

MALI IN CRISIS



FRIDAY, 16 NOVEMBER
NOON
238 HRCB



His Excellency
Al Maamoun Keita
MALIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S.

His Excellency Al Maamoun Baba Lamine Keita was appointed Malian ambassador to the U.S. in January 2012, having previously served as the secretary-general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation since 2008. During Keita's diplomatic career, he has served as ambassador to Ethiopia with concurrent accreditation to Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, and Djibouti, as well as Mali's permanent representative to the African Union, the U.N. Economic Commission for Africa and the U.N. Environmental Program (2001–07). Other postings in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs include technical advisor (1999–2001), political affairs director (1996–99), chief of the Middle East Division (1981–89),

the Organization of Islamic Cooperation Division (1987–89), as well as first counselor at the Malian Embassy in Egypt (1989–96). He helped to develop the curriculum for the Africa Center for Strategic Studies (1999), was the founder and editor-in-chief of the news magazine *La Concorde* (1985–89), and was a bilingual interpreter for former Malian President General Moussa Traoré (1980–89). Keita received a BA in political science and international relations from Cairo University and holds diplomas from the U.S. Department of Defense, Department of State, and USAID, as well as the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst in London. He and his wife Marié are the parents of five children.