



14th ASF Training Implementation Workshop

The 14th African Standby Force (ASF) Training Implementation Workshop (TIW) was held at Alisa Hotel in Accra, Ghana, from 30 November - 2 December 2022. The workshop was hosted by African Union (AU) Commission and the Commission of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), in partnership with the Royal Norwegian Government through the Training for Peace (TfP) Programme – ACCORD. The TIW brought together over 38 participants drawn from AU Commission, AU Military Staff Committee, Planning Elements (PLANELMs) of the Regional Economic Communities/ Regional Mechanisms (RECs/RMs), the Africa Peace Support Trainers Association (APSTA), Training Centers of Excellence/Institutions (TCEs/TIs), the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) against Boko Haram, Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) and strategic partners.

The main purpose of the 14th ASF TIW was to take stock of the implementation of the ASF Training Directives (2021 – 2023), identifying challenges and gaps in implementing them and exploring possible ways of enhancing implementation. The TIW further provided a platform for engagement with partner institutions on the harmonization of technical support for continental and regional ASF-related training activities ...

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APSTA-POTI e-learning free courses

Dear Scholar ,

The Peace Operations Training Institute is pleased to partner with the African Peace Support Trainers Association (APSTA) to provide e-learning on peacekeeping courses at no cost. POTI offers courses in English, French, and Spanish, as well as others in Arabic and Portuguese.

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This programme is funded by Global Affairs Canada's Peace and Stabilization Operations Programme and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands.

NTCELP is in use at national peacekeeping training centres in Africa, the Americas, Asia, Australia, and Europe.



UN Photo by Albert González Farran

How to get started:

- Go to the APSTA page on the POTI website: <http://www.peaceopstraining.org/programs/ntcelp/africa/apsta/> and click on the blue sign up box.
- Enter **APSTA** in the programme eligibility code box that appears when you create your student profile.

How to enrol in courses:

- Sign in** to your account through the POTI homepage www.peaceopstraining.org.
- Click **Enrol**.
- Click **Add to Basket** for each course you want to study.
- Click the **basket** icon at the top of the page.
- Click **Checkout**.

How to access your courses and method of study:

- Click **My Courses** on your account home page.
- Click on the course title.
- Click **Start Pretest** and answer the questions.
- Click the link to the course files displayed on this page.
- Read and study the material.
- Test your knowledge with the self-scoring end-of-lesson practice quiz.
- Take the online End-of-Course Examination.
- Download or print your Certificate of Completion.
- See your name listed on the Honour Roll: www.peaceopstraining.org/recent_graduates.



Example of a course certificate



UN Photo by Jennifer Moreno Canizales

Two levels of certification available:

Individual Course Certificate:

Students earn a personalized Certificate of Completion for each successfully completed course.

Peace Operations Specialized Training (POST) Certificate:

Students earn a POST certificate by completing a topic-specific eight-course sequence and comprehensive examination. Topics available are Military Studies, Police Studies, Civilian Service, Gender Awareness, Logistical Support, and Human Rights (fee required).

Join us online

Read the latest POTI news on the POTI Facebook page and Twitter feed (@peaceoperations). Members are able to participate in discussions and communicate with peace, security, and stability operations professionals through our Facebook group.



Use the POTI APP

Download the POTI Classroom APP for quick course access and management.



The Peace Operations Training Institute (POTI) is an independent non-governmental organization (NGO) recognized by the United States Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt not-for-profit public charity based in Williamsburg, Virginia, USA.

APSTA NEWS



APSTA Joins In The Celebration Of International Womens Day



Women's Leadership and Collective Action

Accelerate equality and empowerment : How Women's Leadership and Collective Action Can Make a Difference

Gender equality and empowerment are at the heart of solutions to the crises of poverty and economic distress, climate change, and rising fragility and conflict. By addressing gender-based discrimination, adverse social norms, and stagnant, siloed mindsets, women and girls are more fully able to contribute their full potential to solutions. The World Bank Group is in the process of updating its Gender Strategy, and is reflecting on lessons learned as well as what it will take to accelerate progress towards equality for women in communities and worldwide. Headlined by the Honorable Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Nobel Laureate and former President of Liberia, this hour-long panel discussion will feature women leaders from across the globe and across generations to reflect on the importance of accelerating gender equality and empowerment; explore the power of collective action to accelerate change; and discuss how the private sector, philanthropic, and community leaders can play the role of changemakers and, together, accelerate equality ...

