SELECTED GHANAIAN AND NIGERIAN LAWMAKERS MEET TO DIALOGUE ON SECURITY SECTOR

The Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) hosted a three-day dialogue and experience sharing workshop for selected elected representatives of the Ghanaian and Nigerian Parliaments.

The workshop was to enable the Honourable Members of the National Assembly of Nigeria and the Parliament of Ghana to exchange best practices on parliamentary oversight of the security sector. Dubbed, “Exchange of Good Practices on Legislative Oversight”, it was jointly organised by the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of the Armed Forces (DCAF), and the Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre (PLAC). cont. on page 2.

ELECTION OBSERVATION

As part of the Centre’s contribution discourse and capacity building programme on Election Observation, 465 election observers have been trained [ see p.3]
Mr. Brian Acheampong, Minister of State from Ghana, noted that, unlike in the past when authoritarian and military rule suppressed and disrupted the growth of African Parliaments, Parliaments in most African countries today enjoy some stability as they seek to grow the collective democracy in Africa.

The Minister entreated policy makers and legislators, to develop appropriate skills and competencies needed to support security agencies. This, he said, was necessary due to the fast changing security environment in Africa.

“This Parliamentary exchange programme will further strengthen our resolve to consolidate democracy and Rule of Law and inspire us in the 2001 ECOWAS Parliamentary Protocol on Democracy and the African Union Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance” he said.

The Nigerian High Commissioner to Ghana, His Excellency Olufemi Abikoye in his remarks, indicated that security has become increasingly important with the proliferation of insurgent and terrorist groups globally. “In the wake of increasing attacks by these elements globally and at home, it is imperative that action is taken to strengthen our security sector in order to respond to these growing challenges”, he added.

The High Commissioner emphasised that the exchange visit was therefore timely and important, as it was a useful opportunity for discussions and experience sharing between Ghanaian and Nigerian Parliamentarians on how they perform their legislative roles and on how best they can work to improve on it. “The legislature is a key arm of government and being able to learn from other legislators in similar climes and exchange experiences is important in improving capacity and advancing existing legislative efforts”, he stressed.

He revealed that “when faced with national security issues, it is important that our parliamentarians and politicians have the tools to respond effectively to these challenges, and that the public also has confidence in their capacity to do same”.

The Commandant of KAIPTC, Air Vice Marshal Griffiths Evans, in his welcome address stated that “our quest to build safer and more reliant societies in the continent will come to nothing if we fail to share experiences and harness our collective effort at overcoming our regional security threats which are in turn changing rapidly”.

The Head of Sub-Saharan African Division of the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of the Armed Forces, Dr. Sandy Africa, stated that democracy is an incomplete project that requires constant renewal. She underscored the fact that oversight systems play a very significant role in defining the legacy of a parliament, and was very elated that DCAF was supporting the process of instituting these systems.

Executive Director of Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre, Mr. Clement Nwankwo, mentioned that the role of every legislature is vital, especially in implementing laws and executing policies in ensuring that security agencies are functioning properly.

The KAIPTC is a renowned institution that delivers training, research and education in peace support operations. It is an excellent place for legislators to gain further knowledge on oversight of security sector related agencies, some of which participate in peacekeeping missions.

**AIR VICE MARSHALL (AVM) EVANS OPENS 2018 JOINT CAMPAIGN PLANNING COURSE**

Driven by the aim to provide effective capacities towards the implementation of the African and ECOWAS Peace and Security architecture as well as the AU and UN peacekeeping and peacebuilding mandates through training, KAIPTC welcomed a new batch of participants for the Joint Campaign Planning Course (JCP).

Supported by the French Government and delivered solely in French, the course aims at enhancing capacities to promote the understanding of principles and procedures involved in the planning and conducting of peace support operations. It also provides participants with comprehensive tools to help them operationalize and perform steps vital for conflict management.
KAIPTC INITIATES ANOTHER EDITION OF THE ELECTION OBSERVATION TRAINING COURSE

Since 2004, KAIPTC has collaborated with ECOWAS to train over 465 election observers, including retired army officers, Ambassadors, diplomats and members of civil society organizations. The Centre continues to provide a platform for continuous discourse and capacity building on Election Observation and processes in West Africa and beyond.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, the Deputy Commandant of KAIPTC, Brigadier General Dr. Emmanuel Kotia, gave a quote from His Excellency Kofi Annan, on the essence of elections to citizens; “Elections are the means by which citizens are able to express their wishes and aspirations with regard to decisions that affect their daily lives. Elections afford citizens the opportunity to decide who governs them, and thereby confer legitimacy and authority on governments. Elections must however be free, fair and credible for the outcome to be legitimate.”

Brig Gen Kotia emphasized the importance of ‘fine tuning’ the delivery of electoral processes in a way and manner that guarantees confidence in its integrity. He added that whenever electoral systems lack fairness and credibility, they jeopardizes often trigger unrests and violent conflicts.

He informed participants that the ECOWAS Election Assistance Division was creating a database for election observers, and assured participants that their names would be submitted for inclusion.

