

DEATH: DISPOSITION OF REMAINS

(1) MAXIMUM PERIOD BEFORE BURIAL

Togolese law does not place a limit for burial.

When Remains are embalmed: burial may be delayed for any length of time.

When Remains are not embalmed: burial may be delayed for a maximum period of 72 hours if the remains are kept in a cold room.

Lome has two mortuaries, which has adequate facilities and one Refrigerated coffins service: Morgue of CHU Sylvanus Olympio and Morgue of CHR Lome Commune. There are other mortuaries upcountry but their facilities are marginal.

Ets Daliah & Fils, which is a private funeral home, offers the Refrigerated coffin service. Their Pro forma Invoice incorporate fees related to the shipment of the remains. The details are as follows:

ETS. DALIAH (Mr. Dagawa)

PROFORMA INVOICE

I-	TREATMENT FO THE REMAIN	\$ 686 (CFA 400.000)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Special treatment of the remain for repatriation• Grooming and Clothing• Clothes• Mortuary fees	
II-	PLACEMENT OF REMAIN INTHEIR COFFIN	\$ 1372 (CFA 800.000)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coffin in Teak wood• Coffin in Zinc with strainer• Making up of a window on Coffin• Plate engraving• Hermetic sealing of the Coffin	
III-	ADMINISTRATIVE FORMALITIES	\$ 309 (CFA 180.000)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Authorization of transportation of the remain• Police and sanitary services session• Placement in Coffin Minutes	
IV-	TRANSPORTATION	\$ 206 (CFA 120.000)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Airport• Hearse toward airport	

V-	Cost of for Airline	\$ 4288 (CFA 2.500.000)
	TOTAL	\$ 6861 (CFA 4.000.000)

ETS DJIM provides a three part service to repatriate remains from Togo. The total fee for this service is \$5,498 (3,205,000CFA) This includes the preparation of remains and coffin for \$3,860 (2,250,000CFA), Administrative fees of \$815 (475,000CFA) and the transfer of remains for a fee of \$823(480,000CFA). **It must be noted that ETS DJIM does not include the associated airline costs.** The breakdown of services is listed below.

ETS. DJIM

Preparation of the Remain and Placing remain in their Coffin:	CFA 2.250.000 (\$ 3,860)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taking care of Body • Conservation care of the remain • Embalmmment • Coffin in teak • Coffin in Zinc • Strainer • Cottage bag 	
Administrative formalities:	CFA 475.000 (\$ 815)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry • Police • Sanitary services • Miscellaneous • 	
Transfer of Remain:	CFA 480.000 (\$ 823)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hearse • Transfer of the remain from Mango to the Mortuary in Lome • From the Mortuary in Lome to the Airport • Mortuary fees 	
Total:	CFA 3.205.000 (\$ 5
498)	

(2) EMBALMING

While there is no time limit after which embalming is obligatory, it is preferably carried out within twenty-four hours of death. Mr. Viwassi Ayao Dagawa from Ets Dagawa & Fils are the only qualified mortician in Togo. While basic treatment of remains is undertaken outside of Lome, following funeral homes secure authorization for embalming as required by local law and issue certification:

Ets DALIAH & Fils
BP 20093 Lome, Togo,
Tel (228) 90 04 93 86/99 47 63 39/22 25 97 07

ETS DJIM
B.P. 7630, Lome, Togo,
Tel (228) 22 22 27 00
(228) 90 04 67 14

Both funeral homes have worked with the Embassy to prepare and secure documentation required for the exportation of remains (see paragraph 5).

(3) CREMATION

Cremation is permitted by national law. There is only one facility in Togo (Lome) for that purpose, the Hindu cemetery. According to the national law a written expression of a desire to be cremated is required. In lieu of that, the family representative should give a written statement. In all cremation cases, the bodies must be partially embalmed before transporting or they will not be accepted by the crematorium. Funeral homes usually request for authorization from the Ministry of Interior before the cremation is done.

(4) CASKETS AND CONTAINERS

When the remains of a deceased person are to be transported out of the country, the body is first embalmed or otherwise appropriately prepared or cremated for shipment. The remains are placed in a zinc casket, which is hermetically sealed by soldering. The casket is then placed in hardwood coffin of 40-mm to 1.5 cm thicknesses. Before shipment, the wooden coffin is placed in a wooden shipping case that can support the weight of the complete container and body. The triple caskets are readily available locally through the funeral home and other shops in Lome. They are prepared according to international regulations and meet the requirements for shipment out of the country.

(5) EXPORTATION OF REMAINS

To export human remains, the following documents are required:

Embalming of the remains
Enclosure of the remains

- Transfer of remains authorization from the Ministry of Interior
- Transit label
- Consular Mortuary Certificate
- Medical Report of death (4 copies)
- Death certificate from the civil authorities (4 copies)
- Transit permit

- Embalming authorization from the civil authorities
- Medical certificate of embalming
- Police certificate of Embalming
- Affidavit by the local funeral director
- Police and Health certificate of placement of remains in the coffin.

