

# AFRO MARKET

AFRICAN - CARIBBEAN - THE BLACK COMMUNITY BUSINESSES & SERVICES  
APRIL - MAY - JUNE 2011 EDITION - N°6

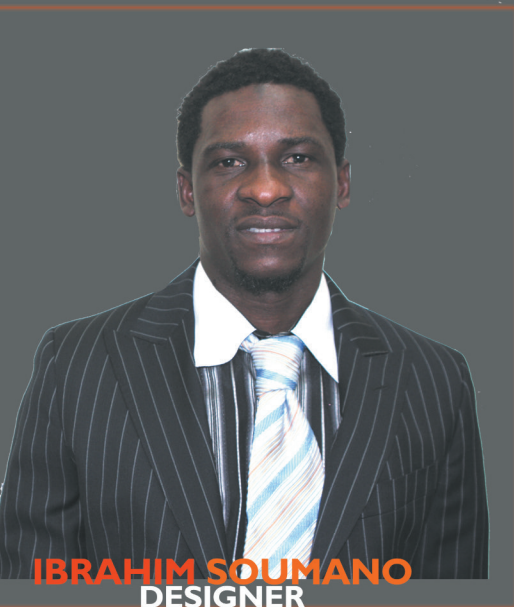
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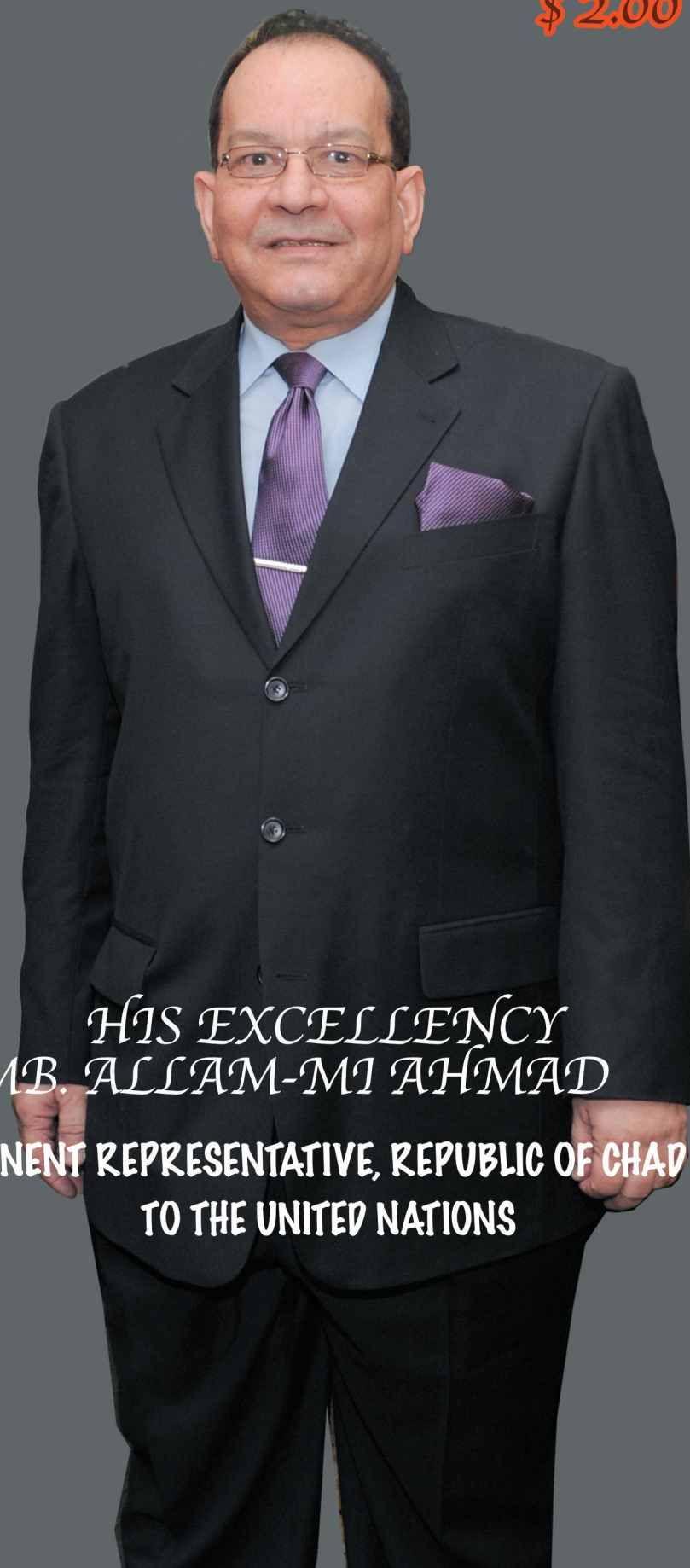
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*HIS EXCELLENCY*  
*L'AMB. ALLAM-MI AHMAD*  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE, REPUBLIC OF CHAD  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