He urged the course participants to approach the training opportunity with the dedication it deserved and reiterated KAIPTC’s vision to provide globally-recognized capacity for the effective management of the electoral processes in West Africa and the continent as a whole.
AVM EVANS DEPLORES INCREASING RATE OF CONFLICTS IN AFRICA

Air Vice Marshall Griffiths Evans, Commandant of KAIPTC has deplored the increasing rate of conflicts in Africa. In his opening remarks at the official opening of the “Investigating Sexual and Gender Based Violence Course” at KAIPTC, he noted that, in spite of the innumerable efforts aimed at curbing conflicts in Africa, conflict situations still exist, thereby dwindling the socio–economic development and stability in Africa.

He further stated that, the majority of persons who are mostly victims to Sexual and Gender Based Violence during conflicts are women and children; as vulnerable as they are, they are used as a weapons of war. “The survivors suffer long lasting psychological or physical harm. Due to the severity of Sexual and Gender Based Violence in conflict and post conflict environment, the UN Security Council (UNSC) came out with UNSC Resolution 1820 (2008). This resolution classified targeted rape as a war crime, crime against humanity and genocide,” he said.

The “Investigating Sexual and Gender-Based Violence” Course has therefore been designed to equip participants operating in post conflict and stable environments to appreciate gender based violence and its effects on weaker populations, and to provide them with the necessary tools and interventions to deliver effective support services to victims.

The course was supported by the German Government.

CERTIFICATE PROGRAMME IN CYBER INTELLIGENCE AND FORENSICS ENDS

A union of two sub-regional giants in peace and security, KAIPTC and the E-Crime Bureau, designed and successfully delivered a certificate programme in Cyber Intelligence and Forensics.

The course equipped participants with knowledge and hands-on skills, tools and techniques to conduct cyber intelligence and forensics operations. An aspect of the course explored security vulnerabilities of e-payment platforms and security and forensics responses to mitigate these risks. The course was designed for security, risk, defence, intelligence and investigations practitioners, both in the public and private sectors.

The official opening was attended by the Commandant of the Centre, Air Vice Marshal Griffiths Evans, Mr. Alex Oppong Principal Consultant from the e-Crime Bureau, Colonel Charles Adu-Brempong, Acting Director of Training at KAIPTC, and Mrs. Gertrude Kwamin, Training Manager, e-Crime Bureau.

Mr. Alex Oppong, in his opening remarks, noted that over the past five years, Ghana has advanced in building information technology infrastructure for key sectors within the economy. These advancements have come with cyber security risks, which businesses and stakeholders must recognize in order to adopt proactive mitigation approaches.

E-crime Bureau and KAIPTC remain committed to providing leadership and support to institutions across various industries by providing the requisite skills needed to address the emerging cyber security and forensics challenges facing the country; he concluded. AVM Griffiths Evans assured participants of a fruitful and a return on investment training session as the course has assembled seasoned professionals and widely-acclaimed facilitators.
“This training would also be an insightful learning experience for facilitators. I will therefore urge all participants to freely share their knowledge and experiences from their individual organisations with their colleagues and facilitators, in order to enrich the overall learning experience”, he said.
A total of 43 participants enrolled onto the course.

### 27 Participants complete 2018 edition of CAM Course

Conflict Analysis and Mediation (CAM) Course was designed to strengthen the critical, analytical and practical conflict analysis, mediation and negotiation skills of participants and to dissect the array of approaches to make conflict resolution inclusive.

This year’s edition had 27 security personnel from 11 countries across Africa in session. The course employed the Collaborative Problem-based learning approach and utilized a combination of lectures, simulation exercises, video/movies presentations, among others, to enhance participant’s theoretical as well as practical understanding of CAM in the region.

Marilyn Bako, a participant from Uganda who spoke on behalf of her mates during the closing ceremony, noted that their expectations for the course had been met; “We believe that our training program has achieved its specific objectives to a large extent. From our shared experiences, we have understood conflict analysis, the need to identify the causes, contributing factors of conflict in order to determine appropriate responses and assess the nature of relationships among stakeholders” she said.

### 8TH BATCH OF MASTER OF ARTS IN CONFLICT, PEACE AND SECURITY PROGRAMME MATRICULATED

In attendance at the ceremony were the Commandant of KAIPTC, Air Vice Marshal Griffiths Evans, the Deputy Commandant of KAIPTC, Brigadier General Dr. Emmanuel Kotia, the Deputy Director of the Faculty of Academic Affairs and Research, Dr. Emma Birikorang, the Dean of Academic Affairs, Professor Kwaku Osei-Hwedie and other teaching and non-teaching staff of the Faculty of Academic Affairs and Research.

Professor Osei-Hwedie, Dean of Academic Affairs, in his opening remarks urged students to study diligently and make use of the wide range of facilities at their disposal and participate in all of the Centre’s activities.

