



UNAFRI to get New Director

Newsletter, Oct-Dec 2022





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UNAFRI to get New Director

A two-day Consultative Meeting of the Institute's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Interview Panel got underway on 25th October 2022, in Munyonyo, Kampala. Its remit, among other issues, was to interview applicants from different African countries for the post of UNAFRI Director. It was chaired by Ms Rose Mutombo Kiese, the Institute's Governing Board Chairperson, who also serves as the Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

UNAFRI has been without a substantive Director since 2010. The last office holder was Dr Masamba Sita from the DRC, who left at the end of his tenure in that year. Since then, the Institute has lacked a Director at its helm, although a search, across the African continent, for a suitable replacement has been on since then.

Inadequate funding of the Institute, mainly caused by delayed payment of annual financial contributions, led to this lacuna. In tandem, all substantive international job slots at the Institute --- except the Deputy Director and the Finance

and Administration Officer --- remained vacant. Holders of the slots alluded to have to be paid attractive packages that are pegged to what contemporaries in sister Institutes across the globe earn.

A substantive Director at UNAFRI has to emanate from any of the African Member States with the exception of the host country, Uganda. Under the Institute's Statute, Uganda only fields the substantive Deputy Director. At the exit of Dr Masamba, the then Deputy Director, John Kisembo, took over the mantle as Acting Director. He served from 2010 till his untimely death in 2019. Till now, the Institute also lacks a substantive Deputy Director. From 2019 till now, the substantive Finance and Administration Officer, John Sembuya Ssali, took over the reins as the Acting Director.

Over the past 12 years, characterized by the absence of a substantive Director and adequate funding --- in addition to a substantive Deputy Director over the last three years ---, the Institute has been steered through stormy times. Despite inadequate funding the



DR Congo Justice Minister Rose Mutombo being received at Entebbe International Airport by Uganda's Foreign Minister Gen. Jeje Odongo



Ms Mutombo chairs the Institute's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and interviewing panel at Munyonyo

Acting Director, local staff members and hired consultants have kept UNAFRI afloat through various innovative measures. Among these has been the holding of local, regional and international training workshops geared at showcasing new avenues of fighting national and supra-national crimes that negatively impact economic development; and lead to abject poverty, war and immense human suffering.

Munyonyo Panel:

During the Munyonyo meeting alluded to, three applicants for the post of substantive Director underwent rigorous interviews. They were from Togo, Cameroun and the United Republic of Tanzania. TAC members who attended the meeting and comprised the interviewing panel came from DR Congo, Ghana, Mozambique, Malawi and Uganda. The programme for the Meeting was adopted.

The Acting Director, John Sembuya Ssali, welcomed the Chairperson and the members of TAC, to the forum in performance of the vital duty of selecting the candidate, to take the

responsibility of governing the Institute. At a meeting preceding the interviews, the Acting Director hailed the team for showing up to chart a way forward for the Institute through identification of a substantive Director. He took the panel through a catalogue of challenges and successes that UNAFRI had registered, despite inadequate funding.

Minister and Board Chairperson, Ms Mutombo expressed pleasure in convening the Consultative session. She noted that the selection process marked the conclusive part of the long journey, since February 2020, when the Governing Board pronounced the urgency to fill the vacant post of Director. Although the process had been long and tedious, it was pleasing that the pre-selected three candidates to be subjected to this crucial exercise had come to attend the interview.

She tasked the members of TAC to candidly discuss all aspects, including the score card, to enhance the integrity of the exercise; make it reliable and transparent. She was confident that they would measure to the task. She tasked the Consultant to guide the Meeting on

the methodology and relevant issues, to guide the interviewing exercise.

The Acting Director requested for consideration of a request by the candidate from Tanzania, who had been advised not to travel to Kampala, due to Ebola concerns, to be interviewed via Zoom. The Chair granted the request.

Consultant:

With reference to the advert and the great need to fill the vacant post of Director, the Consultant had considered all the possible tools and explored the strategies to help in identify and facilitate selection of the best candidate. The tools included self-expression through a CV to identify self.

- (i) Skill sets that help the candidate handle a variety of issues regarding management/governance of the Institute effectively and efficiently.
- (ii) Conflict resolution; general knowledge.
- (iii) The tool was developed to guide the panel in selecting the best candidate, based on: work experience and its relevance to the post in question.

