

## MALI

**Date of Elections:** 26 June 1988

### **Purpose of Elections**

Elections were held for all the seats in Parliament on the normal expiry of the members' term of office.

### **Characteristics of Parliament**

The unicameral Parliament of Mali, the National Assembly, consists of 82 Deputies elected for 3 years.

### **Electoral System**

All Malian citizens who are at least 21 years of age and in full possession of their civil and political rights are entitled to vote if not otherwise disqualified by law. Moreover, citizens of other African countries who have their residence in Mali and are registered as electors may also vote if they satisfy general requirements pertaining to the electorate. Disqualified from voting are citizens who have been convicted of certain crimes, bankrupts, and persons under guardianship.

Electoral registers are revised annually. Voting is not compulsory.

Qualified electors of 25 years of age or more who have been domiciled in Mali for a least one year are eligible for the National Assembly. Ineligible are persons who have been naturalized within the preceding 10 years. The parliamentary mandate is incompatible with certain public offices.

Candidates for the National Assembly are nominated by the country's sole political party, the Democratic Union of the Malian People (*Union démocratique du peuple malien* - UDPM). Election of Deputies takes place on the basis of a simple majority party-list system. By-elections are held to fill seats which become vacant between general elections.

### **Background and Outcome of the Elections**

The election date was set on 12 May 1988. All National Assembly candidates figured on lists of the sole political party, the Democratic Union of the Malian People (*Union démocratique du peuple malien* - UDPM).

The third congress of the UDPM had taken place from 28 to 31 March 1988. It was held under the themes of unity of action, fighting corruption in the public sector and national

impetus. President of the Republic Moussa Traore called on the participants to elect "competent, honest and committed cadres, who are devoted to the cause of the people". Mr. Troare was also re-elected Secretary-General of the Party.

Voting day was marked by a high turnout and results indicated that 42 of the Assembly's 82 seats changed hands. Prior to the elections, on 6 June, a Cabinet reshuffle had been announced and the post of Prime Minister was abolished.

## Statistics

### 1. *Results of the Elections and Distribution of Seats in the National Assembly*

Number of registered electors. . . . .	3,701,006	
Voters. . . . .	3,620,474	(97.8%)
<i>Votes in favour of the UDPM.</i> . . . .	3,615,779	

Political Group	Number of Seats
<i>Union democratique du peuple malien (UDPM)</i>	82