



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Enhancing The Support System For Women

International Women's Day is observed on 8 March, every year. The day is dedicated to recognizing and celebrating the achievements of women across different social, economic, cultural, and political spheres. The day also serves as a reminder of the need to continually strive for gender equality and to promote social change. The United Nations has designated the year 2024's theme as « **Invest in Women : Accelerate Progress** » with a focus on addressing economic disempowerment, while the campaign theme for this year is « **Inspire Inclusion** ».

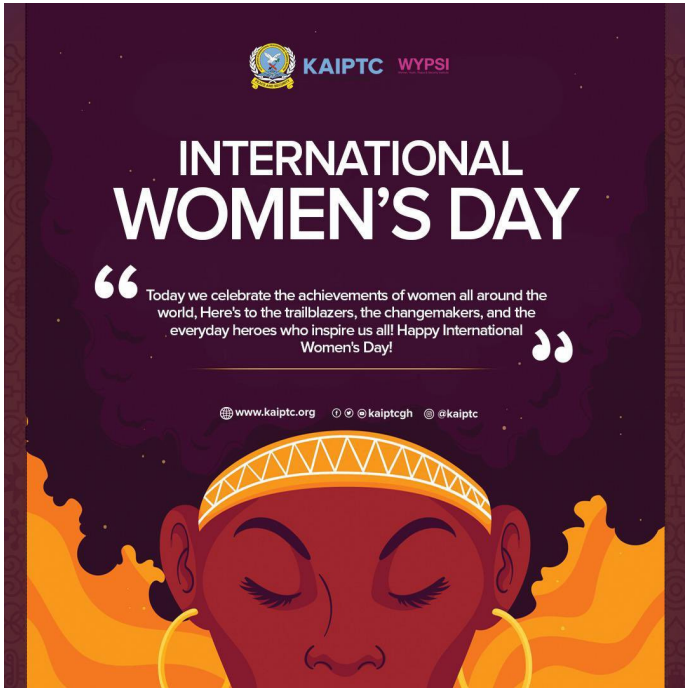
The African Peace Support Trainer's Association (APSTA), as part of our mandate and efforts is encouraging all stakeholders and agencies to champion and create avenues for women development. Enhancing support systems through capacity building, policy dialogues and women leadership is a sure way to develop their competencies and potentials. Women from the formal and informal sectors are integral part of National development. African women are making a difference in the United Nations' global peacekeeping efforts, particularly in the lives of women and girls they meet during security operations. Téné Maimouna Zoungrana, coordinator of the security teams at Ngaragba Central Prison, the Central African Republic's (CAR) largest prison, is among the many Africans reshaping traditionally held views on women's roles in peacekeeping operations. Zoungrana in 2022 was awarded the first U.N. Trailblazer Award for Women Justice and Corrections Officers for her work in the U.N. Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the CAR. This achievement is a great booster and encouragement to all women.

From the Secretariat of APSTA, we are wishing all women of every race, color, status and orientation a very beautiful and amazing women's day.

- By Alexander Odartey Lamptey - APSTA

MEMBER INSTITUTIONS NEWS

KAIPTC - Ghana : Invest In Women As Agents Of Change



The celebration of International Women’s Day (IWD) serves as a critical platform to elevate the voices of women who have borne the brunt of conflict and displacement and continue to act as agents of peace and transformation. This year’s theme, “Invest in Women: Accelerate Progress,” underscores the critical link between empowering women and girls and achieving lasting peace and security.

But “Invest in Women” goes beyond mere goodwill. It’s a strategic imperative. By emphasizing investment, the theme highlights that women’s advancement is not a charity case, but a key driver of global ...

[Read More](#)

NDC-Nigeria: Rear Admiral OM Olotu, received the Executive Governor of Borno State His Excellency, Babagana U Zulum to the College



The Commandant National Defence College Nigeria, Rear Admiral OM Olotu, received the Executive Governor of Borno State His Excellency, Babagana U Zulum to the College for lecture presentation titled « Strengthening National Unity for Contemporary Security Threats in Nigeria: My Perspective » to NDC Course 32 Participants on Wednesday 6 March 2024 in Abuja ...

