

Nouakchott, Mauritania, November 25 (Infosplusgabon) - The Mauritanian government is closely monitoring the situation of Mauritanian citizens living in Angola, said a statement issued on Saturday after a telephone interview between the Mauritanian Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Ishmael ould Sheikh Ahmed, and his Angolan counterpart, Miguel Domingo Augusto.

The Mauritanian minister "spoke of the situation of Mauritanian citizens in Angola in the light of recent developments, while hoping that this community will hold the attention of the Angolan authorities, in accordance with the strong relations that unite the two sister countries, "said the statement.

For his part, the Angolan minister expressed "the esteem and respect of the president and the Angolan people for the Mauritanian community and its economic role in Angola".

He also stressed "the peaceful nature of the Mauritanian community, which has not been the target of any measures implemented in the fight against organized crime in diamond mining areas which touched illegal residents ".

The Angolan authorities have expelled nearly 300.000 foreigners, mostly individuals from DR Congo, but also nationals of West Africa, since the end of October.

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