- (iv) Communication and personality.
- (v) Critical thinking process – to help bring out the analytical ability.
- (vi) Knowledge about the Institute to establish the level of interest in UNAFRI.
- (vii) Professionalism to establish how the candidates' ability and technical capacity can match the needs of the Institute.
- (viii) Conflict resolution – assess candidates' ability to resolve stressful challenges and create harmony.
- (ix) General knowledge – experts' elements of the candidate's response to issues of strategic importance to the Institute.

The Chair expressed appreciation for the thoughtful considerations provided by the Consultant and requested the plenary to discuss the submission.

Ghana, supported by Uganda, expressed appreciation and proposed it to be adopted. The Delegate pointed out the need to look out with scrutiny for elements of personal composure, defining the outlook of the



UNAFRI's Ag. Director John Ssembuya Ssali peruses through some documents during the meeting.

candidate. She stressed that since the candidate would be managing staff members, he or she ought to be as humane as possible, in the governance of human and non-human resources.

The candidate's likes and dislikes; and hobbies – outside the work environment, ought to be of interest and included in the personal attributes sought for. All these qualities would be relevant in the undertakings the candidate would be tasked with and responsibilities, expected of him or her.

Uganda thanked panel members for coming to execute the vital exercise. With emphasis redrafting the questions, the Delegate suggested that some questions be reviewed. She cited sections in the last question, which she proposed required the panel to ask the candidate to pick a subject of interest, to gauge their relevance to the task of the Director. Limiting the choice to only one question could be compromising, especially if a candidate had a preference and chose two given situations for each question.

The question about the candidates' presentation to feature crucial issues or consideration was debated and concerns about the possibility to leave it to the candidate to identify the presentation which would generate satisfactory interest to the panel.

The members asked for these concerns to be included in the tool by the Consultant. The Chairperson thanked the members and requested the Secretariat to make interventions to guide the Meeting on the suggestions made by Ghana and Uganda. The Acting Director made the relevant guidance to facilitate the adjustment in the tool.

Mozambique proposed the need to consider the diversity of laws in member States and questions to this effect had to be included in the tool, to highlight this reality on the African continent.

Ghana: It was noted that the candidates did not have any influence on their Governments. They were already here, and it would be unfair to disregard them at this late hour because of their countries' financial liability to the Institute. However, she suggested that where a candidate's country has paid, their contribution should be reflected in the candidate's added advantages; and extra marks could be awarded.

Uganda: It was noted that a member State's payment status of financial contribution to UNAFRI should not be a prerequisite consideration for a candidate. Nonetheless, this consideration pointed to the need to prioritise resource mobilization.

Even if the candidates' countries had not yet paid up, one had to be considered because the gesture would inspire their countries to respond to the need to pay. Candidates, therefore had to be considered on the basis of their individual qualities and suitability for the.

Mozambique: The Delegate noted that for engaging the relevant Ministers in Africa on strategic initiatives to sustain UNAFRI. The successful candidate will have to promote the Institute in the countries so that they can embrace and continue to support their Institute. He proposed that TAC should transition into a permanent governance structure to devise initiatives to help address continuity in provision of the needs of the Institute in all countries.

The meeting concluded with a note of appreciation from the Chairperson and a commitment by TAC to accomplish the exercise with integrity.

The interviews were held on the following day; 26th October 2022. The chairperson will analyse the results and consider various proposals from the TAC members. It's upon this that she will announce the most successful applicant. Under the law, it is her prerogative to appoint the new director; in the very near future.

PRESS CONFERENCE

After the interviews, Minister Mutombo addressed a press conference in Kampala. One of the questions posed to her, in her capacity as the chairperson of UNAFRI's Governing Board, was her reaction to current attempts by the Uganda Police Force to take over ownership of the Institute's residential houses in Naguru; which the in coming Director and other foreign staff are supposed to stay in.

She said the claim was news to her; more so because the Uganda Government which had offered acres of land and the said houses to the Institute, at inception in 1989, was yet to write to the Governing Board, revoking the offer. If the Uganda Government does write such a letter in the near future, she said, the Governing Board would then convene and discuss the issue.

The journalists also sought to know from the Ag Director, John Sembuya Ssali, why no Ugandan had featured among the candidates that had been interviewed for the substantive post of UNAFRI Director.

