

22 – 23 May 2012

First Annual Convention of Counter-Terrorism Practitioners in Eastern Africa and the Horn of Africa, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



Ambassador Madeira

On 22 and 23 May 2012, the IGAD Security Sector Programme convened the First Annual Convention of Counterterrorism Practitioners in Eastern Africa and the Horn of Africa with the support of the Center on Global Counterterrorism Cooperation (CGCC) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark.

The Convention

provided an opportunity for counterterrorism practitioners from across the sub-region and beyond to consider evolving threats and challenges in the sub-region, develop joint responses, and build a stronger professional network in Eastern Africa and the Horn.

Over 100 counterterrorism practitioners, academics, diplomats, journal-

ists and members of the civil society attended the Convention. Attendees included representatives of IGAD Member States, namely Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan and Uganda. Other states represented at the Convention included Burundi, Canada, Denmark, France, Israel, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Tanzania, United States, United Kingdom, Yemen, and the European Union.

Ambassador Francisco Caetano Jose Madeira, Special Representative of the Chairperson of the AU Commission for Counter-Terrorism Cooperation, and Director of the ACSRT briefed the convention on the situation of terrorism in Africa stressing that the link between Al-Qaida

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ACSRT Newsletter

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central and terrorist organizations in Africa is a challenge facing the continent. He described the rise of Al-Shabaab (which has formally joined the Al Qaida network) in East Africa and the Horn of Africa, as a major security concern and appealed for increased efforts to fight against piracy in the Indian Ocean, combat money laundering in the region and deprive Al Qaida and Al-Shabaab of a stronghold in any portion of the Somali territory. In this regard he saluted TFG, AMISOM, Kenya and Ethiopia for the good work they are doing amidst very challenging circumstances.

Regarding the situation in the Sahel region, Ambassador Madeira emphasized the serious challenge posed by AL-QAIDA in the Islamic MAGREB's (AQIM) which has replenished its arsenals with dangerous weapons of different calibers and from different sources and origins, including those from Libya. He added that AL-QAIDA's terrorist activities continue to undermine governance, tourist industry and eco-

nomie and social development in the Sahel.

He further underscored the fact that AQIM's strategic goal of gaining control over the Maghreb and expanding towards the sub-Saharan region and the horn of Africa had not changed. Rather, it has been reinforced by the proliferation, since late last year, of new and heavily armed terrorist groups such as AnsarEdin, Mujao and MESJ as well as by a surge in violence capacity of Boko Haram in Nigeria. All these groups have links with AQIM and identify themselves with AL-QAIDA and pledge to execute the latter's agenda in the region.

Regarding Central Africa, the Ambassador pointed out the criminal activities of the Lord's Resistance Army in the DRC, Central African Republic and South Sudan, and those perpetrated by other armed rebel groups against the civilian populations in the sub-region. The African Union and the countries affected by the LRA together with the UN and USA have set up a task force to deal with

this menace in a better coordinated and decisive manner.

In this regard Ambassador Madeira lauded the efforts of the Ugandan forces in capturing Ceasar Ocellam one of the LRA top commanders.

The African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism, as the executive arm of the AU Commission and the Peace and Security Council on matters relating to terrorism, in the fulfillment of its mandate throughout the Continent, paid a working visit to Mogadishu where it held discussions with the TFG authorities and AMISOM and helped install the fusion and liaison center with a view to ensuring better institutional coordination and exchange of operational information amongst TFG counter terrorism institutions, and between these institutions and the AMISOM. The ACSRT also visited the five regions of the continent and noted a stark coincidence in terms of vulnerabilities of member states and the type of remedy required to

cure them.

In conclusion, Ambassador Madeira said Effective counter terrorism action must aim at eliminating the causes of terrorism as well as at preventing terrorists from successfully carrying out their activities and strengthening, in the event of an attack, the ability to limit the damage. This requires considerable resources and the convergence of likeminded institutions specialized in different aspects of the counter-terrorism action.

