

Nouakchott, Mauritania, January 29 (Infosplusgabon) - The Mauritanian president, Mohamed ould Cheikh El Ghazouani, on Wednesday received the Malian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Tiebilé Dramé, a special envoy of President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita (IBK) of Mali, the government-owned Mauritanian Agency of Information (AMI) announced.

At the meeting issues affecting "multifaceted bilateral relations and the situation in the Sahel region" were discussed, said Tiebilé Drame.

"Because of our long border, all kinds of links, blood, exchanges, it is normal that from time to time, Mauritaniens and Malians should come together," he said.

"Ten days ago, the Mauritanian foreign minister, Ismaël ould Cheikh Ahmed, was in Bamako to participate in a meeting of the Algiers Peace and Reconciliation Accord follow-up committee.

"Mauritania is vice-president of this Algiers Accord follow-up committee.

This shows that the exchanges are continuous and the two heads of state are, of course, ensuring the continued tightening of our relations," he said.

The visit comes 72 hours after a terrorist attack claimed the lives of 20 Malian gendarmes in the locality of Sokolo (near the Mauritanian border).

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