
The Director of EMPABB, Col Major Mody Berethe, who is Chairperson of APSTA de facto, received the Secretariat delegation led by the Executive Secretary, Dr Cecile Oyono THOM.

For more information visit APSTA website at: http://www.apstaafrica.org/apsta-work-plan-2020-2022-development-meeting/

SPECIAL STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER, HEAD OF GOVERNMENT - DION NGUTE Joseph

Government Response Strategy To The Corona Virus Pandemic (covid-19)

In December 2019, the coronavirus outbreak was declared in the Wuhan Province of the People’s Republic of China. Over time, it gradually spread to Asia, Europe and Africa, resulting in the death or quarantine of several people. A few days ago, the World Health Organization announced that the coronavirus has gone from an epidemic to a pandemic, with over 170,000 cases in 146 countries, and about 6,500 deaths. Cameroon, like many States in the world, is not spared by this pandemic. From the very first hours of its emergence, the Government implemented a prevention and response plan aimed at stemming the spread of this epidemic. To date, 10 people have been diagnosed with this virus in our country and are being treated by specialized services.

For more information visit: https://www.spm.gov.cm/site/?q=en/content/government-response-strategy-coronavirus-pandemic-covid-19
Recruitment Of Other Secretariat Staff

In accordance with the Resolutions of the 16th Annual General Meeting of the African Peace Support Trainers Association (APSTA) held in its permanent Secretariat in Yaounde Cameroon, the recruitment of the other secretariat staff has been finalized.

Re-activation Of Poti-Apsta E-learning Platform

Consequent upon pre-existing cordial relations and partnership between APSTA and the Peace Operations Training Institute (POTI), the Executive Secretary re-engaged POTI’s Boss on re-activation of the POTI-APSTA E-Learning Platform. However, the new customized E-Learning Platform for APSTA is to particularly build the capacities of young peace and conflict scholars across the continent, who are unable to access National Training Centre E-Learning Platform (NTCEIP) of Member Institutions of APSTA. These groups of youngsters are mostly found in Peace Studies Institutes and Research Centres, especially within universities across the continent.

Furthermore, the E-Learning Platform initiative is congruent with APSTA’s expanded mandate, following ongoing review of the AU-APSTA 2008 MOU, with responsibilities for capacity building covering the entire gamut of the African Peace and Security Architecture. It Africa is to Silence the Guns by 2020, as much as the continent is grappling with silencing a virus (COVID-19) pandemic in 2020, then much more capacities have to be built, towards achieving the Africa We Want in accordance with AU Agenda 2063.
### Member Training Calendar March - April 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INSTITUTION</th>
<th>TRAININGS (March-April 2020)</th>
<th>UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS</th>
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</table>
✅ Safe Governance  
✅ Protection of civilians  
✅ Fight against terrorism  
✅ Cross-border crime  
✅ Child protection  
✅ Negotiation and mediation in support and peace operations | ✅ Budget session of EIFORCES board of directors meeting  
✅ Japan always cooperative with EIFORCES  
✅ Thirty-five public order trainers ready  
✅ Mission of internal studies of BESS 6 |
| 2. International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC), Kenya. [https://www.ipstc.org/](https://www.ipstc.org/) | **PCSS**  
✅ Female Military Officer Course  
✅ Disarmament, Demobilization & Reintegration Course  
✅ Strategic Maritime Security & Blue Economy Course  
✅ CIMIC  
✅ Protection of Civilian  
✅ Integrated Maritime Security & Blue Economy Cse  
✅ Dialogue, Negotiation & Mediation Crse  
✅ Gender in PSO  
✅ Physical Security and Stockpile Management | New events are linked with the PCSS programmes |
| ✅ Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC), Ghana. [https://www.kaiptc.org/](https://www.kaiptc.org/) | ✅ All Training Courses  
✅ Training courses are categorized under three thematic areas:  
**Peace Support Operations**  
Multi-dimensional and Integrated Peacekeeping, Peace Building and Post-Conflict Reconstruction.  
**Conflict Management**  
Conflict Prevention, Mediation and Resolution, Including Support for Regional Institutions.  
**Peace and Security Studies**  
State Security and Human Security Issues including Emerging Security Threats. | ✅ Advanced Stabilization and Reintegration Course (ASR 20)  
✅ Political Advisor Course for Peace Support Operations in Africa (PolAd20)  
✅ Intelligence Support for Peace Operations (ISPO 20)  
✅ Multidimensional Peace Operations Course (MDPO 20)  
✅ Election Management Training Course (EMT 20)  
✅ Comprehensive Medical Support In Complex Emergencies (CMISCE 20)  
✅ Master of Arts in Gender, Peace and Security (MGPS)  
✅ Conflict Prevention Course (CPC20)  
✅ Certificate In Cyber Intelligence And Forensics |

