



Inter-Governmental Action Group against Money Laundering in West Africa  
Groupe Intergouvernemental d'Action contre le Blanchiment d'Argent en Afrique de l'Ouest  
Grupo Inter Governamental de Acção contra o Branqueamento de Dinheiro em África Ocidental

## GIABA TO HOLD A ONE-DAY OPEN HOUSE IN BAMAKO, MALI

The Intergovernmental Action Group against Money Laundering in West Africa (GIABA) will feature its third Open House Day on 27 March 2010 at Azalai Hôtel in Bamako (Mali). After Abuja and Lagos respectively in 2007 and 2009, it is the first time that the event is staged in a Francophone country.

The objective of this third edition is to sensitize policy makers, civil society leaders, the private sector and the youths on the negative consequences of money laundering and terrorist financing, thus inducing positive change in their attitudes, behaviors and beliefs.

This edition of the event is expected to attract 150 participants who will exchange on: ***“Towards creating a collective commitment in the fight against money laundering and terrorist financing in Mali”***

The target audience will come from civil society organizations, the media, anti-drugs and anti-corruption institutions, school and university circles, youth movements, policy makers, high level civil servants, elected officials, police, gendarmerie and customs services.

The Open House Day will provide GIABA with a platform for sensitizing and involving the targeted audiences towards deliberate efforts and unified to counter the serious threats of money laundering and terrorist financing which endanger West Africa. This activity is part and parcel of the institution's mission of sensitization and capacity building of its Member States.

The interactive session with the participants will help strengthen the alliance among and between the stakeholders of the public and private sectors and civil society organizations so as to deal with the threats of money laundering and financing of terrorism in the region.

During this day, presentations on specific topics will be made focusing on GIABA; defining money laundering and the financing of terrorism and their related predicate offenses; Mali's AML/CFT experience; the role and responsibilities of various AML/CFT stakeholders.

In its dual capacity as a specialized institution of ECOWAS and a FATF Style Regional Body, GIABA is thereby implementing one aspect of its mandate which consists in raising awareness of the citizens of its Member States in order to fight efficiently against money laundering and the financing of terrorism.