafarou MOUMOUNI	Irrigation Infrastructure Manager, MCA- Niger
M. Daouda SEINI DIAKITE	Road Infrastructure Manager, MCA- Niger ;
M. Nahé ALASSAN	Manager CRA, MCA-Niger
M. Jonathan ABDOU	Manager PRAPS, MCA-Niger
Mme Halima GAMBO ILLO DAOURA	Manager Private Sector Mobilization and Engagement, MCA-Niger
M. Abdoul Nasser GOURGOUDOU HADI	Audit and Compliance Manager, MCA- Niger
M. Naji IDE SIDDO	Computer Graphics Specialist and Webmaster, MCA-Niger
M. Garba ILLO MOTA	Field Communication Manager, MCA- Niger
M. Ala HALILOU	Senior System Administrator Millennium Challenge Account - Niger (MCA-Niger),
M. Moussa AMADOU	Coordinator of the Support Unit in charge of Monitoring Eligibility Indicators

Chairperson: M. GADO Foumakoye, Chairperson of the Board.

Secretary: M. ANNOU Mamane, General Director of MCA-Niger

. I. PROCEDURE

The Chairperson opened the 12th Ordinary Meeting

The Chairperson, having ascertained the notices of meeting sent by SMS and the thereof SMS acknowledgements of receipt

- That the notices for convening the current meeting were delivered to the members of the Board within the time limits required by the provisions of Section 3.12 (b) (i) of the By-Laws of MCA-Niger, that is to say Friday, February 16, 2021 ;

- That a quorum was reached due to the acknowledgements of receipt received from a majority of the voting members of the Board, including at least one member who is not a government representative, in accordance with the provisions of Section 3.12 (b) (ii) of the MCA-Niger Bylaws;
- That the procedure used exceptionally is equivalent to that of a Board meeting by teleconference.

The Chairperson therefore declared the session acceptable to deal with the item on the agenda

II.DISCUSSIONS AND DECISIONS ON THE ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

1. Opening session

1.1. Opening session: For Approval

A – Review of the notice of meeting and adoption of the Agenda

The Chairperson opened the 12th Ordinary Meeting by reviewing the agenda noted in the notice of meeting sent to members. Noting that no Board Member made any amendment to this agenda, the Board adopted the following agenda:

B. Discussions

1- Open session

1.1- open session : for approval

A- Reading of the Notice of Meeting and adoption of the Agenda

B- Renewal of the mandate of the members of the Board representing the civil society and the private sector

C- Adoption of the Minutes of the 11th Ordinary Session of the Board held on September 26, 2020

D- Memorandum of Understanding with the Bagri in the framework of the payment of compensation to the Persons Affected by the Road Works Project

E- MCA-Niger Procurement Plan N°12 (PP12)

1.2- Open session : for information

A- Status of implementation of the recommendations issued at the Eleventh Regular Session of the Council on September 26, 2020

B- Update on resolutions adopted by home consultation since the Eleventh Regular Session of the Board on September 26, 2020

C- Review of the implementation of the 2020 Internal Audit Plan and outlook for 2021

D- Progress of the Irrigation component

I-1. Information on the progress of rehabilitation work on the Konni hydro-agricultural perimeter

I-2. Information on the progress of the implementation of the Sia-Kouanza 2 project

E- Progress of the Roads component

F- Information on the CRC component

K-1. CRA : Progress report

K-2. PRAPS

K-2.a. Status

K-2.b. Sustainable Vaccine Fund

G- Progress on Fertilizer Sector Reform

H- Information on the Development of the Regional Compact

1.3- In camera session: for information

A- Social security situation of MCA-Niger expatriate staff

2- Miscellaneous

3- Closing

The President of the Peasant Platform then expressed the wish that the item on Fertilizer Reform be discussed at the beginning of the meeting, as he had to withdraw from the session due to other constraints. Acting on the views of the other Board members, the Chairman agreed with this request.

The General Manager of MCA-Niger then assigned the Communication Manager of MCA-Niger to present all the items on the agenda.

B. Renewal of the mandate of the Board members representing civil society and the private sector

Summary of discussions: The Communication Manager of MCA-Niger indicated that the term of office of the Board members representing the private sector and civil society, appointed at the Board meeting of July 14, 2017, has now expired. Indeed, Section 3.8 (b) of the Rules of Procedure sets the duration of their mandate at two years renewable.

Thus, it becomes urgent to regularize the legal situation of these members and, at the same time, of the Council meetings for which they participated after the expiration of their term.