**Karim Tosh Diabate**

I am humbled with the honor and great pleasure to inform you that, with this sixth issue of Afro Market I have received the permanent representative of Chad in the US.

As you see, we are bringing Afro Market to another level. This is the first time that we've had a diplomatic personality in our magazine, which is really important. Diplomatic missions need to be in contact with their communities to inform them about their activities and programs, like conferences, meetings and events. Many people don't know their ambassadors and don't know where their embassy is located. Embassies often organize events and only a few people are invited. This is because there is no communication between embassies and their communities. Afro Market is the right place for the diplomatic missions to address their community. His Excellency L'Amb. Allam-Mi Ahmad made a speech on Chad's independence day to his strong community. It was in another concept. In the future, we expect him to speak with Afro Market about all their programs, and I hope this will open the doors to other embassies and diplomatic missions and many more doing the same. Thank you

**OUR PREVIOUS ISSUES**



**IN THIS SIXTH ISSUE**

Page 2	<b>Publisher Message</b>
Page 5	<b>Moussa Kourouma</b> President of Mandinko
Page 8	<b>Jose Toure</b>
Page 12-13 -14	<b>Chad 50th Anniversary.</b>
Page 18	<b>Oumar Marico</b> Vice-President of Mali Assembly
Page 20-21	<b>Mouctar Diallo</b> President of N.F.D
Page 22	<b>Ibrahim Soumano</b>
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4-March-April-May 2011

## COMMUNITY



Moussa Kourouma

**Name:** Moussa Kourouma

**Occupation:** President of Mandinko

**Country:** Guinea

This past January, the Mandingo Association organized two big events to celebrate the victory of their president Alpha Conde. The Association's president, Moussa Kourouma, tells us more about the success of this event and the opening of the association's new office in the Bronx.

**-Could you tell us about the events you organized for the victory of Alpha Conde?**

As you know, the people were motivated to show their support and happiness for the Alpha Conde election.

**-What were the programs for the event?**

In the daytime we had the convention. We invited many guests, personalities, and leaders of communities. The main purpose was a call for unity, development, and investment in our country in regards to schools, hospitals, and other issues. We also want to teach our kids the good culture of patriotism.

**-During the event, your association rewarded some people from your community. Could you tell us more?**

Our association decided to reward the people who have helped the association and have sacrificed their time for the community.

They've shown their support for the people from our community.

**-How many people have been rewarded?**

About twelve people, including myself as president of the Mandingo association, have been rewarded; I have been rewarded twice. The first one was during the daytime at the convention and the second one was at the party later on that night. I was very happy; the rewards show the hard work that I do for the association.

**- What was special in the night event?**

The mobilization was incredible. There were more than two thousand people coming from all over the US. That shows that our association is very strong today.

**There was a charge fee for the night event. Could you tell me how much money you made?**

Yes, but the focus was not the money; it was about bringing the people together, and how we could work together here and with our government back home while educating our children.

**It's been about four months since Alpha Conde has been the president of Guinea. What do you think of his politics?**

We are great supporters of our government but we want them to keep their promise to the people otherwise we will react no matter what and will change the government. But so far, they are doing just fine.

**-Another association was organizing an event for the victory of Alpha Conde. What did you think about that?**

It was not another organization but only a few people who organized it. The same people came to our ceremony later, so everything is fine now and we are working together.

**-What is the next step?**

We are going to open a new office very soon.

**-Mouctar Diallo of Guinea opposition came to New York to have a meeting. Why haven't you been there?**

- Unfortunately we haven't been invited.