Given the multifaceted nature of the counter terrorism action and the varying realities of each region of the continent, the Ambassador added that there is a need to encourage regions to adopt their own regional counter terrorism strategy and mechanism, such as a fusion and liaison centre which will ensure coordination, timely exchange of operational information, cohesion, harmonization, and cooperation among all national and regional counter terrorism institutions.

8-9 Mai 2012

Meeting of Counter-terrorism coordinators and heads of fusion centers, Cracow, Poland



The African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism, represented by Lieutenant-Colonel Christian Emmanuel MOUAYA POUYI, participated in the meeting of national Counter-Terrorism Coordinators and Heads of Fusion Centres (Madrid Group), organised by the Internal Security Agency of Poland on 8-9 May 2012 in Cracow,

Poland.

The meeting was organised in the framework of Madrid Group that constitutes an informal platform of information exchange on the ongoing counter-terrorism efforts undertaken by all participating parties.

The meeting was attended by more than 50 participants, represent-

ing the Members of the Madrid Group, as well as representatives of the United Nations Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee, Europol, Eurojust, FRONTEX, the African Union CAERT, and other entities, such as Australian NTAC, Canadian ITAC, Ukrainian ATC, US NCTC, Polish Ministry of Interior, Polish Foreign In-

telligence Agency etc.

The discussed topics included:

- Exchanging information on the operation of counter-terrorism fusion centres and planned conferences,
- Discussing the envisaged future role of the fusion centres as well as EU par-

ticipants in countering terrorism,

- Setting up a joint website for information purposes,
- Impact of the Arab Spring on the terrorist threat to countries in the Maghreb region in the context of security in Europe,
- Trends in terrorist activity, i.e. lone wolf terrorism, travel movements and counter-terrorism, etc,

All the speakers focused their presentation on the recent trends in terrorist activity in their respective regions, as well as the impact of the Arab Spring on the terrorist threat level and how they see the future role of the fusion centers in countering terrorism. Important statements were presented on various themes such as lone wolf terrorism, travel movements, etc.

The delegate of the CAERT reported on the extremely volatile and unpredictable security situation in the Sahara Sahel region that is faced with multiple

challenges, in particular terrorism and transnational organized crime, proliferation of weapons, illicit trafficking of various products, armed conflicts, environmental degradation, and climate change, as well as food insecurity and nutrition crisis.

He also presented the measures adopted by the Sahelian and Saharan countries, under the leadership of the African Union Commission to face the situation, consisting in the strengthening of the cooperation amongst themselves, through the elaboration and the implementation of joint social and economic programs, aiming at fighting radicalization and enhancing the information sharing and coordination.

Lieutenant-Colonel MOUAYA POUYI also presented the experience of CAERT as the African Union counter-terrorism coordinating center, managing a network composed by national, regional and international focal points.

14-16 Mai 2012

Experts meeting and 3rd Conference of African Ministers in charge of Border Issues, Niamey, Niger

The 3rd Conference of African Ministers in charge of Border Issues took place in Niamey, Niger, on 17th May 2012. It was preceded by the Meeting of government and African Union experts held from 14th to 16th May. The African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism was represented by Lieutenant-Colonel MOUAYA POUYI Christian Emmanuel, Specialist on Alert and Prevention, Analysis, Studies and Publication.

The debate focused on the three key components of the African Union Border Program (AUBP):

Delimitation and Demarcation of African borders;

Trans-Border Cooperation;

Capacity Building.

The AU Border Program was launched in June 2007. It constitutes an

implementation measure of the Declaration adopted by the 1st Conference of African Ministers in charge of Border Issues.

Assessing the Program, the African Union Commission delegate presented a report on the implementation of the program. He noted that since its inception, the Border Program has made continues progress in supporting the Member states in the delimitation and demarcation of borders, the promotion of the cross-border cooperation, as well as the elaboration and implementation of capacity-building programs.

Concerning delimitation and demarcation aspects, the presented results were less successful. Assessment based on collected information concluded that only about 35% of African borders had been delimited and de-

marcated. Subsequently, the Conference urged member states to submit to the Commission, at the earliest opportunity the status of delimitation and demarcation of their borders. All member states had been asked to achieve the process of delimiting and demarcating their borders no later than 2017 year, which represents the new deadline set by the African Union.