Ashes:

- Medical Report of death (4 copies)
- Death certificate from the civil authorities (4copies)
- Cremation authorization from the civil authorities
- Authorization from Ministry of Security

(6) COSTS

Local burial (without Embalming): Fees include collection and transportation of remains, wood casket, funeral home charges, administrative fees, cost of burial plot in public cemetery, brief service with no mourners present: \$1,458.00 (CFA850.000).

When death occurs upcountry in Togo, the remains are transferred to Lome for preparation and burial. Under these circumstances, the local burial fee is charged and fixed transportation fees are also charged for the round trip from Lome to the location of the remains, and return. Following are estimates of transportation costs between Lome and the major cities of Togo.

<i>CITY</i>	<i>MILEAGE ONE WAY</i>	<i>DOLLARS</i>
ANEHO	45 KM	103.00 (CFA 60.000)
SOKODE	355 KM	600.00 (CFA 350.000)
KARA	428 KM	686.00(CFA 400.000)
DAPAONG	662 KM	1,029.00 (CFA 600.000)

Cremation and disposal of Ashes:

Cremation: Fees include collection of cremains, doctor’s certificate, urn, crematorium fee, cremation material, mortuary fees, administrative fees, brief service with no mourners present and scattering of ashes. \$2,058.00 (1,200.000 CFA)

Embalming: Fees include embalming and Doctor’s/funeral directors certification

\$ 386.00 (CFA 225.000)

Preparation and shipment of Cremains: Cremation fees of \$ 2,058.00 (CFA 1.200.000) will be charged plus the transportation fee according to place of destination. A family member usually carries shipment of cremains. However, in case there is no family member overseas, DHL will provide the service. Transportation will be charged according to destination. No fixed rate to provide.

Preparation and shipment of Remains:

- (a) Fees include embalming, collection of remains, documentation costs, container, zinc casket, wooden coffin, and delivery to the airport. \$ 2,230.00 (1.300.000)
- (b) Airfreight charges

Average weight of casket and containers required for the exportation of remains is 250kgs. Below are prices for air shipment from Lome to various destinations in continental United States. Prices are subject to change. The rate per Kg in USD and in CFA for 3 Airline companies is as follows:

	New York	Atlanta	Washington, DC
Air France	\$ 26 (CFA 14900)	\$ 25 (CFA14645)	\$ 25 (CFA 14600)
Brussels Airlines	\$ 24 (CFA 13720)	\$ 22 (CFA 12900)	\$ 23 (CFA 13450)
Royal Air Maroc	\$ 21 (CFA 12032)	\$ 20.5 (CFA 11961)	\$ 21 (CFA 12032)

(7) EXHUMATION AND SHIPMENT

Exhumation and transportation of remains is regulated by the French Ministry of Colonies decree of July 29, 1915, as modified by the decrees of April 20, 1933 and May 27, 1942. Under normal circumstances, once a body has been buried, it may not be exhumed before one year. The head of State may reduce the period below one year except when death occurred from a communicable disease. Exhumation may take place only in the presence of a medical officer and a magistrate. All requests for exhumation and exportation of remains are made directly to the President of The republic and may be made only by the nearest Next-of- kin. The following documents need to be provided:

- An exhumation permit issued by the civil authorities where the remains were buried
- A medical certificate stating the cause of death
- An authorization of exhumation from the Ministry of Security
- An authorization of exhumation from the Ministry of Interior
- An authorization of exhumation from the Ministry of Health
- A statement showing that all expenses will be taken care of.

(8) AUTOPSY OF THE REMAIN

Autopsy of a body can be performed if this is the will of the family of the deceased. The Autopsy would be conducted by Pr. NAPO KOURA or under his care by his assistant. The results (report) of the Autopsy would be available within 5 days following the autopsy. For the purpose of the Autopsy the deceased's family will need to send a Notarized letter requesting the autopsy to Pr. Napo Koura (Tel.: 90046001).

An autopsymay cost around CFA 500.000 (\$ 858).

Order from the Prosecutor Office authorizing the autopsy to be conducted is required form the decedent's family.

Deceased family's representative would need to send a letter to the Prosecutor to request that order. If needed, U.S. Embassy can also assist family in this matter.

Although an autopsy might be realizable after embalmment, the results would not be as clear as oif it was done before embalmment. Therefore the preferred order of events would be: AUTOPSY then EMBALMING.

REMARKS

For all the airline companies traveling to the U.S. from Lome (as listed under (6) b) there is a transit point through Paris, Brussel or Casablanca. The body is prepared to sustain the duration of the trip.

***Charges shown are based on the U.S. Embassy exchange rate of June 22, 2016:
\$1.00 = CFA 583 F CFA. All fees are approximate.***