**-Why didn't you call them?**

- It's a free country and everybody is free to do, or not do, what they choose. When people don't invite you, and you go to their event, you are going to be responsible for anything that happens to you.

Thank you.

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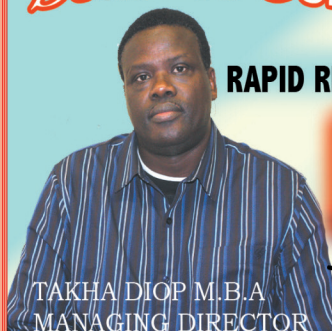
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## ENTREPRENEURSHIP



**Name:** Jose Toure

**Occupation :** Promotor

**Country:** Cote d'Ivoire

Jose Toure is one of the best Afro-American promoters, promoting many African celebrities in the United States. He has just opened a beautiful night club in the Bronx named Capitol. Here, he tells us about it.

**As a promoter, what was your motivation for opening a club?**

In August 2010 my club, Capitol, opened as one of the few African clubs in New York. Capitol has a capacity for more than 500 people, with six VIP areas as well as a good quality and respectable staff. I could say it's the most beautiful African club in New York. So far, we have had good reception.

**How have people welcomed this new club?**

Since we opened, people have come in and given great feedback. We've had African artists perform and have had visits from politicians, so people do love Capitol.

**-Who are your clients?**

-African, Caribbean, and even Americans who love African music. We have very classic clients.

**-What is your management strategy?**

I have a managing team whose strategy is to focus on the street promotion, as well as internet, TV, magazines, radio broadcasting in the city from Ivoirtv.net, Afro Market Magazine, Le Griot, and the City College radio station, plus many more.

**-What days of the week is Capitol open?**

We are open Saturday and Sunday for international African music and Wednesday through Friday for Caribbean music.

**Do you also have a rent service for people?**

Yes, we do have renting services with an accommodated price for people who want to celebrate events like wedding parties, baby showers, and other parties.

**- Opening a night club is a huge investment. How were you able to do this?**

This concerns my partners; I'm on the management aspect. But what I can tell you is if you come by the club, you will realize that it's a huge investment.

**-What are your expectations?**

My expectations are to win with the help of my community for whom I created this club. Now it's winter time and we are doing well. With the summertime approaching, we will have many surprises.

**8-March-April-May 2011**

**As a well-known promoter, is this club the link for African people and their celebrities?**

What I'm trying to do with this club is challenge those music clubs downtown by bringing people from downtown up to the Bronx to enjoy the vision of uptown. I have been working downtown at venues like S.O.B.'s, and BB King's. So I said to myself that it's time for me to inverse the situation.

**What artists can we expect this year?**

Sekouba Bambino, Angelique Kidjo, Oumou Sangare, Alpha and many more. We also expect the visit of African soccer players like Drogba and Keita very soon.

**Why is the club named Capitol?**

The name is very attractive and Capitol is the place to make many decisions. So if you want to have a new vision of life, want to obtain a new life or even look for a wife, our club is a great place to make those decisions.

**Thank you, Jose Toure**

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# S.E.M L'AMB. ALLAM-MI AHMAD

REPRESENTANT PERMANENT DU TCHAD AUPRES DES NATIONS UNIES

**CHAD : 50 YEARS OF D'INDEPENDENCE 1960-2010**

Reception offerte par le Representant Permanent du Tchad aupres des Nations Unies  
11 ET 15 Janvier 2011 a New York

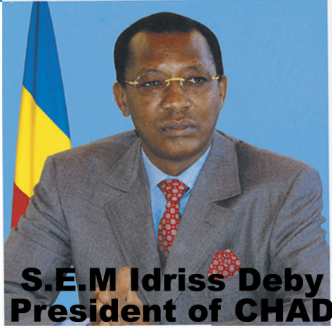
1) Je suis très satisfait. Nous avons été honorés de la présence des représentants de plus des 2/3 des Etats membres des Nations Unies accompagnés de leurs épouses. Ils ont fait le déplacement en dépit de la chute de la neige sur New York. Ma satisfaction est d'autant grande que les représentants des pays frères et amis, ainsi que l'échantillon représentant les tchadiens de New York, ont partagé avec nous notre joie bien au delà du temps prévu pour la réception.

