



CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION TRANSMITTAL SHEET

On September 15, 2023, the Millennium Challenge Corporation (“MCC”) suspended assistance under the Millennium Challenge Compact with the Government of Niger that was signed in 2016 and assistance under the concurrent Millennium Challenge Compact with the Government of Niger that was signed in December 2022. We are providing you with a report that explains the determination under section 611(a) of the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003, as amended, that was the basis for the suspensions.

The attached notification is being sent to Congress on September 18, 2023.

If you or your staff would like to arrange a meeting to discuss the suspension of assistance, please contact Brian Forni at ForniBJ@mcc.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Alice P. Albright
Chief Executive Officer
Millennium Challenge Corporation

Enclosure: As stated

**MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION
CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION**

September 18, 2023

In accordance with section 611(c) of the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003, as amended (the “Act”), this notification is to advise that on September 15, 2023, the Millennium Challenge Corporation (“MCC”) suspended assistance provided under section 605 of the Act to the Government of Niger under the Millennium Challenge Compacts between MCC and the Government of Niger signed on July 29, 2016, and on December 14, 2022.

MCC has determined that the military’s actions against the democratically elected government in Niger, which began in July 2023, constitute a pattern of actions inconsistent with the criteria used to determine Niger’s eligibility for assistance.

A report explaining MCC’s determination under subsection 611(a)(2) regarding the suspension of assistance follows.

REPORT ON THE DETERMINATION BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO SUSPEND ASSISTANCE TO NIGER

Summary

MCC and the Government of Niger have been implementing a compact, signed in July 2016 and entered into force in January 2018, focused on irrigation, agriculture, and roads (the “2016 Compact”), and also preparing to implement a concurrent regional transport compact, signed in December 2022, focused on a critical road corridor (the “Concurrent Compact” and, together with the 2016 Compact, the “Compacts”).

In July and early August 2023, elements of the military of Niger took actions against the democratically elected government of Niger, detained the president and key ministers, and asserted to have suspended the constitution and dissolved state institutions. In response, in August, MCC paused all new activity on the 2016 Compact and all preparatory work on the Concurrent Compact.

On September 13, 2023, MCC’s Board of Directors concurred with the recommendation of the MCC CEO to suspend all MCC assistance to Niger, based on the finding that the military’s actions against the democratically elected government constitute a pattern of actions inconsistent with the criteria used to determine the eligibility of Niger for assistance, under Section 611(a)(2) of the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003, as amended, and pursuant to MCC’s Policy on Suspension and Termination.

Pattern of Actions

Beginning on July 26, 2023, elements of the Nigerien presidential guard and military took a series of actions against the elected government. The military forces detained the president, his family, and key ministers, and asserted that they had suspended the constitution, dissolved state institutions, and formed a new and unelected government.

MCC’s Actions Pursuant to the Act

A critical component of MCC’s mission is its strong commitment to democratic governance and the principles that underpin the agency’s statutory eligibility criteria. Following the actions of the Nigerien military against the elected government, MCC initiated a review and analysis of the situation in Niger and the potential impacts on MCC assistance to the country, considering the various applicable U.S. statutory, regulatory, and policy provisions, as well as the terms of the Compacts and related agreements.

MCC determined that the actions taken by the military against the democratically elected government in Niger represent a pattern of actions inconsistent with the criteria used to determine Niger’s eligibility for assistance. The actions are contrary to the principles of democratic governance that underpin MCC’s eligibility criteria, particularly political rights, civil liberties, and the rule of law.

Under Section 611(a)(2) of the Act, and MCC’s associated Policy on Suspension and Termination, MCC assistance to Niger could either be suspended or terminated. MCC decided that, at this time, suspension of assistance is the appropriate institutional response to the situation in Niger.