### Members News


**KAIPTC:** Practitioners and operatives working in the security, law enforcement, defence and intelligence circles as well as selected private sector security practitioners programme [https://www.kaiptc.org/kaiptc-course/certificate-in-cyber-intelligence-and-forensics/](https://www.kaiptc.org/kaiptc-course/certificate-in-cyber-intelligence-and-forensics/)

$2.5 Trillion Covid-19 Rescue Package Needed For Worlds Emerging Economies

The economic fallout from COVID-19 is likely to get “much worse” before it gets better for some six billion people living in developing economies, the UN said on Monday, in an appeal for a $2.5 trillion rescue package to boost their resilience to further hardship. According to new analysis from UNCTAD, the UN trade and development body, commodity-rich exporting countries will face a $2 trillion to $3 trillion drop in investment from overseas in the next two years. An economic downturn in these emerging economies was already evident in the last quarter of 2019 – before the new coronavirus outbreak emerged in central China last December – said Richard Kozul-Wright, UNCTAD director of globalization and development strategies. Read More: http://www.apstaafrica.org/2-5-trillion-covid-19-rescue-package-needed-for-worlds-emerging-economies/

All Hands-On Deck To Fight A Once-In-A-Lifetime Pandemic

Only by coming together will the world be able to face down the COVID-19 pandemic and its shattering consequences. At an emergency virtual meeting last Thursday, G20 leaders took steps in the right direction. But we are still far away from having a coordinated, articulated global response that meets the unprecedented magnitude of what we are facing. Far from flattening the curve of infection, we are still well behind it. The disease initially took 67 days to infect 100,000 people; soon, 100,000 people and more will be infected daily. Without concerted and courageous action, the number of new cases will almost certainly escalate into the millions, pushing health systems to the breaking point, economies into a nosedive and people into despair, with the poorest hit hardest.

We must prepare for the worst and do everything to avoid it. Here is a three-point call to action — based on science, solidarity and smart policies — for doing just that. Read More: http://www.apstaafrica.org/all-hands-on-deck-to-fight-a-once-in-a-lifetime-pandemic/
Peace & Security - UN Welcomes Response By Libya Parties To Calls For Humanitarian Pause

“positive responses” of Libya’s Tripoli-based government and the Libyan National Army (LNA) to calls for a pause to stop the fighting, in the hopes that this would allow humanitarian access throughout the crisis-torn country and head off the potential threat of COVID-19.


More Support Key For Counter-Terrorism In Africa, Where Misogyny Is At The Heart Of So Many Groups

The UN Security Council on Wednesday called for greater international support to African countries in their continued fight against terrorism and violent extremism, particularly in parts of the Sahel, the Lake Chad Basin region and the Horn of Africa.

Members issued a statement strongly condemning terrorism “in all forms and manifestations”, and urged stepped up support to countries in areas such as training and in developing regional strategies and action plans. In her briefing to ambassadors, UN political affairs chief Rosemary DiCarlo outlined the reach of groups such as Al-Shabaab in Somalia and East Africa, but also ISIL and Al Qaida, whose affiliates are collaborating on attacks in Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger.

Read More: http://www.apstafrica.org/more-support-key-for-counter-terrorism-in-africa-where-misogyny-is-at-the-heart-of-so-many-groups/
This survey showcases the analyses proffered by experts, scholars and stakeholders on the “Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on peace and security in Africa”. They considered the continent’s prevailing risks of international exposure, size of urban population, strength of health systems and above all, weak early warning and early response systems. They warn that the risks for Africa remain real and frightening, even as the pandemic displays a flattening plateau in most countries as at mid-April 2020 with close to 2 million cases and above 120,000 deaths globally. They argue that Africa must not bask in the euphoria of a false sense of security created by the statistical estimates about the continent suffering less than 1 per cent in both cases of infection as well as deaths globally, or less than 3 per cent of both in relation to the United States. They aver that the best option for Africa is certainly not containment, as the continent remains a non-starter in terms of infrastructure and reliable data to address the multidimensional impacts. They underscore mitigation and prevention through restrictions and social distancing, averring that the pandemic should serve as a wakeup call to the African Union and the Regional Mechanisms on strengthening early warning and early response, among other measures, beyond the appointment of envoys to “solicit rapid and concrete international support in an effort to deal with the economic impact of COVID-19 on the African continent”.