2) L'instabilité chronique de notre pays aurait pu lui faire perdre sa place sur la scène internationale. Mais inspirés par le génie, le courage et le patriotisme de notre peuple, les acteurs politiques, militaires et diplomatiques de notre pays, du moins ceux qui étaient animés d'une bonne volonté, ont réussi à préserver son existence en tant qu'Etat souverain et la place qui lui revient dans la vie internationale. Aujourd'hui le Tchad est respecté et écouté par ses partenaires. Il entretient des relations d'amitié et de coopération avec des nombreux pays des cinq continents représentés auprès de lui par des Ambassadeurs résidant à N'Djaména ou bien dans les pays voisins. Il dispose de plusieurs missions diplomatiques à travers le monde. Certes elles ne sont pas nombreuses et qu'elles ne disposent pas de moyens suffisants, ni en personnel qualifié, ni en moyens matériels et financier. Ce qui quelque part réduit l'influence de notre pays à travers le Monde.. Des améliorations nécessaires pour un meilleur rayonnement de notre diplomatie sont attendues incessamment. On peut d'ores et déjà se féliciter du fait que nous réglions nos contributions à toutes les organisations internationales et que nous y occupons nos sièges. La plupart de nos missions diplomatiques sont dotées de locaux achetés par notre pays sous l'impulsion de son Excellence Monsieur le Président de la République IDRISSE DEBY ITNO qui attache un intérêt particulier à notre diplomatie, à l'image, voire à la dignité du pays à l'extérieur. Enfin notre pays contribue au maintien de la Paix et de la sécurité, soit en conduisant des missions de médiation dans certains conflits, soit en envoyant des contingents de policiers et de militaires dans les opérations de maintien de la Paix à travers le monde.

3) Cette journée est l'occasion pour la nation non seulement d'exorciser les démons du mal qui l'ont affectés depuis l'indépendance du pays, mais aussi et surtout d'exprimer l'espoir qu'une nouvelle ère s'ouvre pour une paix définitive permettant son développement économique et social. C'est me semble t-il le souhait du Président de la République pour avoir proclamé 2011 comme l'an un de la renaissance du Tchad.



# TCHAD : 50 YEARS OF D'INDEPENDENCE



Gentlemen.

I would like first of all to thank you for having accepted our invitation. My thanks to you all, Chadians and friends of Chad: Americans and other nationalities here present, Thank you also to the President of the Chadian's Group of contact for the fine words which he has just addressed to me.

Dear Guests, Our country Chad celebrates the fiftieth anniversary of its acquired independence on August 11, 1960. This is why we are linked here to celebrate this event like the example of our compatriots in our country and those which live like us outside. We are joined together not only to drive out the forces of the evil which destroyed our country, but more especially to express our hopes for a better future. The President of the Republic, His Excellence IDRISS DEBY ITNO, hoped for such a future when he proclaimed the year 2011, year of the beginning of the rebirth of the country. Because the country comes by far Indeed there is place to hope that our painful marked history of wars, destructions, slaughters, violation of all our rights and of tender to all the forms of suffering, the place yields to one new era of peace, of sincere national reconciliation, the consolidation of the State of right and Democracy, as well as economic and social development. Our hopes are founded on the confidence which we make with the genius of our people which inspired our political actors of goodwill to take saving actions in spite of our misfortunes so that our country, Chad, remains plain and upright and occupies the place which returns to him among the free and independent Nations. Yes, there is place to hope that our country will know from now a final peace, indispensable condition with its economic and social development, with the consolidation of the State of right and democracy. With the Political agreement of August 13 and the various agreements of reconciliation, we hope that the political actors of our country deposited the weapons definitively and decided to use the vote for the conquest of the power. Each one of us the Chadians, including our compatriots of New York, must bring its contribution for the emergence of new Chad. Our first combat must be that to banish the war and to preach the peace and the consolidation of our State of right and democracy. Instead of a longer speech I would like to conclude on a predilection: it is said that those who know the sufferings of the War know how to avoid it to build Peace. The Chadians are those there. But before ending my matter, I would like to thank our festivity committee which made it possible the Embassy to organize this celebration. I would like to also encourage the group of contact, a more or less representative group, opened with those which are not recognized there, with going from before organizing the Chadians of New York and from the surroundings in an association for the defense of their material and moral rights in United States. The Mission will help them as it is possible, but it will not be able to replace our compatriots. Happy New Year and Better Wishes for all-Prosperity and real and lasting Peace for Chad! Chad forever!