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APSTA Participated In The Two-Day International Colloquium On Security Sector Reform For Central African Region, Hosted By EIFORCES, Cameroon



A two-day International Colloquium on Security Sector Reform for Countries within the Central African Region, organized by the International School for Security Forces, (EIFORCES) Cameroon. The sessions Focused on stakes, challenges and prospects with emphasis on security sector policies, integration, oversight, preparations, terrorism, violence, technology, partnership. APSTA was represented duly. The colloquium drew experts, academicians and security Sector practitioners to discuss and make recommendations to stakeholders.


MEMBER INSTITUTIONS NEWS

 **KA IPTC - Ghana : Certificate In Cyber Security 2023**

In today's rapidly evolving technological landscape, cybersecurity has become essential to any organization's information security strategy. With cyber-attacks becoming more sophisticated and frequent, the demand for cybersecurity professionals has skyrocketed. In addition, growing compliance requirements locally require organisations and individuals to be vigilant about cybersecurity.

The "Certificate in Cybersecurity" is a hands-on program designed to provide participants with a foundational understanding of the principles and practices of cybersecurity. The program covers the essential concepts and skills needed to protect information systems from cyber-attacks and breaches ...

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 **NDC - Nigeria : National Defence College Organises a Seminar on Future of Peace Support Operations for Participants of NDC Course 31**

The Commandant National Defence College (NDC), Rear Adm. Murtala Bashir, says Nigeria currently contributes 679 peacekeepers, deployed to various missions to enhance global Peace Support Operations. Admiral Bashir said this at the opening of the seminar on "Future of Peace Support Operations", for participants of Course 31 of the college on Tuesday, in Abuja.

"Nigeria currently has 310 peacekeepers which is inclusive of military, police and civilians in UN missions, 200 in ECOWAS missions, 54 in UN/AU Hybrid missions and 115 in the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF)," he said ...

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ACCORD – South Africa : African Union strategic framework for compliance and accountability in peace support operations – working session



Delineating international humanitarian law, international human rights law and internationally accepted standards of conduct and discipline in AU PSOs

The African Union Commission's Peace Support Operations Division (AUC PSOD) held a technical working session to discuss the draft AU Strategic Framework for Compliance and Accountability in Peace Support Operations (PSOs). The session took place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 27 February to 01 March 2023. Experienced PSO practitioners, academics and International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and International Human Rights Law (IHRL) experts studied, analysed and made inputs to the draft Compliance and Accountability Framework, which is intended to be a tool that brings together the legal and policy instruments, roles and responsibilities as well as the approaches and mechanisms adopted by the AU in the area of Compliance and Accountability to IHL, IHRL and conduct and discipline standards in PSOs. Programme Officers, Mr. Wandile Langa and Ms. Rumbidzaishe Matambo ...

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IPSTC - Kenya : Media Equipment Hand-Over By French Ambassador

We briefed him on the Capacity Building in Support of Security and Development project. "This project has been a significant milestone in our institution's development and we are grateful to the French Government's unwavering support," affirmed our Director, Brig Sitienei. To finalize his visit, the ambassador officially handed over media equipment to our public affairs office.

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RPA - Rwanda : RDA Officers Complete UN Staff Officers Course



Twenty four Rwanda Defence Force (RDF) officers attended the United Nations Staff Officers Course (UNSOC) at the Rwanda Peace Academy (RPA) from 13 March 2023 to 24 March 2023. The two-week course was organized

in partnership between the Rwanda Peace Academy, the British Peace Support Team-Africa (BPST-A) and the Rwanda Defence Force. The objective of the course was to prepare officers at the equivalent ranks of Captain – Lieutenant Colonel for service as staff officers in the UN Multinational and Sector Headquarters, or within national contingents. The course was officially closed by Colonel (Rtd) Jill Rutaremara, the Director of the Rwanda Peace Academy. A team of five facilitators from the RDF were present at the closing ceremony ...

