

**WEST AFRICAN RESEARCH ASSOCIATION**  
**Opening Ceremony for Session II of the WARA/WARC Peace Journalism Institute**  
**October 1, 2010**  
**Dakar, Senegal**

The following five journalists were selected to participate in the second session of the WARA/WARC Peace Journalism Institute, which opened on October 1 in Dakar.

- Mariame Bamba (Radio/TV-Guinea)
- Nina Penda Faye (Radio-Senegal)
- Doua Gouly (Print Presse -Cote d'Ivoire)
- Mohamed A. Ould Mohamed Yehdih (Agence de presse -Mauritanie)
- El Hadj Guisse (Radio-Senegal)

Directed by Professor Eugenie Rokhaya Aw, a seasoned journalist and educator, the second session of the journalism institute will run through December 10. The Institute is specifically for journalists who report on conflict and is part of the larger West African Peace Initiative, funded through the US Department of State.



*Robin Diallo presenting a laptop to Ms. Mariame Bamba of Guinea  
(Each of the participating journalists received a laptop to aid in their work.)*

Ms. Robin Diallo (PAO, US Embassy, Dakar), and the WARC Director, Professor Ousmane Sene, presided over the opening ceremony. Professor Sene presented the larger Peace Project and outlined the institute program, research and training that the five journalists will undertake. He stressed the critical role of the journalist and the responsibility it carries, especially in the West African region where peaceful solutions to conflict situations are much sought after.

Ms. Diallo, who was accompanied by Ms. Sara Devlin, who is in charge of communications at the US Embassy, also spoke about the responsibility of journalists in the quest for peace. She noted the fruitful partnership that exists between WARC and the US Embassy and underlined that it is one based on trust and hard work.