A number of remarks and presentations pertaining to the different aspects of the Cross Border Cooperation, particularly the local initiatives of cross-border cooperation, the Joint management of cross-border resources, as well as the combating of cross-border crime and terrorism were then made by different speakers including the ACSRT delegate.

The ACSRT delegate highlighted the need to secure borders from terrorism, organised crime, arms and drug trafficking etc.,

The ACSRT delegate, after assessing the poor security situation on the

continent, mainly due to armed conflicts, terrorism and organised crime highlighted the need to secure borders from terrorism, organised crime, arms and drug trafficking etc., by a strengthening cross border cooperation that will, inter alia reinforce collaboration between security forces and local populations and further involve the civil society in the prevention and combating of crimes.

He argued in favour of the need to adopt the draft Convention of the African Union on Cross-Border Cooperation, which could constitute an excellent tool to reinforce measures aimed at impeding criminals from circulate freely from one State to the other.

The above mentioned convention aims at providing a legal framework for member states to enhance cross-border cooperation, and fulfil the idea of changing common boundaries from barriers to bridges, enabling more cooperation, integration and development, eliminating conflicts, par-

ticularly those related to borders disputes.

After rich fruitful discussions, the draft convention was adopted by the participants.

The participants welcomed the initiatives of the African Union Commission in support of cross-border cooperation. They also underlined the need for complete the guidelines required to enhance and facilitate cooperation among member states mainly in the areas of experience sharing, the prevention of and the combating of terrorism and other forms of cross border crimes, facilitation of licit cross-border economic activities, such as trade and transport, as well as the movement of peoples, and joint management of cross-border resources.

The participants emphasised the need for adequate human and material resources to effectively implement the program. They called for an inventory and a data base of experts on border issues, for training and re-

search on border programs, and for the establishment of National Boundary Commissions by member states which have not yet done so.

The participants welcomed the initiatives of the African Union Commission in support of cross-border cooperation and encouraged it to renew the efforts in order to develop further the cross border cooperation.

15-16 Mai 2012

Global Counter-Terrorism Forum Sahel Capacity-Building Working Group Technical Expert-Level Meeting on Border Security, Niamey, Niger



Lieutenant-Colonel
MOUAYA POUYI Christian
Emmanuel

The African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism, represented by Lieutenant-Colonel Christian Emmanuel MOUAYA POUYI, took part in the Global Counter-Terrorism Forum Sahel Capacity-Building Working Group (GCTFSWG) Technical Expert-Level Meeting on Border Security, held on 15-16 May 2012 in Niamey, Niger.

The meeting was organised as a follow-up to one of the recommendations of the inaugural meeting of the GCTFSWG meeting in Algiers in November 2011 that approved the need for a technical ex-

pert-level meeting on border security to build on the excellent discussions initiated in Algiers and the work that continues to be undertaken both by multilateral and bilateral actors in the region.

The meeting was jointly organized by Niger and the United States of America governments. It gathered technical experts in border security from more than 30 countries and international organizations, including Sahel States border security officials.

The discussed topics included challenges and good practices of the border security, the legal framework, customs controls, air, land, and sea borders security, regional and international cooperation and coordination. All the speakers focused on the recent trends in terrorist activity in their different areas, highlighting the necessity to enhance the border security,

The ACSRT delegate presented the security situation in the Sahel region as unpredictable and volatile, due to a conversions of various local events that seriously disorganized the existing poor security systems, worsening further the pre-existing vulnerabilities, amongst which the ill secured borders. The porosity of the borders in Sahel constitutes one of the main facilitating factors of the relative success of AQIM and the other jihadist movements in the region that aim at gaining control over Maghreb and Sahara, considered as Islamic lands. Mixing the porosity of borders with the other vulnerabilities such as the ill administered territories, the lack of capacity to properly respond to terrorist attacks, corruption, poverty, social and economic marginalization, poor education etc, as well as with the instability and the deterioration of the security situation as a result the

events in Libya AQIM, MUJAO and the other jihadist groups are consolidating their positions in the Sahara desert and Sahel, and extending their activities towards the Sub Saharan region and the Horn of Africa.