Discussions on this item being concluded, the Chairperson put to the vote the adoption of the board resolution N°01.

RESOLUTION N°01 :

The Board of Directors approves and adopts, by unanimity of the voting members present the renewal of the mandate of the members of the Board representing civil society and the private sector, for two (2) additional years from the date of expiration of their first mandate

C-Adoption of the Minutes of the 11th Ordinary Meeting of the Board of Directors held on September 26, 2020

Summary of discussions: The Chairperson submitted to the board members the Minutes of the 11th Ordinary Meeting of the Board of Directors held on September 26, 2020 . **No Board Member made any observations to the minutes**

Discussions on this item being concluded, the Chairperson put to the vote the adoption of the board resolution N°02.

BOARD RESOLUTION N°02:

The Board of Directors approves and adopts the minutes of the 11th Ordinary Meeting held on September 26, 2020

D –Status of Progress of the Fertilizer Sector Reform

Summary of discussions: The Communication Manager of MCA-Niger introduced this point by recalling the relevance of the reform. Indeed, the constraints to agricultural development, such as soil infertility and difficulties in accessing fertilizer, led the Government to commit itself to a reform of the fertilizer sector in the Compact.

The reform, whose plan was adopted by Decree No. 2018-046 PRN/MAG/EL of January 12, 2018 in 2018, has made significant progress during the year 2020. However, for its full implementation, the General Management requests the support of the State in the effective application of the decree that puts an end to the activities of CAIMA in the fertilizer sector; this, so that the private fertilizer sector can really play its role.

The President of the Peasant Platform agreed with this view. Indeed, he recalled the history of significant actions in the implementation of the reform and then noted the remaining issues to be resolved. It is a matter of guaranteeing the effectiveness of the reform by putting an end to CAIMA's interventions in the sector, which create a climate of uncertainty and slow down the commitment of the private sector. It is also a matter of making fully operational and functional: (i) the Common Fertilizer Fund (FCE), with the support of the Ministry of Finance for the opening of an account for the said Fund, and (ii) OMEN and COTEN through the provision of personnel, infrastructure and an operating budget that will enable them to function autonomously and fulfill their mission.

The Chairperson of the Board summarized the interventions by recalling that the reform was initiated by the Government. The transitional period for its effective implementation ended in December 2020; measures must therefore be taken to address the issues raised.

The Minister of Agriculture and Livestock specified that meetings and exchanges are underway to resolve outstanding issues such as the establishment of a Secretariat for OMEN and COTEN. Regarding the actions of CAIMA, he noted that this structure no longer issues approvals to private operators since the end of the transitional period. Also, to support the action and the role of the private sector in the reform, an Association of Importers and Distributors of Fertilizers has been set up.

The Minister of Finance also called for measures to be taken to ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of the reform in accordance with its terms and objectives, in particular through the termination of CAIMA's activities in the sector. He added that the opening of the FCE account is subject to a procedure upon request to the Ministry.

The General Manager of MCA-Niger confirmed that such a request has been made. The Coordinator of the MCA-Niger Support Unit specified that the procedure is advanced and should be completed during the current week.

The Chairman of the Board concluded by recalling the importance of the reform, and urged the continuation of ongoing actions by the effective opening of the FCE account at the end of the week and the cessation of CAIMA's interventions.

Discussions on this item being concluded, the Chairperson moved to the next item.

E –Memorandum of Understanding with BAGRI regarding the payment of compensation to the Persons Affected by the Road Works Project

Summary of discussions: The MCA-Niger Communication Manager indicated that, within the framework of the Compact Roads project, and in order to pay compensation to Project Affected Persons (PAPs), BAGRI has been selected to operationalize the payments. As BAGRI is a company with public capital, the Memorandum of Understanding with this bank is submitted to the Council for approval.

The Acting Minister of the Environment suggested that the Board approve the said Memorandum, particularly to support BAGRI's activities and efforts in the agricultural sector.

The Chairman of the Board requested a summary presentation of the contents of the Memorandum of Understanding to better enlighten the Board members.

The Director General of MCA-Niger stated that, in the implementation of the Compact, impacts that are qualified as damage to the population must be financially compensated; this is the case for the populations affected by the road works. The traceability requirement implies that these payments be made through a formal financial institution. To pay these compensations, the traceability requirement implies going through a financial institution. MCA-Niger consulted with several banks and selected BAGRI. Since BAGRI is a company with public capital, the government could be held financially liable if MCC procedures were not scrupulously followed during the process. Therefore, an agreement in principle from the Board is requested to finalize discussions with BAGRI for a Memorandum of Understanding.