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CCCPA- Egypt : CCCPA and the League of Arab States Sign MoU

The Cairo International Center for Conflict Resolution, Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding (CCCPA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the League of Arab States on 6 March 2023 to enhance cooperation in the areas of common interest, especially conflict resolution, sustaining peace, as well as strengthening the implementation of the peace, security and development nexus. The MoU was signed by H.E. Ahmed Nehad Abdel-Latif, Director General of CCCPA and H.E. Khalid bin Mohammed Manzlawi, Assistant Secretary-General and Head of Political and International Affairs Sector on behalf of the League of Arab States Secretariat. The signing ceremony took place at the Arab League headquarters



in Cairo.

Driven by a common will to strengthen capacities of Arab countries, the MoU provides a framework to reinforce collaboration between the two parties through joint activities, namely training programs, seminars, and workshops in a range of areas of peace and security, particularly conflict resolution; peacekeeping; peacebuilding ...

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IPSS - Ethiopia : Post-Tana Forum: “Improving Regional Response to Political Transitions”



Post-Tana Regional Multi Stakeholders Forum

Enhancing Regional Responses to Political Transitions

 28 - 29 March 2023

 Abuja, Nigeria

#TanaForum
www.tanaforum.org



The Post-Tana Regional Multi-Stakeholders Forum will be hosted under the theme “Improving Regional Response to Political Transitions” in Abuja, Nigeria, from 28-29 March 2023, said the Tana Secretariat. The Institute of Peace and Security studies (IPSS) has been working as the secretary of the Tana Forum over the past ten years.

The 10th edition of the Tana High-Level Forum on Security in Africa was held in October 2022, in Bahir Dar, Ethiopia, with the theme “Managing Security Threats: Building Resilience for the Africa We Want”. In line with the tradition of the Tana Forum, the Secretariat is mandated to organise a multi-stakeholders forum on selected themes with the aim of forging and deepening conversation on topical issues and outcomes. Following this, IPSS will host the Post-Tana Regional Multi-Stakeholder Forum on March 28-29, 2023 in Abuja, Nigeria, in collaboration with Humanity United and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) ...

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WORLD NEWS

**In focus: UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW67)**

The 67th annual Commission on the Status of Women (CSW67), the UN's largest annual gathering on gender equality and women's empowerment, will take place this year from 6–17 March under the theme: "Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls".

The digital age is creating new and unprecedented opportunities to improve the lives of women and girls

around the world. Digital technologies are rapidly transforming all spheres of life, including our economic, social and political systems—establishing new entrance points and platforms for historically marginalized groups. It is also creating unprecedented threats to their wellbeing. Online spaces provide new venues for violence against women, offering perpetrators increased anonymity and impunity. Discrimination in the tech sector ...

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UN underlines support for Africa's fight against terrorism



Although no region is immune to terrorism, the situation in Africa is especially concerning, Secretary-General António Guterres told the Security Council on Tuesday, underlining UN support to countries striving to “end this scourge.”

Leaders from across the continent joined ambassadors in examining how to counter terrorism and better prevent violent extremism through stronger cooperation between the UN and regional organizations. The debate was chaired by President Filipe Nyusi of Mozambique. The country, which holds the rotating Security Council presidency this month, has been battling a deadly insurgency in the north for more than five years.

« Fertile ground » for expansion

The Secretary-General expressed deep concern over the gains which terrorist groups are making in the Sahel and other parts of Africa. “Despair, poverty, hunger, lack of basic services, unemployment, and unconstitutional changes in government continue to lay fertile ground for the creeping expansion of terrorist groups to **infect new parts of the continent**,” he said.

Furthermore, fighters, funds and weapons are increasingly flowing between regions and across the continent, he said, while terrorist groups are forging new alliances with organized crime networks and piracy groups ...

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AU & RECS/RMS HEADLINES**Cote d'Ivoire: How China-Cote d'Ivoire Relations Have Provided Mutual Support**

The meeting between Chinese Premier Li Qiang and his Cote d'Ivoire counterpart Patrick Achi at the Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) annual conference in Hainan province in south China on March 29 reflected the 2023 BFA theme, «An Uncertain World: Solidarity and Cooperation for Development ...