They currently seek to expand and diversify criminal ties with other Islamist, insurgent and criminal groups across the Sahel, the Horn of Africa and beyond, and to exploit the new possibility for large recruitment amongst the marginalized soldiers of the former Libyan army that are not involved in the formation of the new security forces.

After rich and fruitful discussions, participants broadly agreed on a number of good practices for border security and advanced concrete recommendations for GCTF members, regional states, and international organizations to consider.

23-24 Mai 2012

La Troisième réunion du Groupe de travail sur le renforcement des capacités du secteur de la justice des États à mettre en place une riposte contre le terrorisme, efficace et fondée sur l'État de droit

Sur invitation du Forum Global de Lutte Contre le Terrorisme (GCTF), le Centre Africain d'Etudes et de Recherche sur le Terrorisme, représenté par M. Ameer DAHMANI, Chef d'unité base de données et documentation par intérim et Administrateur des Réseaux du CAERT, a pris part au Forum Global de Lutte Contre le Terrorisme, sur le thème « Renforcement des capacités du secteur de la justice des États à mettre en place une riposte contre le terrorisme, efficace et fondée sur l'État de droit »

Cette réunion du groupe de travail, de deux jours, coprésidé par les États-Unis et l'Égypte, a fait du renforcement des instruments juridiques et pénaux pour la lutte contre le terrorisme sa plus grande préoccupation. En effet, le renforcement des capacités judiciaires et pénales constitue un défi

majeur de Lutte Contre le Terrorisme et cela de façon complète et coordonnée et dans le respect de l'état de droit et des droits humains

Cette réunion a permis de comparer les moyens et les méthodes mis en œuvre pour lutter contre les groupes terroristes, et d'élaborer les bonnes pratiques utiles à l'ensemble de la communauté internationale.

Le principal objectif de cette réunion consisterait à rassembler l'ensemble des acteurs «pays Membres, organisations internationales et régionales et sociétés civiles» en charge de la lutte contre le terrorisme afin de contribuer à combler les lacunes qui existent au niveau du mémorandum de Rabat et d'établir un mécanisme permettant la pérennité du travail en groupe.

À ce stade, cinq grands thèmes ont été retenus pour cet atelier :

Les bonnes pratiques du mémorandum sus mentionné ;

Vue d'ensemble sur le renforcement des capacités de lutte contre le terrorisme dans le secteur de la justice pénale (Police / enquêteurs, procureurs et juges) ;

Analyse des besoins dans le renforcement des capacités de lutte contre le terrorisme, programmes et initiatives ;

Élaboration du Plan de travail 2012-2013, programmes et initiatives pour le renforcement des capacités de lutte contre le terrorisme dans le secteur de la justice pénale ;

Organisation, coordination et efforts pour l'exécution du renforcement des capacités

de travail pour 2012-2013.

La réunion de La-Haye, s'inscrit dans l'urgence d'ordonner les efforts, du renforcement de capacités et de la coopération mutuelle, d'améliorer l'échange de renseignements et l'optimisation de l'utilisation de tous les outils et instruments disponibles tout en faisant preuve d'un haut niveau d'éthique.

Également il a été fait état de l'établissement d'un plan de travail pour la période 2012-2013 et l'instauration d'un programme d'initiatives pour le renforcement des capacités de lutte contre le terrorisme. Il a été bien précisé que ce groupe devait être un objet de réunion et de coordination des efforts afin d'éviter leur dédoublement.

Une proposition a été faite durant cette réunion et aussi, grâce à

la présentation des activités du CAERT, pour la mise en place d'un processus d'évaluation mutuelle du système de justice et des réformes en cours. Également, il a été demandé, la création d'un site Web pour la dissémination des informations. L'identification des besoins au niveau des réunions dans chaque région et élargir la présence des membres qui ne font pas partie actuellement du GCTF. La plupart de ces points ont été accueillis à bras ouverts, sauf celle des évaluations qui n'a pas fait l'unanimité de l'auditoire.