The COVID-19 pandemic is certainly not going to be the last that the world would ever know. The 1918 Influenza Pandemic (H1N1 Virus) was more devastating; affecting over 500 million people and killing an estimated 50 million people, but had slipped through history as the ’forgotten pandemic’ due to overshadowing influence of WWI. The survey, against this background, X-rays associated anxieties, expectations and preliminary lessons as perceived by the experts across the five designated regions of the African Standby Force. Considering dire capacity deficits being exposed, it highlights critical implications of the pandemic for training and capacity building for African Peace and Security Architecture by African Training Centres and Regional Economic Communities as well as Regional Mechanisms. Moreover, it underscores crucial recommendations for African Union Agenda 2063 including the flagship initiative of Silencing the Guns in 2020, which is now being challenged by the existential threat of “Silencing a Virus in 2020” instead


The views expressed are those of the Authors, and do not necessarily represent the official position of the African Peace Support Trainers Association (APSTA).
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 wishes to take this opportunity to invite all interested. During the month of February and March 2020, in the midst of Coronavirus, we were able to cover stories in Africa on peacekeeping as follows:

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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Author(s)</th>
<th>Date</th>
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Click on the heading to view details of each post from the APSTA website or partner institutions.
The Association has been reformed and strengthened during the transition period (2017-2019), with support from the Government of Cameroon, including the relocation of the permanent executive secretariat from Nairobi Kenya to Yaounde Cameroon. During the transition period, the Association acquired a diplomatic status congruent with its functions as a continental organization. The number of active Member Institutions (MIs) of APSTA which reduced during the transition period due mainly to financial constraints experienced by most of these Members, already show prospects of rapid increase, following a barrage of new requests for membership in 2019. However, APSTA retains its continental coverage and legitimacy.

In pursuit of its vision of a peaceful and stable Africa, APSTA welcomes all like-minded institutions and organizations to join and partner with the Association, to achieve a common worthy cause: “an Integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa.”

Benefits of Membership

- With a current active membership of 16 leading Policy Research Institutions and Training Centres of Excellence, the Association is a potential platform for collaboration in a wide range of issues relating to African peace and security, and for networking and exchange of programmes in that regard.

- The AU-APSTA Memorandum of Understanding established since 2008 makes the Association one of the key implementing partners of the AU Commission in the areas of capacity building, policy research and policy implementation support to the AU in relevant areas of the policies and programmes of the African Peace and Security Architecture.

- Membership of the Association provides tremendous opportunities for collaborative engagement with the AU Commission and other structures of the AU. Membership may also come with the possibility of funding support from the AU, through the EU Capacity Building Support to African Training Centre.

Please send us your comments and suggestions about the March edition of the APST E-Newsletter

APSTA – “Working together to improve peace support operations in Africa”

We thank you!
APSTA Vision, Mission, Main objective & Core Values

**Vision**
“To be the Premier independent Pan-African Association promoting a peaceful and stable Africa”

**Mission**
“APSTA exists to facilitate the development of African capacity for peace and security through coordination, advocacy, harmonization and standardization of training, research and policy implementation support among its member institutions”

**Main Objective**
“To facilitate the development of African capacity for peace and security through coordination, advocacy, harmonization and standardization of training, research and policy implementation support among member institutions, towards a peaceful and stable Africa”

**Core Values**

**Peace & security:** APSTA undertakes to perform its work with the greater aim of enhancing peaceful coexistence and human security in Africa and the world

**Respect for diversity:** APSTA is committed to all forms of diversity, including colour, culture, education, religion, languages and gender

**Pan-Africanism:** APSTA subscribes to African unity and continental goals and recognises that it is African by identity but universal in outlook, thus open to learning from others as well

**Professionalism:** APSTA will work with staffs that is skilled, well trained and have the right attitude

**Human dignity:** APSTA Subscribes to and supports the UN values concerning human rights and human security

**Apolitical:** APSTA will strive to keep out of politics and its influence, especially in its day-to-day management of its affairs and work