

Tragedy at the port of Dakar: A dockworker reported missing was found dead in the hold of a Turkish ship

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Tragedy has struck the Autonomous Port of Dakar. Frédéric Sylvain Diatta, a dockworker in his thirties who had been missing since Tuesday, September 29, 2026, was found dead in the hold of a ship flying the Turkish flag, reports Emedia.

A member of the Senegalese Transport Workers' Union, the young man was unloading a shipment of rice when he suddenly disappeared. His absence quickly alerted his colleagues, who launched a search of the port area.

According to reports from Emedia, a colleague found Frédéric Sylvain Diatta's cell phone in the ship's hold. This discovery led the search to the interior of the vessel. The dockworker's body was eventually found there, at the bottom of the hold, in

an advanced state of decomposition. The deceased is also identified as the nephew of Xavier Diatta, director of Casa Industries in Ziguinchor.

The exact circumstances of his death remain unknown at this time. Faced with questions surrounding this death, law enforcement has boarded the Turkish vessel involved.

A judicial inquiry has been opened to determine the circumstances surrounding the disappearance of Frédéric Sylvain Diatta and the causes of his death. The investigation will notably seek to establish how the dockworker ended up in the ship's hold and determine any potential liability in this tragedy.