

Nouakchott, Mauritania, March 21 (Infosplusgabon) - Businessman and founder of the General Bank of Mauritania (GBM), Mohamed ould Bouamatou, has urged Africans to mobilise to fight COVID-19 (coronavirus).

In a statement on Friday, he said: "All African elites, businessmen of the continent, companies, multinationals currently operating in Africa, should be aware of the health emergency and to participate actively in the fight against the coronavirus (COVID-19)."

According to him, significant resources must be made available to the ministries of health, hospitals, health personnel and research.

Mr. ould Bouamatou said that despite their enormous natural wealth, African states, notably because of failing institutions, weak infrastructure and lack of political will, will not have the capacity to face the situation alone in the event of the pandemic reaching the levels of China, Italy, France and Spain.

Mr. Ould Bouamatou called for "the creation of a chain of solidarity on an African scale, to meet the requirements of good governance, availability of funds, and flexibility in times of crisis".

He expressed fears that "When Asia, Europe or America have recovered from this pandemic, I have no doubt that the continent to which I belong, Africa, will remain in an unnamed quagmire, or the virus will grow and kill, without discrimination".

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