[Read More](#)



ACCORD - South Africa : ACCORD attends the 40th GIMAC Pre - Summit CSOs Consultative Meeting on Gender Mainstreaming in the African Union and Member States



Educational Transformation for Gender Equity and Sustainability

From 13 - 15 February 2024, ACCORD participated in the 10th Gender is My Agenda Campaign (GIMAC) Network Young Women's Advocacy Training and the 40th GIMAC Pre-Summit Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) Consultative Meeting on Gender Mainstreaming in the African Union and Member States. These events aligned with the African Union's overarching theme for the year, « **Educate an African fit for the 21st Century: Building resilient education systems for increased access to inclusive, lifelong, quality, and relevant learning in Africa.** »

Prior to the GIMAC meetings, ACCORD in collaboration with the Women's International Peace Centre (WIPC) and Femmes Africa Solidarite (FAS), organized its Peace and Security Cluster Pre-Consultation Meeting on Peace Education. This meeting successfully gathered thematic experts, practitioners, and women peacebuilders to explore the role of peace education in Africa ...

[Read More](#)

IPSTC - Kenya : Educational Visit To IPSTC By Egypt Military Academy For Graduate And Strategic Studies

We welcomed a delegation from the Arab Republic of Egypt for an educational visit to Kenya. Led by Maj. Gen. Ramadan Fathi Ali, the delegation comprised of staff members and students from the Military Academy for Graduate and Strategic Studies.

During their visit, they received a briefing on the IPSTC, its operations, and mandate. Also present was the Deputy Ambassador Egypt to Kenya, Mr. Mustafa Saad ...

[Read More](#)



AFRICA NEWS



SADC and GIZ Co-hosted a Regional Conference on Advancing Data and Evidence for Gender-Based Violence Prevention and SRHR in Southern Africa



The Southern African Development Community (SADC), in its quest to strengthen efforts to prevent gender-based violence (GBV) in the SADC region, and in partnership with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), hosted a Regional Conference on GBV Prevention from 06 - 07 March 2024, in Johannesburg, South Africa. The Conference was held under the theme : Advancing Data and Evidence for Gender - Based Violence Prevention and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Southern Africa Region. This Conference was held as part of implementing the SADC Regional Strategy and Framework of Action on Addressing Gender Based Violence (2018-2030). This Strategy places emphasis on prevention of GBV in the SADC region and it promotes evidence-informed interventions and sharing of information and good practices on the response to and prevention of GBV among Member States and stakeholders.

The Conference brought together about 175 delegates from all the 16 SADC Member States, comprising of policymakers, government officials (Gender, Health, Police and Statistics sectors), researchers, and civil society organisations working in the field of gender equality, GBV prevention, sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and data analysis. It provided a platform to share knowledge, experiences, and innovative solutions on collection and use of GBV and SRHR data to inform GBV prevention interventions in the SADC region ...

[Read More](#)

AU & RECS/RMS HEADLINES**02 March 2024****The Executive Secretary of NARC, received a delegation from the Southern African Development Community (SADC)**

Mr. Ahmed Tajouri, the Executive Secretary of NARC, received a delegation from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) in his office in Tripoli on Wednesday. During the meeting, he expressed his satisfaction with this visit, which has the potential to enhance cooperation ...

[Source](#)**05 March 2024****EASF welcomes new Chief of Staff at the Logistics Base**

EASF on 05 March 2024 welcomed Colonel Julien Rwangarambe from Republic of Rwanda who joins the organisation as Chief of Staff at the Logistics Base based in Addis Ababa, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. The Force Commander, Brigadier General Getachew Mohammed welcomed the Senior Officer to EASF ...

[Source](#)**19 March 2024****SADC and GIZ Co-hosted a Regional Conference on Advancing Data and Evidence for Gender-Based Violence Prevention and SRHR in Southern Africa**

The Southern African Development Community (SADC), in its quest to strengthen efforts to prevent gender-based violence (GBV) in the SADC region, and in partnership ...

[Source](#)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

**The State of United Nations Peacekeeping Operations in Africa**

General Birame Diop assesses the challenging trends facing UN peacekeeping operations in Africa, including loss of host country support, disinformation, and increasingly brazen violent nonstate actors.

