

Ambassador James P. Zumwalt
Cross Border Financial Investigations Training Course Opening Ceremony
Hôtel King Fahd, Dakar
Monday 20 April 2015 – 09h00

(As prepared)

Participants and distinguished guests,
Ladies and gentlemen,
Good Morning.

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the first Cross Border Financial Investigations Training Course that the U.S. Government has sponsored in Dakar. This course is but one of the ways that the United States and Senegal closely work together on security issues.

I am very proud of our strong relationship with Senegal. President Obama's visit to Senegal in 2013 underscored Senegal's role as a leader in the region, including its leadership on security. And U.S. government officials work with you on a daily basis to sustain a strong relationship across many sectors.

We thank you for taking the time out of your busy schedules to learn more about transnational financial crime threats. This training program will cover raising awareness about money laundering, bulk cash smuggling, and terrorist financing, and how to counter these crimes. One of the topics that you will be discussing is cross border cooperation. We encourage you to think how after this course how you will engage with your colleagues in other countries. These relationships will be essential for your success in detecting criminal activity.

I hope that you will take advantage of the opportunity to learn from these instructors from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency. The material should be of use to you in your daily work and I hope that you can apply it to your job immediately! What you do on a daily basis to prevent money laundering and other illicit financial activity is important for you, the leaders of your countries, and your fellow citizens. Thank you for your dedication to your professions, and to Senegal. The people of Senegal have you to thank for making this country a safer place.