



# KAIPTC

...where peace begins

# NEWSLETTER

VOL. 5 APRIL - JULY 2019

[www.kaiptc.org](http://www.kaiptc.org)

[f](#) [t](#) [v](#) [@kaiptcgh](#)

[@kaiptc](#)



Norwegian Prime Minister, Her Excellency Erna Solberg (center) with the Chief of Defense Staff, Lt Gen Obed Boamah Akwa (right) and immediate past Commandant of KA IPTC, AVM Griffiths Evans (left) during her historic visit to KA IPTC

## PRIME MINISTER OF NORWAY STRENGTHENS RELATIONS WITH KA IPTC

The Prime Minister of Norway, Her Excellency Erna Solberg paid a visit to the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KA IPTC) in June this year, and marked the historic visit by planting a tree in KA IPTC's Peace Garden. The Government of Norway has been one of KA IPTC's Core Funders over the years, and therefore a major propeller of KA IPTC's vision to become the leading and preferred International Centre for training, education and research focused on ensuring a peaceful and secure Africa.

Through the financial and technical support of the Government of Norway, KA IPTC has trained over 21,000 personnel in Conflict Prevention, Conflict Analysis and Mediation, Election Observation and Management, Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism, Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, Responsibility to Protect and a host of other Courses. ....cont. on page 2.



For the first time since its establishment, KA IPTC hosted its past Commandants in May this year. [ see p.2 ]



The UN Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations, H.E Jean-Pierre Lacroix, has commended Ghana and KA IPTC for invaluable contributions to peacekeeping on the continent and in various parts of the world. [ see p.3 ]



KA IPTC Contributes to the Work of the African Union Commission

[ see p.4 ]



Eighth Batch of MA in Gender, Peace and Security matriculate at KA IPTC

[ see p.6 ]



KA IPTC successfully pilots the "Hostile Environment Awareness Training" Course

[ see p.7 ]



As part of efforts to enhance policing in Ghana, the Women, Peace and Security Institute of KA IPTC has been engaged by the Accountability Rule of Law and Anticorruption Programme [ see p.5 ]

continued from the cover page

Additionally, KAIPTC has also, through the support of the Norwegian Government, established a world-class research department that undertakes research in thematic areas in Peace and Security. In recent years, the Research department has launched and published

two flagship publications – the Annual Review of Peace Support Operations (PSO) and the Journal of African Peace and Security (JAPS), making KAIPTC the first ECOWAS Training Centre of Excellence (TCE) in West Africa to publish a Journal.

## KAIPTC HOLDS FIRST HOME-COMING MEETING FOR PAST COMMANDANTS



*Present and Past Commandants of the KAIPTC meet to deliberate on KAIPTC's New Strategic Plan*

For the first time since its establishment, KAIPTC hosted its past Commandants in May this year. This innovative idea was initiated by the immediate past Commandant, AVM Evans, to create a unique platform to reconnect and engage with them for the advancement of the Centre.

In 2019, the Centre entered a new phase; it began the implementation of its five-year strategic plan which stipulates a demand –driven approach to undertaking the business of the Centre to enable it remain relevant and sustainable. The meeting was therefore meant for the past Commandants to share their experiences and invaluable insights for the achievement of the new plan, and the overall governance of the Centre.

In chronological order of service, the past Commandants who attended the meeting comprised Maj Gen CNB Yaache (1998 - 2001), Brig Gen GLA Ayi-Bonte (2001 - 2002), AVM CEK Dovlo (2009 - 2013), Lt Gen OB Akwa (2013 - 2016), who is currently the Chief of Defence Staff, Brig Gen Mankattah and Maj Gen Attipoe, who are both

deceased, also served from 2002 – 2005, and 2005 – 2009 respectively.

The current Commandant of KAIPTC, Brig Gen Francis Ofori was also in attendance as part of an elaborate onboarding programme for his imminent assumption of office.

