

**PROMETRA International visits PROMETRA Benin**  
**Working session report**



In the year two thousand and nineteen on July 10, a meeting was held between President PROMETRA-International, Erick V. GBODOSSOU, Vice-President PROMETRA-International, Virginie D. FLOYD, the President of PROMETRA-Benin, Emmanuel ANATO AGBIKOSSI, the Vice-President of PROMETRA-Benin, Diaz Dossa COMLAN, the Treasurer General, Balbine SOLOTE, the Secretary General, Jean-Philippe DANTINNON, the driver, DODJI and the guard, Constant NOMBIMIN at the Porte du Retour site in Ouidah.

The session began with congratulations from Dr. GBODOSSOU and Dr. FLOYD to the PROMETRA-Benin team. They expressed their joy at the change in the management of the funds allocated to the Beninese chapter of PROMETRA, its transparency and rigorous monitoring made available to them through detailed reports and at various frequencies.

In the second point, it was discussed the repair of the museum whose roof is beginning to give way in some places. To this end, the delegation provided four hundred thousand francs (400,000 FCFA) to complete the sum sent by PROMETRA-USA and PROMETRA-France to satisfy the estimate prepared by the contractor.

The next point concerned the electrification of the Return Gate. At this level a detailed provisional budget has been presented. It amounts to two hundred and fifty-nine thousand five hundred and twelve francs (259,512 FCFA) and was granted by the delegation. In addition, discussions focused on the various activities that could be carried out to operate the Gate of Return site in order to animate it on the one hand and to generate funds on the other hand to maintain it and guarantee a certain gain for the volunteers who work there. The construction of a maquis having already begun, President PROMETRA-International handed over four hundred and forty-eight thousand and seven hundred and twenty francs (448,720 FCFA) to complete the work. The President and Vice-President PROMETRA-International donated the sum of one million one hundred and fifty thousand francs (1,150,000 FCFA) to PROMETRA-Benin to compensate for the remaining amount to complete the work in progress on the Porte du Retour site.



Nevertheless, it was recalled that the Chief of the Arrondissement of Djègbadji advised to wait until the construction works of the planned fishing road were completed before installing straw huts at the beach. This will ensure

that the investment is not lost during this work. Despite this, President PROMETRA-International suggested that the team on the ground should consider the possibility of making temporary and inexpensive installations until the road construction work actually begins. He also took the opportunity to announce that an international conference will be held in Dakar in November 2020. Its objective is to lay the foundations for what health and well-being should be in the future because the current Cartesian health system no longer has a future and the world is beginning to realize this.

Before closing the session, a round table discussion was held to allow everyone to speak. It appears that the delegation once again expressed its joy at seeing the evolution of PROMETRA-Benin's actions and that it



encourages it to do more while leaving its doors open to it if necessary. The Beninese team expressed its satisfaction at knowing that its actions were appreciated and encouraged by the delegation. She also recalled the failures encountered by previous teams and their impact on Benin's image within the international PROMETRA network. It is committed to maintaining the current course and to being evaluated on the basis of its achievements by next year.

The session continued with a visit to the building of the Gou divinity and ancestors, which was greatly appreciated by the delegation. The visit ended at the Porte du Retour museum where the part of the slab that is beginning to give way was noted. The delegation recommended that repair work be carried out immediately to prevent the building from deteriorating further.

Finally, the PROMETRA-International delegation and the PROMETRA-Benin team went to the restaurant "La santé est dans le plat" for a lunch hosted by the PROMETRA-International President, Dr Erick GBODOSSOU.



The session ended with this reception after the thanks of President PROMETRA-BENIN, Emmanuel ANATO AGBIKOSSI who promised to use the funds wisely

and accountably while wishing, in the name of the Lord and our ancestors, health and longevity to all members of PROMETRA International.