Discussions on this item being concluded, the Chairperson put to the vote the adoption of the board resolution N°03.

RESOLUTION N°03: The Board of Directors approves and adopts, by unanimity of the voting members present the Memorandum of Understanding with BAGRI regarding the payment of compensation to the Persons Affected by the Road Works Project

F- Plan de Passation des Marchés n°12 (PP12) de MCA-Niger

Summary of discussions: The Director General of MCA-Niger indicated that the operationalization of Compact projects is mainly carried out by firms and consultants recruited for this purpose following a procurement process. To do this, MCA-Niger develops a "rolling" Procurement Plan every quarter but covering a twelve (12) month period, approved by MCC before being submitted to the Board for approval MCA-Niger has thus developed its twelfth Procurement Plan (PP12) for the period from January 1 to December 31, 2021, which the Director General briefly summarized.

Discussions on this item being concluded, the Chairperson put to the vote the adoption of the board resolution N°04.

RESOLUTION N°04 : The Board of Directors approves and adopts, by unanimity of the voting members present the twelfth Procurement Plan No 12(PP12) of MCA Niger for the period from January 1 to December 31, 2021

1.1- OPEN SESSION : For information

1.2-

G- Status of implementation of the recommendations issued by the Board at the Eleventh Regular Session of the Board on September 26, 2020

Summary of discussions: The Communication Manager of MCA-Niger indicated that there were no recommendations for action to be taken subsequent to the previous Board meeting.

Discussions on this item being concluded, the Chairperson moved to the next item

H- Status of Resolutions Adopted by Home Consultation since the Eleventh Regular Board Meeting of September 26, 2020

Summary of discussions: The Communication Manager of MCA-Niger presented a summary of the resolutions adopted by the Board by home consultation, between the previous meeting and the current meeting:

- Resolution n°021/10-2020 bearing the approval of the Amendment n°4 to the Contract N°IR/IPD/4/F.0045/19 concluded on March 1, 2019 between MCA-Niger and the consultant Radar Technologies International (RTI), adopted on October 26, 2020;

- Resolution No. 022/11-2020 bearing the approval of the Amendment No. 01 to MCA-Niger's Procurement Plan No. 11 (PP11) covering the period from October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021, adopted on November 22, 2020.

The Board has duly taken note of this without any comments

Discussions on this item being concluded, the Chairperson moved to the next item.

I- Review of the implementation of the 2020 Internal Audit Plan and perspectives for 2021

Summary of discussions: The Communication Manager of MCA-Niger indicated that as of December 31, 2020, the Internal Audit Department of MCA-Niger has completed 95.83% of the activities planned in the 2020 Audit Plan. The recommendations resulting from the audit are currently being implemented by the departments concerned. The audit of road sector reforms and the audit of compensation payments to PAPs in the road infrastructure rehabilitation zone in 2021 are currently being launched. For the year 2021, an Annual Audit Plan covering all MCA-Niger departments and services, with twenty-six (26) missions, has been validated by the General Management. The Board will be regularly informed of the implementation of this Plan.

The Board took note of it without any observations

Discussions on this item being concluded, the Chairperson moves to the next item

J- Progress of the Irrigation component

J-1. Information on the progress of the rehabilitation of the Konni hydro-agricultural perimeter

Summary of discussions: The Communication Manager of MCA-Niger indicated that the rehabilitation works of the irrigated perimeter of Konni are in progress, with a physical progress rate of 21% (backfilling, concreting of canals). Corrective measures are being taken to speed up the speed of the work.

A video-report made in the field by the MCA-Niger communication team was then shown for a better overview of the progress of the work.

At the end of this presentation, the Chairperson of the Board suggested that the documentary presented be widely disseminated in the form of an advertorial to provide answers to any questions the public may have about the implementation of the Konni project.

The Communication Manager of MCA-Niger replied that the documentary is already published on certain channels (social networks) and that a broadcast on the media is also planned.

Discussions on this item being concluded, the Chairperson moves to the next item

J-2. Information on the progress of the implementation of the Sia-Kouanza 2 project

Summary of discussions: The Communication Manager of MCA-Niger indicated that the Sia-Kouanza 2 project is based on the National Strategy for Small-Scale Irrigation (SPIN) from groundwater (15-20m from the perimeter, against 15km distance from the river), intended for the development of private land. For the start of the first phase of the project, 150 hectares have already been identified for development.