After receiving presentations and briefs from the Directors of the various departments, discussions, advice, insights and proposals were shared on a vast number of issues; some highlights are given below;

- The completion of the new training and academic block to facilitate the expansion of the academic programmes
- Strategies for resource mobilization to strengthen the financial base of the Centre
- The introduction of a flagship policy forum for KAIPTC
- The new strategic direction of the Women, Peace and security Institute



- The repositioning of KAIPTC in the face of rising competition.
- The increase in KAIPTC publications aimed at deepening knowledge and understanding of critical issues around African peace and security
- Engagement with ECOWAS, the African Union and other international actors on training and research
- The improvements in the physical infrastructure at the Centre
- New partnerships with the private sector to build a new accommodation block

Taking turns to share their views, Gen Yaache who was the first Commandant was full of pride and joy at the growth of the Centre, recalling the very humble and difficult beginnings of the Centre.

Gen Ayi-Bonte also expressed his gratitude for the invitation, and recounted some challenging times to stabilize the Centre financially in its early days. He also expressed his delight over the leaps the Centre had made over the years and wished it well for the future.

For AVM Dovlo, it was the genuine passion for the work of the Centre that continues to make it grow and stand out. He noted that the longevity of the Centre is hinged on this passion and excellence and urged all not to lose these admirable values. Lt Gen Akwa advised that the three pillars of communication, co-operation and coordination should be the guide principles for the continuous success of the Centre.

The Commandant of KAIPTC, Brig Gen Francis Ofori, was deeply thankful for the opportunity to gain great insights into the operations of the Centre prior to assuming command.

AVM Evans thanked all in attendance, especially the former and incoming Commandants, for honoring the invitations. He expressed his deepest gratitude to the former Commandants, including the deceased, for their brilliant job in building the firm foundations of KAIPTC. He commended them for setting exemplary leadership standards for successors to follow, and for their role in making it a reputable international institution.

## UN UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR PEACE OPERATIONS LAUDS GHANA, KAIPTC, FOR EXEMPLARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO PEACEKEEPING

The United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations, H.E Jean-Pierre Lacroix, has commended Ghana and KAIPTC for invaluable contributions to peacekeeping on the continent and in various parts of the world. H.E Lacroix said the Centre has proven itself as a critical ally in the peacebuilding process through its role in training and building the capacity of persons involved in peacekeeping operations.

He said; "Ghana is synonymous with peacekeeping; we are deeply grateful to Ghana and the confidence to continually count on your support".

H.E Lacroix made these remarks during his visit to KAIPTC in June to attend the funeral of the late Major General Francis Vib-Sanziri, the former Head of Mission and Force Commander of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) who passed away on Friday 19 April 2019.

He noted the exemplary leadership of the late Force Commander and the enormity of his loss not only to Ghana, but to the UN as well. He also paid tribute to Ghanaian peacekeepers who had fallen while serving, and honored them for their invaluable sacrifices and for their courageous lives to bring peace to the world.



*Under Secretary General H.E. Jean-Pierre Lacroix with immediate past Commandant of KAIPTC AVM Griffiths Evans during a visit to the Centre*

The Under-Secretary-General also expressed deepest gratitude to the venerable men and women who currently serve in peacekeeping missions, celebrating them for their tenacity, and protection for the most vulnerable.

"The Centre is a well-known institution and I am glad to be here. I congratulate you for the very rich and diverse activities you are carrying out." He said it was refreshing to observe that aside training, the Centre has research and post-graduate programmes in African Peace and Security as two of its pillars; these, he said, are key foundations for the achievement of the global agenda for peace and security.

H.E Lacroix added that; “I believe that it is very important for us at the UN, particularly the peace operations department to be very strongly connected to this institution. You are very strategic in the sense that you provide the type of training that is very operational.”