Mr Ssali explained that under the Statute, Uganda, as a host of the continental Institute was barred from fielding a candidate. The Statute stipulates that Uganda can only have the post of Deputy Director. The substantive Deputy, Mr John Kisembo, passed away in July 2019.

MINISTERS:

Ms Mutombo later held tete a tete talks with her opposite number in Uganda, Justice and Constitutional Affairs Minister, Norbert Mao and the Foreign Minister Gen. Jeje Odongo.



Ms Mutombo meets Justice and Constitutional Affairs Minister, Norbert Mao in Kampala.

Japan Organises Meeting on Reduction of Re-offending



An international meeting on how to enhance Technical Assistance geared at reducing Re-offending but also promote inclusive societies ended recently in Tokyo, Japan. Organised by the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI), the forum which ran from 18th to 20th October 2022, attracted several delegates, among who was our own; UNAFRI's Legal and Training Consultant, Andrew Munanura.

A Snapshot:

Mr MORINAGA Taro, Director of the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI), welcomed the participants and delivered the opening remarks. The 14 experts from the crime prevention and criminal justice field and 12 UNAFEI faculty members who participated in the meeting are listed in Annex 1.

Ms IRIE Junko, Deputy Director of UNAFEI, chaired the discussion. Recalling the theme of the event – “Enhancing Technical Assistance to Reduce Re-offending and Promote an Inclusive Society” – the Chair elaborated on the purpose of the meeting: to identify promising practices to reduce re-offending, implementation of challenges in developing countries, and the role of technical assistance in overcoming the challenges.


COUNTRY PRESENTATIONS:

These were designed to illustrate some of the ways in which criminal justice systems worldwide are pursuing efforts to prevent crime and promote reintegration by reducing re-offending. The presentations identified numerous challenges affecting the implementation of effective measures in developing countries to reduce re-offending.


Unsurprisingly, prison overcrowding, which was noted to have resulted mainly from over-reliance on custodial sentences and prolonged pre-trial detention, undermines rehabilitative prison environments. Endemic problems limit

the ability of criminal justice systems to respond to this issue.

The ability of criminal justice systems to respond to this issue is limited by endemic problems. These include: a lack of financial resources, equipment/facilities, insufficient number of staff and adequate training. These challenges are exacerbated by the lack of administrative structures to handle community release schemes. *Prison environments* remain a significant obstacle to the success of – and even the ability to provide – prison-based rehabilitation programmes.



In **Cambodia**, the underdeveloped state of prison facilities puts needed programmes on hold, resulting in the promotion primarily of agricultural programmes, which does not provide offenders with marketable skills.



In **Samoa**, prisons are managed by police officers. This creates an apparent conflict of interest and could undermine the rehabilitative purpose of imprisonment.

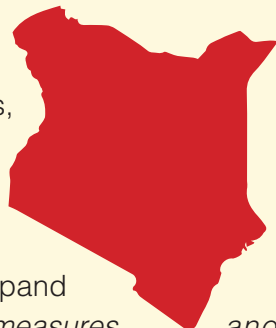


A group photo of the PNI Experts at the conclusion of the meeting on 21st October 2022.



In **Brazil**, the prevalence of organized crime within prisons undermines the rehabilitation effort.

Kenya reported a lack of training and manuals on rehabilitative practices, as an issue that is faced by many developing countries.



Efforts to expand *non-custodial measures and community support* are often frustrated by lack of public awareness and understanding of the purpose of community corrections. Most countries reported issues concerning stigmatization of offenders by the community;

weak political support for or prioritization of offender rehabilitation; and strong cultural traditions and attitudes against offenders. Examples included **Timor-Leste, Cambodia and Samoa**.

The *absence of disaggregated data and reliable statistics* is an issue that impacts all aspects of the criminal justice system in developing countries. Data on arrests, imprisonment and reoffending can help policymakers and practitioners throughout the system make better rehabilitation decisions.

Despite these significant challenges, the country presentations identified promising practices aimed at reducing re-offending. *Timor-Leste* has, on its initiative and with the support of technical assistance providers, developed measures for reducing re-offending that include assessment and evaluation procedures, a court-supervised release process, and family reintegration strategies.

Samoa has had success with art and painting programmes, which are low cost, easy to implement and can result in income to the offender and the correctional institution through revenue sharing upon the sale of the artwork. The Graffiti Project, conducted in partnership with the private sector, was effective in making youth realize the difficulty of removing graffiti from buildings and preventing the practice of graffiti generally. Finally, although underutilized, Samoa reported that its indigenous infrastructure provides opportunities for greater partnership in reducing re-offending through community-based measures.