The Director General of MCA-Niger added that Sia-Kouanza 2 is the second irrigation project of the Compact. It is a new development of private land, unlike the Konni project which consists of the rehabilitation of an old development made available to producers by the State. Also, a preliminary phase of identification of producers interested in the project was conducted. Within this framework, 150 ha have already been geo-referenced with identified and consenting producers. A target of 650 ha developed is being pursued by the end of the Compact.

The Chairman of the Board asked for details on the progress of the project concerning the 150 hectares already identified.

The MCA-Niger Land Manager replied by reminding the audience that the implementation of the Sia-Kouanza 2 project according to the SPIN approach required a subdivision into 3 tranches with an objective of 100 Ha for the first, 200 Ha for the second and 340 Ha for the third tranche. For the 1st tranche, the objectives were exceeded with the identification of 150 Ha thanks to good support from producers.

The Acting Minister of Women's Promotion and Child Protection asked for details on the geographical location of the project area.

The Land Manager of MCA-Niger replied that the project area is located on the low terrace of the commune of Tanda in the department of Gaya.

Discussions on this item being concluded, the Chairperson moves to the next item

K- Status of progress of the Roads component

Summary of discussions: The Communication Manager of MCA-Niger recalled the two projects of the Roads component of the Compact: the rehabilitation of the RN7 national road on the Dosso-Bella 2 section (84km) with GENiS maintenance on the entire Dosso-Gaya section (157km), and that of the RN35 Margou-Gaya (180km) with GENiS maintenance, and that of the Guitodo-Sambéra/RRS rural road on 37km with community maintenance.

For the RN7, works began following a service order issued on December 20, 2020, for a planned duration of 20 months. For the RN35, the service order for the start of works was issued on January 22, 2021, for a planned completion time of 22 months.

A video report on the start-up and progress of work on the RN7 was then presented to the Board members

Discussions on this item being concluded, the Chairperson moves to the next item

L-1. CRA:

Summary of discussions: The Communication Manager of MCA-Niger first recalled that the CRC component of the Compact is an essential part of the Compact, with 100 million US dollars of investments that will cover ¾ of the beneficiaries of the Program. This component includes two parts: the CRA and the PRAPS.

The CRA component aims at ensuring the resilience of communities to climate shocks through: (i) investments in small-scale irrigation and land reclamation (70,000Ha targeted), fish farming, arboriculture and training of producers, in 16 communes among the 4 regions of intervention of the Compact; and (ii) the granting of subsidies to agro pastoral groups up to 3 billion Cfa.

A video-report was then presented on a women's group in the village of Dan Turké, which markets agricultural products and received a grant from the CRA in the amount of 42 million CFA francs.

Discussions on this item being concluded, the Chairperson moves to the next item

L-2. PRAPS:

Summary of Discussion: The MCA-Niger Communication Manager indicated that PRAPS is the second component of the CRC. Achievements at this level include investments in animal health through the financing of national livestock vaccination campaigns (1,323,000,000 CFA francs for 2020-2021), support for equipment for regional laboratories (297,000,000 CFA francs for Tahoua and Tillabéry) and the implementation of a reform to set up a Sustainable Vaccination Fund (SVF) to ensure the sustainability of financing for vaccination campaigns.

The PRAPS also includes the rehabilitation of four transhumance corridors (865 km in total), for which the study phase has been finalized and the start of work is imminent.

Finally, the project includes the construction of 15 modern livestock markets and the rehabilitation of 3 others. The studies, in this context, are being finalized.

Following this presentation, the Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development requested a map of the livestock markets concerned by the PRAPS. The PRAPS Manager of MCA-Niger gave the following breakdown of markets by Compact intervention zone:

- 5 markets in the Dosso region: Batako market (commune of Mokko); Ouna market (commune of Sambéra); Kargui-Bangou market (commune of Kargui-Bangou); Tanda market (commune of Tanda); Fadama market (commune of Guéchémé);
- 3 markets in the Tillabéry region: Wankama market (commune of Dantchandou); Hamdallaye market (commune of Hamdallaye); Torodi market (commune of Torodi)
- 6 markets in the Maradi region: large Kara market in Maradi; Dakoro market (commune of Dakoro); Dan-Koullou market (commune of Guidan-Amoumoune); Gabi market (commune of Gabi); Wourssina market (commune of Gadabéji); Guidan-Roundji market (commune of Guidan-Roundji)
- 4 markets in the Tahoua region: Tabalak market (Tabalak commune); Abalak market (Abalak commune); Ibou-Hamane market (Keita commune); Ourno commune (Ourno market)

The Minister of Agriculture and Livestock praised the efforts of MCA-Niger in the area of animal health and transhumance zones. He also wished to point out that the FDV has now been created through a decree adopted by the Council of Ministers.