He mentioned the Secretary-General’s initiative on Action for Peacekeeping, adding that it was to recognize and highlight the great achievements of peacekeepers, while also bringing global attention to current challenges confronting peacekeeping. He mentioned three challenges; these are the sluggish implementation of political solutions; the increasingly dangerous peacekeeping environment which targets UN peacekeepers and the importance of protection of civilians in missions.

To resolve these challenges, he said there was the need for increased political solutions, as peacekeeping by itself, cannot thrive. The resolution of these challenges, he said, was a co-operative effort. He also highlighted the need to improve performance across all levels – training, equipment, mobility, medical support, performance assessment etc.

KAIPTC’s role in contributing to resolve these issues was key, he noted, reiterating the importance of KAIPTC’s Mobile Training initiative and the delivery of training off-site. He said in-mission training was critical to facilitating the achievement of the mandate of a mission.

He added that the implementation of the women, peace and security (WPS) agenda in peacekeeping was a top priority for the UN. The target was to increase women in peacekeeping operations by 16 percent. He underscored the priceless role women played in peacekeeping,

sharing that they are the ones who engage with community members and help to regain their trust. He said women are the crucial linkages between the community and the missions, and they make a huge difference in building the relationships with the communities to help in their protection. He lauded Ghana for leading in the WPS agenda and urged support for more women to rise in leadership in the Armed Forces.

On his part, the Commandant of KAIPTC, Air Vice Marshal Griffiths Evans expressed his delight over the visit and noted that the Centre would continue to provide training, research and policy initiatives in peacekeeping and peace operations, adding that “KAIPTC has a niche, and our niche is to trade peace and security operations, that is what we do and we do it best. We have plied our trade with ECOWAS and the African Union. We have done it very well and extensively worked with them to give lots of trainings; although we have organized a few courses with the UN, we want to deepen our relationship with the UN; we want to be the eyes and ears of the UN in Africa.” He expressed KAIPTC’s readiness and commitment to collaborating with the UN to find lasting solutions to the challenges in peace operations on the continent and other parts of the world.

The Chief of Defense Staff of the Ghana Armed Forces Lieutenant General OB Akwa added that deploying peacekeepers is part of Ghana’s Foreign Policy. The Ghana Armed Forces, he said, is making all efforts to meet the objective of 16 percent in peacekeeping operations as shared by the UN. He said the goal is to deploy women peacekeepers to the core areas in the missions, and not to logistical and auxiliary roles.

HE Lacroix commemorated his visit by planting a tree in KAIPTC’s Peace Garden.

## KAIPTC CONTRIBUTES TO THE WORK OF THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION IN MEDIATION, PREVENTIVE DIPLOMACY, AND DIALOGUE INTERVENTIONS



Deputy Commandant of KAIPTC, Brig Gen Irvine Aryeetey (right) presenting KAIPTC’s Kente Stole to (Name) at an African Union validation workshop

The Kofi Annan International Peace Keeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) has contributed to the work of the African Union Commission (AUC) by participating in the validation workshop for the Advanced Mediation Training Curriculum organized on 18th and 19th June, 2019 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

This engagement is part of the Centre’s vision to support the African Union in its mandate to promote peace, human security and development in Africa; it is also in line with KAIPTC’s overall goal “to become the trusted partners of ECOWAS, AU, UN, RECs and member states in the development of their capacity to ensure peace and security in Africa”, and also fits with its vision “to become the leading and preferred international Centre for training, education

and research that are focused on ensuring a peaceful and secure Africa”.

The main objective of the workshop was to validate the curriculum and manual to be used to develop/strengthen participants’ advanced understanding and skills required for the design, conduct and evaluation of mediation interventions. This intervention is within the framework the AU Standard Operating Procedures for Mediation Support and the AU Mediation Support Handbook.