In **Cambodia**, prison-based vocational training programmes and subsequent employment were identified as factors that could significantly reduce re-offending.

In **Kenya**, the probation service has obtained greater resources by demonstrating its value to

key criminal justice stakeholders (particularly judges) in several ways. Social inquiry reports are used to assess offenders before imposition of a sentence, and informal social control (family and community) and a multidimensional, multi-stakeholder approach is recognized as key to reducing re-offending, as demonstrated by Kenya's use of Community Probation Volunteers.

Kenya's experience also demonstrated the critical role of probation in handling the emergency release of prisoners during the Covid-19 pandemic.

As **Brazil** faces issues of overcrowding, non-prosecution agreements are used to stem incarceration. "Semi-open" prison regimes are also used to facilitate rehabilitation; by promoting work release so that offenders can find employment.



UNAFRI's Munanura hands over a gift to the Director of UNAFEI, Mr Morinaga Taro.

DISCUSSION SESSION:

Session 1:

Use of non-custodial measures to prevent reoffending

While prison overcrowding can impact countries at any stage of development, the effect on developing countries is particularly severe. It was noted that non-custodial measures are necessary to decongest prisons, and they have the added benefit of being more effective at rehabilitating most offenders; and maintaining family ties.

The discussion identified challenges that many countries face in implementing such measures:

- (i) lack of an appropriate legal framework (inadequate range of non-custodial sentences and measures; lack of probation and parole systems; and the absence of gender-responsive measures as well as measures that address special needs, such as drug use disorders and mental health needs);
- (ii) insufficient development of sentencing guidelines that would be needed to avoid overreliance on custodial sentences by courts;
- (iii) low levels of awareness and understanding among other key stakeholders, including the police, prosecutors, correctional authorities, policymakers and the general public;
- (iv) limited infrastructure, capacity and resources;
- (v) insufficient cooperation between the relevant authorities and with the private sector and representatives of the community; and

- (vi) insufficient research on the effectiveness of different sentences and measures.

Given the relative insufficiency of legal frameworks and low awareness, technical assistance projects may require extensive training materials and workshops, and the translation of materials into local languages. Other valuable resources may include creating or revising forms to help social workers and judges assess risk and analyse treatment options for offenders who would benefit from non-custodial sanctions or measures.

Electronic monitoring was also discussed as a measure to facilitate community-based treatment. It could contribute to reducing re-offending, provided that it is used, where appropriate, in conjunction with psycho-social and other forms of tailored support, and that the risk of net-widening is considered. The difficulty of assessing the effectiveness of these approaches was discussed, and it was suggested that evidence of effectiveness is important because of the scepticism that some justice systems or policymakers have toward non-custodial measures due to the perception that they lack a deterrent effect.

Session 2:

Rehabilitation in the custodial environment

The projects and practices presented during the session demonstrated the critical importance of technical assistance projects in addressing and making meaningful improvement to custodial environments in developing countries. Staff training on implementation of the Nelson Mandela Rules, the Bangkok Rules and other relevant standards and norms is an important first step to ensure that personnel understand and respect the relevant human rights standards. It also helps to identify performance gaps and urgent priorities.

In addition to training, many of the presented projects focused on introducing offender assessment and classification tools to enhance prison safety and security; and enhance correctional officials' ability to provide

individualized treatment. Meaningful prison work programmes were also discussed as a means to support the social reintegration of offenders; by providing them with vocational skills and increasing their employability upon release.

In a developed country, offenders who worked in the prison industry programme are reported as being only one third as likely to re-offend. While these programmes have great potential in developing countries, it was observed that the creation of a rehabilitation environment in line with the Nelson Mandela Rules, the Bangkok Rules and other relevant United Nations standards and norms is a precondition to success.



A group of the PNI Experts at the Ministry of Justice headquarters in Tokyo, Japan.

Session 3:

Effective supervision and support of offenders in the community

The discussion focused on the importance of multi-stakeholder partnerships to ensure effective support for offenders in the community. The social partnership model was introduced as a means to organize the private sector to provide offenders with knowledge, resources and opportunities necessary to succeed in society. Offenders who benefited from these partnerships often developed pride in their vocational accomplishments and their successful rehabilitation. The importance of family contact and continued engagement in society during incarceration was also stressed as a means to facilitate reintegration upon release. However, practices should be gender-

responsive and provide alternative solutions, such as halfway houses, when family contact is not practical or is inappropriate.

