

2017

Inaugural Meeting of the IMCTC
Ministers of Defense Council



التحالف الإسلامي العسكري لمحاربة الإرهاب
ISLAMIC MILITARY COUNTER TERRORISM COALITION



Republic of Mal

Your Royal Highness Prince Mohammad bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, Crown Prince, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Defence in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Ladies and Gentlemen Ministers of Defense and Heads of Delegations of member countries in the Islamic Military Counter Terrorism Coalition.

Ladies and gentlemen members of the delegations,

Ladies and gentlemen, participants in this meeting according to you ranks and posts while upholding Protocol.

I would like to begin by condemning the daily terrorist attacks all over the world, especially in my country, Mali. We condemn the recent terrorist attack which took place in Egypt, and extend our condolences to the Egyptian people, government, families and victims.

Your Royal Highness,

I am honoured to convey the greetings of the President of the Republic of Mali, His Excellency Mr. Ibrahim Boubacar Keita, to his brother and friend, His Majesty King Salman Bin Abdul-Aziz Al Saud, Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, and the leadership the Islamic Military Counter Terrorism Coalition. I would also like to express my gratitude to the Saudi authorities for organizing this meeting and for warmly welcoming me and my delegation since we arrived at Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

I welcome this opportunity to salute the exceptional value of the historic friendship and fraternity between the Saudi and Malian people.

The establishment of the Islamic Military Counter Terrorism Coalition is timely and welcomed, given the scale of the global threat posed

by the menace of terrorism, which has been left unrestricted – challenging the very existence of our states. Today, my country, Mali, like many Islamic nations, faces terrorism and undermines its development.

Certainly, hope is allowed, because Daesh, which is a source of inspiration for terrorists, is now suffering from its greatest defeats. However, the terrorist threat remains high with regard to the dissemination of terrorists who had been evolving in Syria and Iraq. In addition, it is to be feared the conflagration of certain regions like the Sahel, because of the displacement of these terrorists.

That is why we wholeheartedly support the mandate of the Islamic Military Counter Terrorism Coalition, which advocates unity of action for an efficient and effective fight against terrorism and extremism. We also appreciate the Coalition's willingness to support regional organizations in combating terrorism.

In this context, as the Minister of Defence of Mali, the country holding the presidency of the G5-Sahel, I appeal to the solidarity of the Coalition to support the rise of the new G5-Sahel Joint Force. Because we are convinced that only a force of this nature can sustainably meet the challenge of the fight against terrorism in this region.

In conclusion, I renew my gratitude to the Saudi authorities and express hope, that our Coalition will be able to overcome the barbarity and atrocity that constitute a serious violation of human dignity and human rights, in particular the right of life and security.

Thank you,