Speaking on KAIPTC’s support to the AUC, the Commandant noted that; “KAIPTC & AUC have signed an MoU to strengthen their mutual commitment to the promotion of peace, human security, democracy, good governance and development, conflict prevention, management and peacebuilding in Africa. In light of this agreement, KAIPTC partners the AUC in the provision of technical support, capacity building, joint initiatives, research, and other activities to solidify conflict prevention, peace building including support to multi-dimensional peace operations”, he stated.

KAIPTC supports the AUC’s mandate through a variety of initiatives that relate to areas of mutual interests. The Centre’s participation in the validation of the curriculum manual of the AUC’s Advanced Mediation Training was one of the areas of support. Some of the topics discussed during the validation workshop include preparing for mediation, negotiating in a mediation session, coordinating the mediation intervention and closing the mediation etc.

The African Union Commission (AUC) has established and begun to operationalize a Mediation Support Unit (MSU) in order to institutionalize its conflict management approaches in a more systematic manner. In particular, the AUC is actively strengthen preventive diplomacy, mediation and dialogue interventions to prevent the escalation of violence, foster dialogue and negotiation, as well as the management and resolution of conflicts and disputes across the African continent. The MSU is located within the Crisis Management and Post Conflict Reconstruction and Development (CM-PCRD) Division of the Peace and Security Department (PSD).

## KAIPTC’S WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY INSTITUTE SUPPORTS THE GHANA POLICE SERVICE WITH A GENDER POLICY

As part of efforts to enhance policing in Ghana, the Women, Peace and Security Institute (WPSI) of KAIPTC has been engaged by the Accountability Rule of Law and Anticorruption Programme (ARAP), an European Union funded programme in Ghana, to assist in the development a Gender Policy for the Ghana Police Service (GPS).

The development of the Gender Policy, forms part of a new strategic programme dubbed ‘Police Transformation Agenda’, which aims at enhancing the image of the Ghana Police Service as a gender-sensitive security institution. Further, it is to boost gender sensitive monitoring and evaluation of the Police Service’s achievements and results in line with the Transformation Agenda. The policy will seek to mainstream gender

perspectives into policies, training courses and programs to address inequalities and integrate gender perspectives into the organizational culture of the Police Service. A team from KAIPTC undertook a two-week engagement with the GPS across nine Regional Police Headquarters

to gather data for the formulation of the Policy. This engagement was preceded by a desk review of existing documents, reports, training manual and policies in the Police Service. It is envisaged that the Gender Policy will be utilized by the police administration to

integrate gender perspective into its operations which will strengthen professionalism, enhance internal control mechanisms and improve its complaints management systems.



A cross-section of participants from the Ghana Police Service at a training workshop on Gender Policy Development for the Ghana Police Service



## EIGHTH BATCH OF MASTER OF ARTS IN GENDER, PEACE AND SECURITY MATRICULATE AT KAIPTC

A matriculation ceremony was held in June to admit the eighth batch for the Master of Arts in Gender, Peace and Security Programme. Fifty-one students were admitted, bringing the current population of post-graduate students to almost 250.

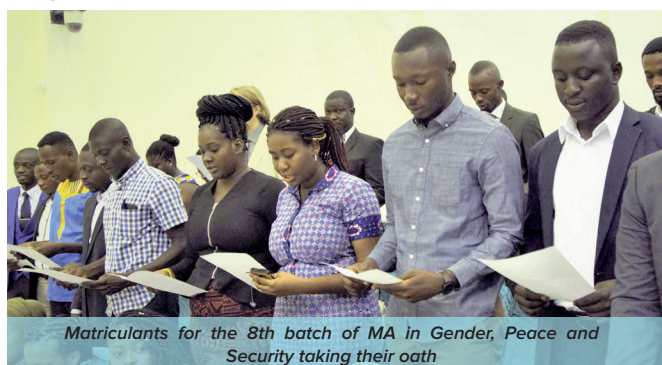
Speaking at the ceremony, Professor Kwaku Osei-Hwedie, Dean, Faculty of Academic Affairs and Research (FAAR) at KAIPTC, welcomed the new students and highlighted the key objectives of the course. “The programme seeks, among other key objectives, to equip students with the skills and competences needed to achieve the highest professional standards and expertise in issues around Gender, Peace and Security; Conflict Prevention, Resolution and Management; Peace Brokering and Security Management”, he explained.