The Minister of Finance deplored the fact that PRAPS intervention is limited to 4 regions of Niger. The PRAPS Manager of MCA-Niger replied that PRAPS intervenes throughout the country in terms of animal health, through vaccination campaigns. The Director General of MCA-Niger added that investments in livestock markets also cover the entire territory: one part by the PRAPS component of MCA-Niger and another part by the PRAPS component of the World Bank.

The Minister for the Promotion of Women and Child Protection noted that only three markets are listed in the Tillabéri region, despite the fact that livestock is widely practiced throughout the Kollo area. She asked for details on the criteria for selecting the markets to be rehabilitated or created. The PRAPS Manager of MCA-Niger replied that the criteria are essentially economic. Based on the proposals of the Ministry of Agriculture, 22 markets with the highest animal presentation rates and with a satisfactory economic rate of return were selected. Three (3) markets in the Tillabéri region and one (1) in the Tahoua region had to be withdrawn from the project for security reasons.

The Minister for the Promotion of Women and Children added that beyond the economic criteria, it is useful to take into account the needs of the populations in terms of support and capacity building in order to encourage the development and profitability of other markets.

Discussions on this item being concluded, the Chairperson moves to the next item

M- Information on the development of the Regional Compact

Summary of discussions: The Coordinator of the MCA-Niger Support Unit indicated that this is the first Regional Compact experience initiated by MCC. Niger and Benin were selected based on their compliance with the Compact eligibility requirements, but also on their performance in implementing their respective Compact programs. The two countries have been invited to formulate a program together in early 2019. In June 2019, an MCC mission visited each of the 2 countries to identify with local officials potential activities that could be considered in this Regional Compact.

At the end of this process, it was decided to build road infrastructure along the Cotonou-Niamey corridor, for about 360 km of asphalt, including 137 km in the Niger part (distance Dosso-Niamey). There will also be road maintenance activities and institutional reforms to ensure the sustainability of the investments made.

On the Niger side, the formulation of the program involves several public structures, including the Ministry of Equipment, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Transport, the Chamber of Commerce, the General Directorate of Customs, the FER, and the Trade Unions of Goods, Oil and People Transporters. Update meetings between MCC and the two teams from Niger and Benin are held regularly.

The Minister of Finances requested the budget for the activities selected for the Regional Compact. He recalled that several activities had been proposed during the 2019 process, including the development of a rail network.

The Support Unit Coordinator replied that MCC's approach is to first identify the activities to be evaluated and then evaluate the cost; it is therefore the definition of the activities that will clearly determine the program's budget. He added that the rail project was a desire of the government, but MCC is not involved in this sector. The activities selected are intended to strengthen the impact of investments already made within the framework of the Compacts conducted by the two countries (rehabilitation of the Port of Cotonou; rehabilitation of the RN7, etc.).

The Director General of MCA-Niger said that beyond road infrastructure, the Regional Compact will include support services. For example, customs services will be strengthened to improve the flow of goods at the borders.

The Minister of Finances added that the Government must identify all the important projects that fall within the scope defined between MCC and the two countries. The Director General of MCA-Niger replied that the Government's orientations can be transmitted to the working group on the formulation of the Regional Compact.

1.3 IN CAMERA SESSION

N- Social security situation of MCA-Niger expatriate staff

Summary of discussions: The Manager of Human Resources and Administration of MCA-Niger presented the Board with a question regarding the social security situation of MCA-Niger's expatriate staff.

The Minister of Finance indicated that MCA-Niger must submit a request to his Ministry to examine this issue.

The Chairman of the Board concluded by asking the General Management to send a request to the Ministry of Finance.

2. MISCELLANEOUS

The MCC Resident Country Director wished to inform the Board that the U.S. Congress has authorized MCC to extend all Compact currently in the implementation phase for 12 months,

due to disruptions related to the Covid-19 pandemic. This is good news for the Niger Compact, which needs additional time to complete projects and ensure sustainability. The documents for this extension are being developed by MCC and MCA-Niger, and will need to be approved by the MCC Board of Directors and the U.S. Congress before being signed by the governments. This process will take about 6-7 months. She clarified that this is a time extension, not a budget extension. However, funds will be available to cover administrative costs for the additional 12 months.

The Chairperson of the Board has duly taken note of this and praised it.

The chairperson terminates the meeting at 11:45 AM

SIGNED :

M. Mamane M. ANNOU Secretary	M. Foumakoye GADO Chairperson