Addressing the gathering, Mr. Franklin Gawornu, speaking on behalf of his mates expressed their appreciation to KAIPTC for selecting them as for the programme. He encouraged the class to take advantage of the wealth
International Women’s Day is a celebration of the economic, political, social and cultural achievements of women across the globe and a call-to-action to progression towards gender parity all over the world. The theme for the celebration this year is #PressforProgress.

The Women Peace and Security Institute wants to use this day to press for progress in the elimination of gender based violence across the African continent especially in areas where conflict continues to rage. Violent conflict continues to have devastating consequences, resulting in a widening gap between women and men. Women often have fewer resources to protect themselves, their children and families.

Though women have led peace movements and driven community recoveries post-conflict, they are almost completely missing from peace negotiations. In the deployment of personnel to mitigate in the conflict, female personnel are still in the minority. Exclusion from reconstruction limits access to opportunities to recover, to gain justice for human rights abuses, and to participate in shaping reformed laws and public institutions. As conflicts and crises in Africa took a more complex turn in recent years, there has been a devastating upsurge of violence against women and girls. In Northern Nigeria young girls have been used as bargaining chips for the release of suspected militants. In Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), South Sudan and Sudan women and young girls are used as weapons of war by some national armies and rebel or militant groups.

It must be acknowledged that significant progress has been made across the continent to increase women in leadership positions as well as at the table. In countries like Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal, and Rwanda some concerted
efforts have been to reduce the marginalization of women especially in the areas of education, economic and political participation, access to healthcare and personal safety. Despite these achievements, the protection of women and girls against gender-based violence continues to be high on the continent. This significant absence of women in the security agencies has been attributed to capacity gaps; lack of resources; lack of morale; family support and stigma. The greatest of all these challenges continues to be stigma—societal norms, perception and stereotypes. Cultural norms prevent and limit expectations of what women can do or should do in society. It contributes to the continuous sexual objectification of women and limits female achievement to only social norms (e.g., marriage and child birth). These challenges inhibit women’s advancement and gender equality on our continent.

In 2018 as we #PressforProgress, we advocate for a continental consciousness that limits the cultural and societal norms which impede on the success and advancement of women. We will continue to work with security forces to increase the number of females recruited into the security agencies and deployed in peace missions. We will continue to partner with allies (men and organizations) who over the years have supported the call for equality among the sexes. These allies continue to fight to ensure that the ‘right woman or man’ is given the job.

We therefore continue to call on more men, specifically, men in male dominated fields to #PressforProgress and become advocates of the quest for gender equality. Let us work together to ensure that the next generation respects and understands the importance of gender parity. As we #PressforProgress, let us increase the participation of women in all sphere of national, regional and continental development.

Let’s all collectively press the agenda and make a positive difference for women in our societies. Men and Women, let’s make the day a success.

ABSTRACTS OF SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

2018 Publication – First Trimester


Chapters authored or co-authored by KAIPTC staff

* Introduction: Seeking Peace in West Africa and Oceania – New Directions by Aning, K. (with Brown, M.A.)
* Gender and Hybridity: Exploring the Contributions of Women in Hybrid Political Orders in West Africa by Annan, N.
* Hybridity and Expressions of Power, Legitimacy, Justice and Security Provision in Ghana by Aning, K., Annan, N. & Edu-Afful, F.
* Understanding and Explaining Hybridity in Liberia by Jaye, T.
* Peace Formation in Heterogeneous States: Concluding Thoughts by Aning, K. (with Brown, M.A.)

Activities Planned for the Next Quarter

1. Launch of Project: Improving Response Capacities to Terrorism in Peacekeeping Theatres in Africa in partnership with the Government of Japan and the United Nations Development Programme
2. Policy Seminar on ‘Terrorism and Peacekeeping’ as part of the Improving Response Capacities to Terrorism in Peacekeeping Theatres in Africa project
3. Reflections on Security Series Seminar
4. The second session of the eighth edition of the Master of Conflict, Peace and Security
5. The first Session of the seventh edition of the Master of Gender, Peace and Security
About the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre

The Ghana Ministry of Defence (MoD) established the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) in 1998 and commissioned it in 2004. The purpose was to build upon and share Ghana’s five decades of internationally acclaimed experience and competence in peace operations with other states in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) region and the rest of Africa. This was in recognition of the need for training military, police and civilian men and women to meet the changing demands of multidimensional peace operations. The Centre is one of the three (3) Peacekeeping Training Centres of Excellence mandated by the ECOWAS to offer training in peacekeeping and peace support operations (PSO) in Africa.

The Centre delivers training courses in three thematic areas; Peace Support Operations, Conflict Management and Peace and Security Studies and also runs Masters and PhD programmes in same. The KAIPTC has a world-class research department that undertakes research in the thematic areas in Peace and Security. Located in Accra, Ghana, the KAIPTC is an internationally-recognized institution and has till date trained and tutored over 14,000 participants and students since its inception.

For further information, please contact the Corporate Affairs Unit on 0302-718200 ext 1104/1203. You can find the KAIPTC on facebook as: @kaiptcgh or on twitter as @kaiptcgh. You can further find out more about the KAIPTC on our website: www.kaiptc.org