He added that KAIPTC was the first Peacekeeping Training Centre in Africa to deliver post-graduate programmes and is driven by the vision to be the preferred international Centre for education and cutting edge research in gender, conflict, peace and security on the African continent and beyond. Speaking on some of the achievements of the school, Prof. Osei-Hwedie highlighted the Centre’s academic journal and its significant rankings on the Global Go-To Think Thank Ranking.

“KAIPTC became the first ECOWAS Training Centre of Excellence (TCE) to publish an academic Journal,

which goes by the name, the Journal of African Peace and Security (JAPS). This scholarly journal is dedicated to deepening knowledge and understanding of issues around African peace and security, while strengthening the policy relevance of research on the continent”, he stated.

“KAIPTC also continues to feature significantly on the Global Go-To Think Tank Ranking, which is produced annually by the Lauder Institute at the University of Pennsylvania, which ranks the world’s leading think tanks in a variety of categories”, he added.



Matriculants for the 8th batch of MA in Gender, Peace and Security taking their oath

The Master of Arts in Gender, Peace and Security programme which has been running since 2012, has graduated over 200 students from Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, Burundi, Ethiopia, Gambia, Benin, Ivory Coast, Cameroon, Rwanda, Mali, Kenya, and DR Congo. The post-graduate programmes have an alumni of over 500 students.

## KAIPTC ENGAGES AFRICAN UNION ON ITS CAPACITY NEEDS

KAIPTC has held strategic meetings with the African Union Commission to identify its capacity needs to develop tailor-made training programmes, research and other initiatives to address the specific needs of the Commission.

A seven member-team led by Brig Gen Irvine Aryeetey, Deputy Commandant of the Centre, undertook the Capacity Needs Assessment as part of the implementation of the Centre’s 2019 – 2023 strategic plan. The new plan applies a demand-based business model that requires various forms



Leadership of KAIPTC with some members of the African Union Commission at a Capacity Needs Assessment workshop in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

of stakeholder engagements to identify the training needs of key stakeholders. This new way of doing business is to augment the supply-driven approach, which was the modus operandi during the past strategic phase from 2014 - 2018. After internal and external stakeholder consultations with key partners locally and continentally, coupled with a thorough assessment of the peace and security environment in Africa, KAIPTC developed a five-year Strategic Plan (2019 – 2023). Thus, the Capacity Needs Assessment is part of the new approach of the Centre to be more responsive to emerging threats and challenges faced by its Partners, mainly the African Union and the ECOWAS Commission, to name a few.

Elaborating further on the new strategic phase of the Centre during meetings with departments at the AUC, the Deputy Commandant noted that; “KAIPTC

has taken a decision to engage more strategically with its key stakeholders and clients to know their needs so that the relevant interventions in training and other initiatives can be jointly developed to meet the identified needs and gaps”. He added that periodic Capacity Needs Assessments will be held to ensure the Centre remains responsive and relevant in an increasingly competitive environment.

The team engaged with approximately 13 departments and units within the AUC. Various areas of need were identified in Training, Research, Capacity Enhancement and Women Peace and Security issues. Recommendations from the meetings will inform the delivery of tailor made training and research to support the AUC to achieve their mandate of ensuring peace and security Africa. The team also used the opportunity to pay a courtesy call on the Deputy Chairperson of the AUC to strengthen the Centre’s collaboration with the African Union Commission.

## KAIPTC SUCCESSFULLY PILOTS “HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT AWARENESS TRAINING” (HEAT) COURSE

The KAIPTC, with support from the German government, successfully piloted a one-week pilot course on “Hostile Environment Awareness Training” (HEAT).