Le représentant du centre africain de recherche et d'études sur le terrorisme (CAERT) a fait une présentation sur « **le rôle de l'application de la loi dans la lutte contre le terrorisme** », tout en présentant brièvement le Centre, ces missions et ces objectifs, il a été fait mention des visites d'évaluation et de l'aspect juridique et judiciaire traités lors de ces visites, telles que :

La législation anti-terroriste,

Les mesures contre les actifs utilisés à des fins criminelles,

L'efficacité des services répressifs,

La coopération internationale et,

Le contrôle territorial

Aussi, le constat fait lors des visites d'évaluation a été présenté à l'assistance, tout ce qui touchait aux ratifications et à l'application des différents instruments continentaux et universels liées à la lutte contre le terrorisme, le manque d'expérience dans le domaine de la coopération juridique et l'application de la loi en matière de lutte contre le terrorisme et le crime organisé et enfin le manque de coopération en matière d'affaires pénales.

Un catalogue d'inventaire a été exposé par le représentant du CAERT relatif aux besoins nécessaires aux États de l'Union Africaine pour lutter efficacement contre le terrorisme dans le domai-

ne juridique et pénal sans négliger les objectifs tracés par le CAERT et les recommandations faites aux fins du renforcement des capacités des États membres de l'UA :

Mettre sur pied des mécanismes de coopération régionaux et internationaux adéquats ;

Renforcer les capacités des systèmes nationaux de justice pénale en matière d'extradition ;

Procéder à une évaluation complète de la menace, du risque et de la vulnérabilité ;

Contribuer au renforcement des structures institutionnelles nécessaires pour la coopération internationale à travers la formation des agents de la justice pénale et les questions liées au terrorisme ;

Renforcer la coopération interne, bilatérale et multilatérale de lutte contre le terrorisme sur le continent Africain et dans le Monde.

30 May 2012

Consultative Meeting between The AU and The CSO'S, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

The AU organized a consultative meeting with CSO's (Civil Society Organizations) at the AU Headquarters, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 29 to 30 May 2012.

This particular consultative meeting was an outflow of a declaration by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union (AU) on 31 August 2009 to declare 2010 the Year of Peace and Security in Africa. The landmark Tripoli declaration in paragraph 23 stated: "*We declare the year 2010 as Year of Peace and Security on the Continent. In this regard we request the Chairperson of the Commission to prepare a detailed programme which would identify concrete steps that could be taken to promote peace, security and stability on the Continent.*"

Consequently, the AU embarked upon a campaign to reach out to ordinary African citizens, institutions, governments, the private sector, Civil Society Organizations (CSO's), think tanks, faith-based organi-

zations, the academic sector, as well as international organizations active in Africa. It was against this aforementioned background that the AU organized the meeting with CSO's at the AU Head Office on 29-30 May 2012. The ACSRT (being involved in peace and security in the Continent) was also invited to attend, and was represented by *Judith van der Merwe* (Alert and Prevention Analyst). The objectives of the meeting were:

To strengthen the links between the CSO's and the AU Commission with the view to mobilize popular understanding and support for AU peace efforts and give more recognition to the role of CSO's in the promotion of Peace in Africa;

Develop effective working methods between the AU and the CSO's to enable the emergence of an effective, practical and sustainable relationship; Create awareness and understanding on the mandate, structures, operations and status of operationalization of the

CEWS;

AU and CSO's to elaborate the modalities for engagement and effective participation of CSO's in Conflict Prevention and Early Warning with the Continental Early Warning System (CEWS) and the Regional Economic Communities (REC's);

Participants were drawn from AU Departments, AU Organs, RECs, African CSO's, international organizations, the private sector, and academia;

The Peace and Security Commission (PSC) of the AU made presentations on the *Make Peace Happen Campaign (MPHC)*, *Livingstone Formula*, *the Continental Early Warning System (CEWS)* and the envisaged *CSO Forum*.

Make Peace Happen Campaign

Participants received a presentation on the status of implementation of the *Make Peace Happen Campaign*.