31st March 2023[Source](#)**27 March 2023****AUC Chairperson calls for calm in Kenya amidst public protests**

The Chairperson of the African Union Commission, H.E. Moussa Faki MAHAMAT, expresses deep concern at violence following public protests in Kenya since 21 March 2023, which has resulted in loss of life, damage to property and the interruption of certain economic activities in the capital ...

[Source](#)**After conflict, the displaced of Central African Republic dream of going home**

Civilians displaced by years of civil war in the Central African Republic (CAR) are beginning to return to their homes, but many still lack the means. Like so many forced by conflict to flee their homes, Clarisse Nina Renessio dreams of returning. Now, five years after fighting first reached her village ...

23 March 2023[Source](#)**06 March 2023****CCCPA and the League of Arab States Sign MoU**

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[Source](#)

Peacekeeping This Month - March 2023

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 :



After conflict, the displaced of Central African Republic dream of going home



Civilians displaced by years of civil war in the Central African Republic (CAR) are beginning to return to their homes, but many still lack the means. Like so many forced by conflict to flee their homes, Clarisse Nina Renessio dreams of returning. Now, five years after fighting first reached her village of Nzacko in eastern CAR, that dream is close to becoming a reality. Last year the UN Refugee Agency, UNHCR, facilitated the return of 800 people from PK3, a camp for displaced people outside the central city of Bria where 33,000 people live, including Clarisse.

This initial relocation, mostly to previously unsafe neighbourhoods of the city, came after repeated surveys in 2021 and 2022 showed that around four out of five households at PK3 wished to return to their original homes. But the desire to return is rarely matched by the financial means. “After having provided humanitarian assistance, we now need to provide development assistance,” said UNHCR Assistant High Commissioner for Operations, Raouf Mazou, during a recent visit to Bria alongside a delegation ...

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US Ready To Help Africa Find Solution To Possible Higher Food Prices Amid Russia-Ukraine War