Given the reality that mission environments are typically unfriendly, especially considering the general living conditions, the weather, language, food, conflict, epidemic, just to mention a few, mission personnel need the requisite training to successfully work in such crises environments. They must be equipped with the right knowledge and skills to tackle future challenges and survive in such critical situations.



Participants in a Hostile Environment Awareness Training Course at KAIPTC

The HEAT course is purposely designed to enhance the knowledge of prospective participants on hostile mission environments, and provide them with the skills and pragmatic ways to operate in, and handle the risks they will encounter in such environments.

Aside classroom sessions, participants undertook practical sessions such as map reading and navigation, and also experienced a practical drill session at the Bundase military training camp. These sessions increased participants’ preparedness and awareness on risks in post war conflict/mission environments.

Subject-matter experts were drawn from the Ghana Armed Forces, Heidelberg University in Germany and KAIPTC. As one of the three (3) Peacekeeping Training Centres of Excellence mandated by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to offer training in peacekeeping and peace support operations (PSO) in Africa, KAIPTC has trained over 21,000 students and participants since inception.

## KAIPTC ASSEMBLES PANEL OF EXPERTS TO DISCUSS INCREASING TERRORIST THREATS IN THE SUB-REGION

Security experts have recommended enhanced stakeholder involvement and accurate data sharing as a panacea to the increasing terror threats in West Africa. This proposal emerged at the ‘Reflections on Security Series’ event organized by the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) in July. This forum is an initiative of KAIPTC aimed at

facilitating an open space for deliberations on topical and sensitive national, regional and international issues by relevant stakeholders.

The forum dissected the complex security dimensions of the surge in violent extremism in the West African sub region. The Commandant of KAIPTC in his welcome address

entreated the panelists and attendees to share ideas that will contribute to strengthening Ghana's capacity to confront potential threats from violent extremist groups operating in West Africa.

The panelists took turns to offer detailed analysis and findings on how radical extremist groups continue to undermine peace efforts and stability in their areas of operation, while actively expanding their network in West Africa. Dr. Festus Aubyn, Research Fellow with the Faculty of Academic Affairs and Research at KAIPTC, said "there are unconfirmed reports that these terror groups, especially Ansaroul Islam and the JNIM want to take about seventy percent of Burkina Faso by the end of the year or early next year, and once they take Burkina Faso, it would give them access to the coastal areas".

The forum revealed that activities of these groups have generated reactions from different sections of society. Executive Director of the West African Centre for Counter-Extremism (WACCE), Mutaru Mumuni Muqtar, on his part took the gathering through youth radicalization in West Africa and building community resilience against the threats. WACCE estimates that about 6,000 West Africans who fought along with ISIS in Syria and Iraq are believed to have returned to the region, following the collapse of the caliphate.



*Director, FAAR, Dr Kwesi Aning addressing a gathering at the 2019 Reflection on Security Series*

The panelists and participants reflected on the level of state preparedness to respond to these emerging threats from radical extremist groups and the role of the citizenry in reducing these threats. In attendance were participants from, academia, students, civil society organizations, security agencies, hospitality industry, diplomats and religious organizations, among others.

### 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 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 21,496 participants and students since its inception. KAIPTC is a gender sensitive organization and committed to gender equality. Following the launch of its Gender policy in 2014, the Centre has mainstreamed gender into its policies and programmes, and integrates same in its focal areas, namely training, research and post-graduate education. The Centre has developed a Sexual Harassment policy and fully oriented employees on same. It has also provided a Nursing and Childcare Centre and instituted a paternity leave policy, all with the aim to create a conducive work environment at KAIPTC.

For further information, please contact the Corporate Affairs Unit of the **Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC)** on +233302-718200 ext 1104/1203 or +233 550 303030. You can find the KAIPTC on facebook and twitter as: @Kaipctgh. You can further find out more about the KAIPTC on our website: [www.kaiptc.org](http://www.kaiptc.org)