Being a peacekeeper in Africa has become much more dangerous these days, observes General Birame Diop, Military Advisor in the United Nations Department of Peace Operations, in this interview with the Africa Center for Strategic Studies. Forty percent of United Nations peacekeeping operations are in Africa, yet political factors - including diminishing support from host country authorities and [disinformation campaigns targeting peacekeeping operations](#) - have made peacekeeping more challenging.

Peacekeeping, nonetheless, plays an invaluable, if underappreciated, role in helping stabilize highly fragile regions in Africa that face a host of violent nonstate actors. General Diop reminds African audiences that “peace has a cost,” and that insecurity in one country creates instability for the entire region. African leadership will be needed to mobilize the resources and the political will to support a [full spectrum of peace operations](#) from early warning systems to negotiations to end the continent’s armed conflicts ...

Read More

 Updates from The United Nations

Last Thursday, 14 March 2024, we brought together some inspiring Ghanaian women who are blazing the trail in peace and security to explore the incredible work of uniformed women in [#Peacekeeping](#) and efforts at all levels to advance their leadership roles.

In 2000, the UN Security Council passed Resolution 1325 (UNSCR 1325) on WPS in response to lessons learned on peacekeeping and peacebuilding. The Resolution called on countries to address the impacts that conflict had on women and girls around the world and to systematically include women in peacebuilding efforts, including peace talks, peacekeeping and post-conflict reconstruction efforts. The WPS agenda remains critically important today and thus strengthening the meaningful participation of women peacekeepers is a priority for UN peacekeeping, and it is an operational necessity.

To highlight the importance of the WPS agenda and advance women inclusion in peacekeeping, the Department of Peace Operations' Strategic Communications Section through the United Nations Information Centre (UNIC) Accra held a highly impactful panel discussion and film screening in Accra dedicated to advancing the role of women in peace and security efforts. The event highlighted the success story of Ghana and national efforts at advancing this agenda ...

[Read More](#)

Peacekeeping This Month - March 2024

The APSTA “Peacekeeping This Month” is an Online Journal for interested institutions and individuals to express informed opinion or share perspectives on all matters peacekeeping, peace operations or peace support operations (PSOs). The Secretariat: was able to cover stories in Africa on peacekeeping as follows :

Communique of the 1203rd meeting of the PSC held on 4 March 2024, on Consideration of the Situation in the Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and the Deployment of the Southern African Development Community Mission in the DRC (SAMIDRC)

COMMUNIQUE

Adopted by the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU) at its 1203rd meeting held on 4 March 2024, on Consideration of the Situation in the Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and the Deployment of the Southern African Development Community Mission in the DRC (SAMIDRC).

The Peace and Security Council,

Recalling all its previous decisions and pronouncements on the situation in the Eastern DRC, particularly Communiqués [PSC/PR/COMM.1145 (2023) adopted at its 1145th meeting held on 31 March 2023 and [PSC/HoSG/COMM.1040 (2023)] adopted at its 1140th meeting held at Heads of State and Government level, on 17 February 2023;

Further recalling the 50th Anniversary Solemn Declaration of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) in which the Heads of State and Government of the AU pledged their determination to achieve the goal of a conflict-free Continent, to make peace a reality for all of Africa’s citizens and not to bequeath the burden of conflicts to future generations;

Deeply concerned by the scourge of conflicts on the Continent and their impediment to socio-economic development and reaffirming commitment to realise Agenda 2063 and its flagship projects, including Silencing the Guns by 2030;

Noting the opening remarks by H.E. Ambassador Emilia Mkusa, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Namibia to the AU and Chairperson of the PSC for March 2024 and the introductory statement by Dr. Alhaji Sarjoh Bah, Director of the Conflict Management Directorate on behalf of H.E. Ambassador Bankole ...

[Read More](#)



apsta

*African Peace Support Trainers Association Secretariat
(APSTA)*

📍 Golf Bastos, Yaounde Cameroon

🌐 www.apstaafrica.org    [apstaafrica](https://www.facebook.com/apstaafrica)  apsta@apstaafrica.org