I Thank you.

## IMAGES OF THE FESTIVITES OF THE 11/15 OF JANUARY 2010



Certificats de reconnaissance par l'Ambassadeur et son equipe



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# COMMUNITY



-Oumar Mariko is the Vice President of the Mali Assembly and Secretary General of the African Solidarity for Democracy and Independence. An activist since his youth, Oumar Mariko has been involved with many associations. He was the founder and secretary general of the Mali Students Association. In 1991 he led a

protest against former president Moussa Traore. In 2002 and 2007, he ran twice for presidency and twice as deputy, succeeding the second time. In 2001, Oumar was also the commissioner of foreign-affairs of the Malian people abroad.

gold and tobacco has not been resolved yet. Many other aspects of development during the conference arose. These are the main reasons Mariko and his party to go to the opposition. Mariko has tried to expose his ideas to overcome this struggle with the help of Malian diaspora.

It was the purpose of sharing his political experience and getting Malian people to adhere to it, why Oumar Mariko met with his community on Saturday, February 26, 2011 in Amani Malian Association office. It was supposed to be a three-hour meeting that lasted five hours. Step by step, Mariko has explained his opinion on Mali politics, the development of his country, and how to implement them within Mali's diaspora. To succeed, they have to create a good environment and invest in Mali by creating a bank and others structures that will help in the development. Oumar Mariko has talked about the lack effort by the government to resolve some key issues like schools, education, hospitals, food, jobs, health, roads, and transportation. He has also criticized the economic program, which has been the same from 1985 to 2007, as well as the absence of help to the farmers. Mariko has also talked about the privatization of the societies in Mali in the detriment of the local organization. The lack of factories to transform the country's main products as cotton and gold and tobacco has not been resolved yet. Many other aspects of development during the conference arose.

These are the main reasons Mariko and his party to go to the opposition. Mariko has tried to expose his ideas to overcome this struggle with the help of Malian diaspora.

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# COMMUNITY



Mouctar Diallo President of Nouvelles Forces Democratiques



The very charismatic Mouctar Diallo, president of “ Nouvelles Forces Démocratiques (NFD), met with Guinean communities, located in the NYC area, in Queens on February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011. It was the first US visit for the man who is considered one of the youngest and most audacious politicians in Guinea, as well as a defender and activist of Guinean human rights.

Hundreds of people attended the meeting, including community and association leaders, as well as government members. After a brief welcome presentation by Dr. Thierno Diallo, Mouctar Diallo thanked the people for coming. He expressed his profound gratitude for his warm welcome. During his speech, he presented his program for change, and called for the diaspora to adhere to it and propose other ways to bring change to Guinea. Before Mouctar, the previous government did not include Guinean people in the US from. They never created a system to implement them in the developmental process, nor facilitate their return as well as their goods back in their home country. Mouctar also talked about the September 28<sup>th</sup> massacre in the stadium (28 Septembre the name of the stadium in Guinea) He has strongly condemned the impunity, and hopes that justice prevails. Many other issues related to the violation of human rights and development arose. Diallo introduced his wife who has been a key element in his life. Mouctar was accompanied with his political team including Etienne Soropogui, Oumou Salimata Keita, Mme Sylla Aissata,

UPR members and many other political parties and guests. It was a great moment in the exchange of ideas and a political dynamic meeting for Guinean people that will always be in the memory of Guinean people in the US. After New York, Mouctar Diallo will visit many other states in the US. Afro Market welcomes him to the US.  
Karim Tosh Diabate



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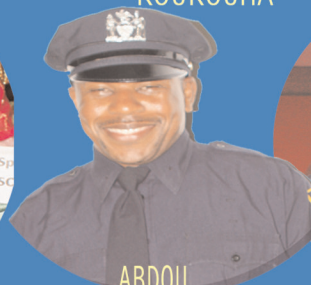
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