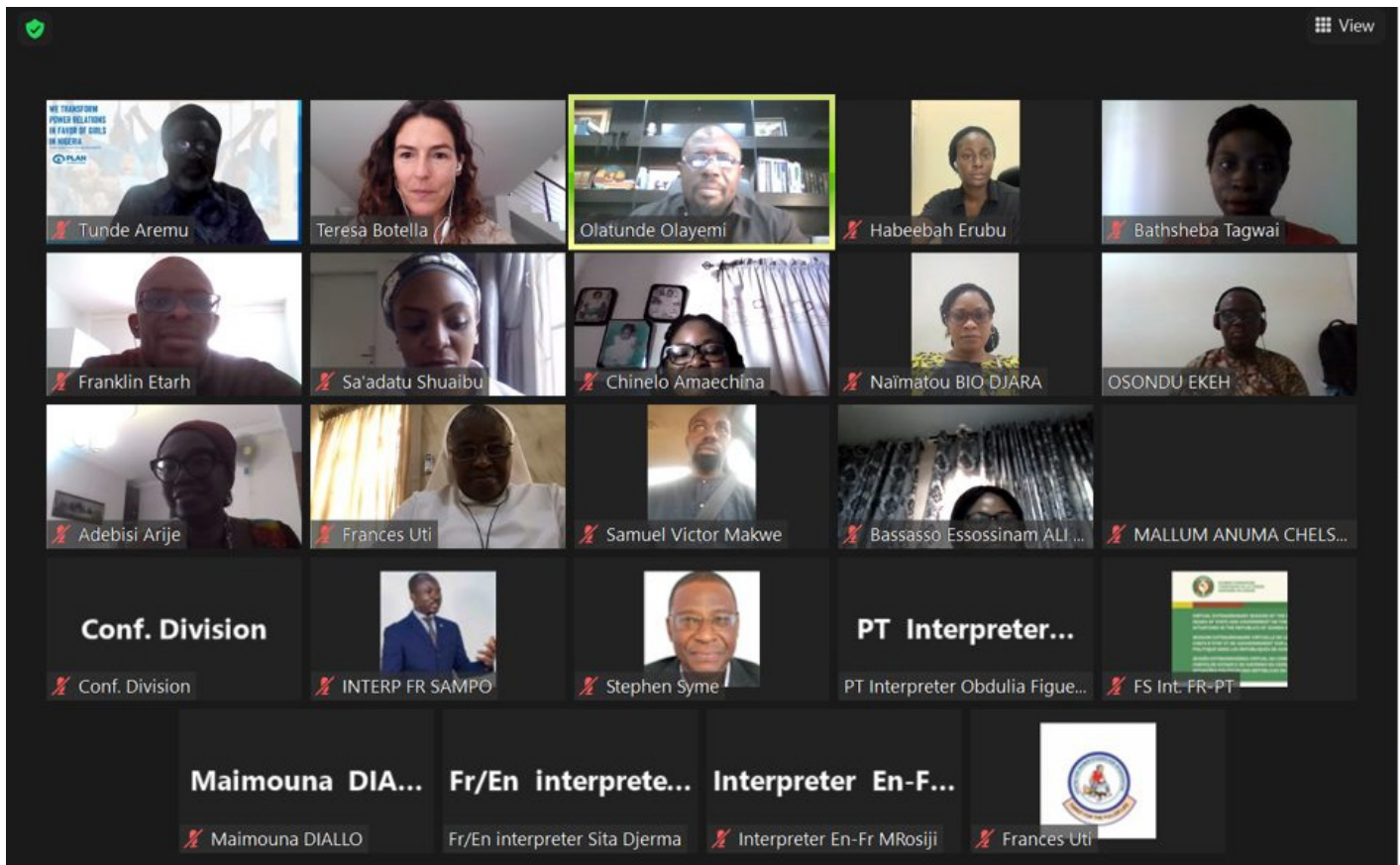


As Russia continues its war against Ukraine and ripple effects are felt in Africa, the US is seeking to cement relations with the African Union (AU). This was the outcome of a high-level dialogue between the AU Commission and the US in Washington DC on Thursday and Friday last week, coincidentally a week after African countries voted equivocally at the United Nations General Assembly's resolution on the invasion of Ukraine. The UN vote, according to Abhishek Mishra, an associate fellow at the Observer Research Foundation (ORF), "is now going to have both immediate and lasting implications for Africa's economics and politics". Seventeen African countries abstained from the UN vote, almost half of the AU member states that are sitting on the fence. Twenty-eight voted in favour of Ukraine and only one, Eritrea voted against Ukraine. The war is affecting Africa because "both Russia and Ukraine are major suppliers of food commodities such as soya beans, wheat, barley, and sunflower oil to African countries", Mishra said ...

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ECOWAS convenes 8th online engagement of the regional working group against gender-based violence and violence against children



The Department of Human Development and Social Affairs of the ECOWAS Commission has organized the Eight Online Engagement of the Regional Partners/CSOs/Non-State Actors Working Group Against Gender-Based Violence and Violence Against Children (ECW-RPWG-GBV&VAC) on 27 February 2023. The one-day event featured Welcome remarks from the ECOWAS Director of Humanitarian and Social Affairs, Dr Sintiki Tarfa Ugbe, a Goodwill message from FEWACCI and Opening Remarks by the Representative of Nigeria Permanent Representative to ECOWAS, Ambassador Musa Sani Nuhu.

In her Welcome Remarks, the Director of Humanitarian and Social Affairs, ECOWAS Commission, Dr Sintiki Tarfa Ugbe, represented by Mr Olatunde Olayemi, Programme Officer

- Social Dimension of Human Trafficking welcomed participants and appreciated their commitment since the establishment of the Working group in October 2020. He added that the strategy of the Directorate through the Human Security and Civil Society division is focused on the protection of women, children, victims of trafficking in persons, internally displaced persons and the most vulnerable both in emergency and non-emergency situations through the deployment of the various tools developed by the Commission. He stated that the Eight meeting would focus on building on already existing initiatives of the Network and would further integrate approaches and explore the synergy between member organizations of the Network ...

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