

# **DISPOSITION OF REMAINS**

Senegal, January 2021

The following information is submitted in accordance with referenced requirement to provide current data on Senegalese laws on the disposition of remains. The report incorporates changes from previous submissions.

## **A. Maximum period before burial**

National laws do not require burial within a specific period of time. The timeline of a burial in Senegal depends on the nature of the death and the religion of the deceased. In the case of a natural death, the burial can happen within three to four days. In the case of suicide, murder, or other type of violent death, police investigation will delay burial. Autopsies are usually required in such cases and burial must be postponed until the autopsy is concluded. Refrigerated morgues are available in Dakar, Kaolack, St-Louis, and Ziguinchor, but not all have continuous power. The recommended morgue in Dakar is located at Hôpital Principal with a refrigerated and restored morgue. The autopsies are performed at Hôpital Le Dantec. In the case of death outside of the hospital, Hôpital Principal requires a deposit of CFA 7150 (approx US \$14) for five days before they will accept the remains for temporary storage. If the death occurs in the hospital then there is no deposit, as the cost of remains storage will be included in the cost of hospitalization. In the case of death outside the capital, the remains will be brought to Dakar by refrigerated vehicle. In practice, the storage of remains is dependent on the means of conservation, number of available places in the morgue, and also the capability to pay the cost of storage.

## **B. Embalming**

Embalming is available but not up to U.S. standards. Art Funeraire is the only local mortuary which performs embalming. Post generally does not recommend viewing by next of kin, particularly if significant time has elapsed between death and embalming.

## **C. Cremation**

There are no cremation facilities in Senegal because there is no local demand for this service. If the next of kin of a deceased US citizen requests cremation, the local undertaker can provide a special coffin without handles, suitable for cremation in the U.S.

## **D. Caskets and Containers**

Locally available caskets and containers meet the requirements for international shipment of bodies. Zinc-lined caskets/containers with pressure equalization, a purifying filter and special handles, are available. Shipping containers meeting IATA specifications are also available locally.

## **E. Exportation of Remains**

International airline regulations apply to the exportation of remains via airfreight. The local undertaker is experienced in the worldwide shipment of remains. He handles all the formalities connected with the sealing of the body for shipment, export permits, and other administrative matters.

### ***Local requirements for the exportation of human remains***

1. Embalming of the remains.
2. Enclosure of the remains as described in paragraph D above.
3. Transport authorization from the Ministry of Interior.
4. Medical report of death-Certificate of type of death (4 copies).
5. Death certificate from civil authorities (4 copies).
6. Funeral's Director Embalming affidavit.
7. Police Statement of placement of remains in the coffin.

**F. Costs (Rate of exchange approx CFA 558 =US \$1)**

<i>1. Estimated cost for a local burial</i>	<u>CFA</u>	<u>US Dollars</u>
Government formalities	55,000	99
Washing, dressing and putting of the body into the coffin	60,000	108
Coffin equipped with 4 handles and a pad	250,000	448
Transportation to cemetery	75,000	134
Burial vault (Saint Lazare cemetery)	190,000	340
Tombstone (price varies between 200,000-490,000)	300,000	534
Perpetual granting from the City Hall of Dakar	15,000	27
Wreath (price varies between 45,000-120,000)	45,000	81
Morgue fees	50,000	90
 Subtotal	 1,040,000	 1,915
Value added tax 18%	187,200	345
<b>Total for local burial</b>	<b>1,227,200</b>	<b>\$2,199</b>

**Note that for Muslims the only expense for local burial is the transportation of the remains from the hospital to the cemetery. The average cost of transportation into the capital Dakar is CFA 25,000 to 45 000CFA ± CFA 10 000 for winding sheet shroud**

<i>2. A) Estimated costs of shipment of remains outside of Senegal</i>		
Biodegradable bag	30,000	54
Wooden casket for transport	600,000	1,072
Wooden case for transportation into US	300,000	537
Hermetic zinc coffin and crate	345,000	617
Outer casing for air shipment	160,000	286
Regulating air filter	165,000	295
Identification plate	45,000	81
<b>Subtotal A</b>	<b>1,645,000</b>	<b>\$2,948</b>

**3. B) Transportation and administrative costs**

Administrative formalities (local death certificate, bury permit)		
Temporary police order of placement of remains in zinc	55,000	99
Formalities for encasement, police report, sealing coffin	65,000	117
Preparation and preservation of remains	350,000	625
Putting of body into zinc coffin, morgue staff works, health authorities	120,000	215
Renting of operating room	50,000	90

Cost of the storage	50,000	90
Transportation to the airport, vehicle, bearers, handling, body transfer to transport agent for shipping	150,000	268
Ministry of Interior seals	<u>120,000</u>	<u>215</u>
<b>Subtotal B</b>	<b>960,000</b>	<b>\$1,720</b>

Subtotal A	1,645,000	\$2,948
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Subtotal B	<u>960,000</u>	<u>\$1,720</u>
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<b>Subtotal A+B</b>	<b>2,605,000</b>	<b>\$4,668</b>
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Value added tax 18%	<u>468,900</u>	<u>\$840</u>
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Autopsy Expenses	200,000	\$358
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4. *Transit and Airfreight from Dakar to the following city:*

Washington, D.C.:	FCFA 2,000,000	\$3,585 approx.
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**G. Exhumation and Shipment**

In cases of local burial, a governmental prosecutor (*procurator*) may request exhumation for criminal investigation at any time.

If the NOK requests exhumation, this request must be made in writing to the prosecutor.

**H. Undertaker**

The only undertaker in Senegal who handles the shipment of remains to the United States:

**Art Funéraire**

17, Avenue Jean Jaures

BP 11056 Peytavin

Dakar, Senegal

Owner: Mr. Eric Bermel

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