The aforementioned campaign aims to: Give added momentum to peace and security efforts on the continent;

Give greater visibility to ongoing and past efforts by the AU to promote peace and security; Speed up the implementation of commitments made by Member States to various AU instruments relating to peace and security;

Coalesce efforts by stakeholders at all levels to promote peace and security;

Mobilize resources to support peace and security efforts on the continent;

To link the efforts of the AU with those of Africa's civil society institutions (CSO's) working in the area of peace and security, and to encourage them to fully take ownership of this initiative; and

To develop effective working methods between the AU and CSO's to enable the emergence of an effective, practical and sustainable relationship.

The participants to the consultative meeting welcomed the sustainability of the *Make Peace Happen Campaign*, in particular the awareness raising and sensitization on peace and security efforts on the continent; and

Called for increased efforts to enhance the im-

part of the campaign in order to sensitize more stakeholders at country and community level. The participants furthermore recommended the design of a database of CSO's for Africa.

Livingstone Formula

Participants received a presentation by the PSC secretariat on the *Livingstone Formula*:

In short, the *Livingstone Formula* originated from a meeting of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU) held in Livingstone, Zambia, from 4-5 December 2008. The purpose of the conference was to consider an appropriate mechanism for interaction between the Peace and Security Council and Civil Society Organizations (CSO's) in the endorsement of peace, security and stability in Africa.

Accordingly, it was decided that the PSC remain master of its procedures and decisions, and that the Economic, Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC), as the consultative organ responsible for coordinating the participation of civil society in the work of the African Union, particularly the Peace and Security Cluster, is the focal point and shall play a consultative role in the interface between the PSC and CSO's; and the African

Union Commission Identified areas of contribution by CSO's toward the promotion of peace, security and stability in Africa, and encouraged CSO's (in consultation with the PSC) to undertake activities in the areas of Conflict Prevention (Early Warning), Peacemaking, Mediation, Peacekeeping, Humanitarian support, post-conflict reconstruction/development, provision of technical support, workshops on peacebuilding, and monitoring of the implementation of peace agreements.

Participants to the consultative meeting, on 29-30 May 2012, expressed the need to follow-up on the realization of the *Livingstone Formula* and agreed that such follow up may take place during the envisaged annual conference with ECOSOCC.

Delegates also stressed the necessity to encourage and facilitate the process of accreditation of CSO's by the AU to enable a wider range of CSO's to interact with the PSC as deemed appropriate;

Participants furthermore reiterated the need for the PSC secretariat to publicize the agenda of the PSC to allow CSO's input to the deliberations of the PSC; and

Emphasized the need for the PSC secretariat to

carry out more outreach and awareness-building cooperation with CSO's about the *Livingstone Formula*. In this manner, the CSO's may play a complimentary role in the advocacy/publicity of AU PSC decisions and activities by using their wide continental and international networks, to contribute to a better understanding of PSC decisions by the population.

Establishment of a Strategic Partnership between the CEWS and CSOs

Participants received a presentation on the Continental Early Warning System (CEWS) of the AU, and they agreed on the necessity to take tangible steps to facilitate the engagement of CSOs in the successful operationalisation of the CEWS. These include:

Identifying CSO's from the five regions on the continent that can actively engage in the sharing, exchange and dissemination of information and analysis on potential, on-going and post-conflict situations in Africa. These CSO's can also serve as focal points to facilitate engagement of other relevant CSO's from their region in sharing timely and up-to-date information and analysis, with the overall objective of preventing conflicts in

Africa; Harmonization of the methodology and templates for the collection and sharing of information between CSO's and CEWS;

Organizing of regular joint training and capacity-building for CSO's on the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA);

The CEWS shall organize regular meetings with the objective of enhancing coordination and collaboration with relevant CSO's in the area of early warning and conflict prevention;

The PSD Department shall create an online platform for the submission of analysis and recommendations by CSO's on potential, actual and post conflict situations; the platform shall be used to facilitate information sharing between the Department and CSO's.

Civil Society Organization (CSO) Forum

The delegates to the consultative meeting agreed that the envisaged CSO's forum should:

Provide an opportunity where, on an annual basis, the Peace and Security Department(PSC) and CSO's will have an opportunity to discuss, exchange views and together formulate solutions toward peace, stability and security in Africa.