



STATEMENT

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation has learned through the press, and with deep concern, the comments made by H.E.M. ATTAF, Minister of State, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, once again commenting on Mali's strategy in the fight against terrorism.

The Algerian Foreign Minister's remarks illustrate the content of the Statement 064 of 25 January 2024, in which the Transitional Government had already denounced Algeria's closeness and complicity with the terrorist groups destabilizing Mali, to whom it has offered board and lodging, while controlling their criminal actions against the civilian populations of Mali and the Sahel.

Obviously, the undeniable successes of the Armed and Security Forces of Mali, as well as the pressure imposed on Algerian-backed terrorist groups, are not appreciated by some Algerian officials, nostalgic for a bygone era.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Mali expresses its deep concern regarding the persistence of some Algerian authorities in continuing their acts of interference in the internal affairs of the Republic of Mali, marked by paternalism, condescension and disregard.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation strongly condemns this new interference by Algeria in Mali's internal affairs, through a member of the Algerian government, and recalls that the strategic options for combating armed terrorist groups, supported by foreign State sponsors, are exclusively part of the sovereignty of Mali and the choices of the Confederation of Sahel States. In this respect, Mali neither requests nor receives lessons from Algeria, which in the recent past has conducted its fight against terrorism with complete sovereignty.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation thus urges Algeria to refocus its efforts on resolving its own internal crises and contradictions, including the Kabyle issue, and to stop using Mali as a means of leveraging its international position.

Considering the Algerian authorities' obvious sympathy for the terrorist groups operating in Mali and the Sahel, the Ministry reiterates the strong opposition of Mali to any form of Algerian involvement in its internal affairs, and will not allow any external actor to pursue a hackneyed firefighter-pyromaniac strategy.

The Ministry reiterates the commitment of Mali, along with Burkina Faso and the Republic of Niger in the AES Confederation, to eradicating terrorism in all its forms.

Koulouba, 01 January 2025