



MEDIA ADVISORY



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Africa Regional Media Hub

United States Department of State
<http://africamediahub.state.gov>

March 13, 2012

March 14th Briefing on the Situation in Mali and Regional Cooperation

Please join us on **Thursday, March 14, 2013 at 13:00 GMT/16:00 Kenya** for a telephonic press conference with U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Mali **Mary Beth Leonard** and U.S. Ambassador to Nigeria **Terence P. McCulley**. During the call, the briefers will provide an update on political, security and humanitarian developments in Mali and discuss ECOWAS' African-led International Support Mission to Mali (AFISMA) force and its role in Mali. The briefers will make opening statements and then answer questions from the press.

EVENT:

Please join us on **Thursday, March 14, 2013 at 13:00 GMT/16:00 Kenya** for a telephonic press conference with U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Mali Mary Beth Leonard and U.S. Ambassador to Nigeria Terence P. McCulley.

DETAILS:

Speakers: **Ambassador Mary Beth Leonard**
U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Mali

Ambassador Terence P. McCulley
U.S. Ambassador to Nigeria

Date: Thursday, March 14, 2013

Time: 9:00 EST | 13:00 GMT | 14:00 WAT | 15:00 Central/South Africa | 16:00 East Africa

Language: English

Ground rules: ON THE RECORD

RSVP: Please RSVP to afmediahub@state.gov for conference call numbers and passcode.

----- Visit the US Embassy Website at <http://nairobi.usembassy.gov/>-----

Bios:



Ambassador Mary Beth Leonard

U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Mali

Term of Appointment: 11/07/2011 to present

<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/biog/180289.htm>

Mary Beth Leonard, a native of Massachusetts, was sworn in as U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Mali on November 7, 2011. Her two previous assignments were as Director for West African Affairs at the U.S. Department of State and as Deputy Chief of Mission in Bamako, Mali.

After joining the State Department in 1988, Ambassador Leonard served overseas as an economic and consular officer in Yaoundé, Cameroon; Windhoek, Namibia; and Lome, Togo. She also worked in the Department's Operations Center and in its Office of Central African Affairs. She then served as political and economic officer in Cape Town, South Africa and thereafter as Deputy Chief of Mission in Paramaribo, Suriname.

Ambassador Leonard graduated magna cum laude with a B.A. from Boston University, with a major in economics and minor in French. In 1988, she earned a master's degree in international relations, with an emphasis on African studies, from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies. In 2004, she graduated from the U.S. Naval War College with distinction.



Ambassador Terence P. McCulley

U.S. Ambassador to Nigeria

<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/biog/176110.htm>

Terence McCulley is a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, with the rank of Minister-Counselor. He was the Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Copenhagen, Denmark from 2008-2010. Prior to this posting, he served as U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Mali from 2005-2008. From 2004-2005, he worked at the State Department in Washington, helping to coordinate reconstruction efforts in Iraq. He has been the Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassies in Togo, Senegal, and Tunisia and also served as Consul in Mumbai, India.

Joining the Foreign Service in 1985, Ambassador McCulley started his career in Niger, followed by assignments in South Africa and Chad. Returning to Washington in 1993, he worked for two years on Central African affairs. He is the recipient of four Department of State Superior Honor Awards.

Ambassador McCulley was born in Medford, Oregon, and grew up in Eugene, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in European History and French Language and Literature from the University of Oregon. As a Rotary Foundation Graduate Fellow, he studied

political science at the Université de Haute Bretagne in Rennes, France. In addition, he attended the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy. He is fluent in French.

Married to Renée McCulley, the couple has two sons.

LOGISTICS:

- We will ask that callers dial-in to the conference call **10-15 minutes early**.
- When an individual journalist dials-in, the operator will collect the caller's name, press affiliation, and location.
- When an embassy dials in, the operator will NOT ask the embassy coordinator for the names of every journalist at the participating embassy, but only the embassy's name and location.
- The speakers will give brief opening remarks.
- The moderator will facilitate the Q and A among the connected callers. Journalists on the conference call will be instructed to push the "*" and "one" buttons on their phones in order to enter the question queue. **NOTE: You can press star one at any time during the call to join the question queue, even before the moderator begins the Q and A portion of the call.** We ask that journalists limit themselves to one question only for each time they press "star" and "one". Participants may press "star" and "one" more than once should they wish to ask more than one question.
- The moderator will then announce the location of each questioner. The questioner should state his/her name and affiliation before asking the question.
- Near the end of the allotted time, the moderator will announce the last question. At the end of the final answer, the operator will announce the conclusion of the conference call.