To promote a multi-stakeholder, multidisciplinary approach to offender rehabilitation and reintegration, national action plans and requiring knowledge of offender rehabilitation for the certification of certain professionals, such as social workers and psychologists, can be considered. Additionally, peer support groups were discussed as an effective measure to maintain offender motivation and progress toward rehabilitation while reintegrating into society.

Session 4:

Measuring the impact of strategies to reduce re-offending

The presentations and interventions introduced sophisticated and innovative approaches to measuring the impact of strategies to reduce reoffending, such as demonstrating programme accountability and effectiveness through cost-benefit analysis. Another approach involved the integration of data collection systems and the use of statistical models for programme evaluation. As many developing countries lack reliable data, technical assistance to support data collection and the compilation of crime statistics can add sustained value to a criminal justice system.

On the issue of defining “re-offending”, some scepticism was expressed regarding the adoption of a single metric or indicator. It was suggested that technical assistance should

focus on encouraging the adoption of clear definitions, which may vary somewhat in each country, and providing guidance on the use of accurate terminology.

It was also stated that issuing identity documents is a problem in many developing countries, leading to the problem of identification of individuals and tracking them through the justice system. In addition to the importance of quantitative data, it was also observed that complementary qualitative data, whether through clinical practice or in the form of personal stories of offenders, can help build a narrative to influence policymakers and the media on the value of successful rehabilitation and reintegration strategies.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Participants shared the following ideas on enhancing technical assistance for developing countries to support their efforts to reduce re-offending:

(a) *Use of non-custodial measures to prevent re-offending*

- (i) Provide assistance through a step-by-step approach that targets the availability and quality of non-custodial measures and the ability to apply them effectively. This approach may require a detailed review of legislation and sentencing policies (e.g., sentencing and prosecutorial guidelines) to ensure that non-custodial measures are available; are gender responsive and can be properly applied; a review of substantive criminal law to ensure that outdated penal offences and punishments are repealed and that sanctions, including non-custodial measures and custodial sentences, are proportionate to the offence;
- (ii) Provide key stakeholder groups (such as law enforcement officials, prosecutors, judges, probation officers, lawyers, victims, offenders, social services and non-governmental organizations, community volunteers) with information and training on the functions and use of non-custodial measures, for example, through the preparation of handbooks, toolkits and other practical resources;
- (iii) Promote closer cooperation among criminal justice decision makers and representatives of community-based-services agencies in order to identify and respond to the needs of offenders, in particular members of vulnerable populations, and promote utilization of alternative and restorative justice processes, including customary justice mechanisms and indigenous infrastructure, in line with the domestic legal system and relevant international standards and norms;

- (iv) Promote the implementation of non-custodial measures that are based on individualized assessments, which may include psycho-social and other tailored support and protocols for referral from criminal justice agencies to the respective health, mental health, social welfare or other agencies.

(b) *Rehabilitation in the custodial environment*

- (i) Focus on raising prison conditions and substantial compliance with the Nelson Mandela Rules, the Bangkok Rules and other relevant United Nations standards and norms as a basis for effective treatment programmes, based on the understanding that the prison environment directly impacts inmates' prospects of rehabilitation and reintegration;
- (ii) Provide training on the Nelson Mandela Rules, the Bangkok Rules and other relevant United Nations standards and norms;
- (iii) Introduce offender assessment and classification tools to enhance prison safety and security and enable the provision of individually tailored treatment programmes;
- (iv) Facilitate contact with family and friends and supplement visitation with use of technology and other means insofar as it is conducive to maintaining ties;
- (v) Facilitate enhanced access to treatment and other support services;
- (vi) Develop and promote vocational-training and life-skills-development programmes that are not guided solely by existing gender stereotypes and without undue influence from private actors, including through the establishment of prison industry schemes and in partnership with the community, which may include the private sector;
- (vii) Promote inter-agency and multi-stakeholder cooperation to ensure

the continuity of care as the offender moves from the custodial to the community setting.

- (viii) Effective supervision and support of offenders in the community
- (ix) Promote partnership with the private sector to create employment opportunities for offenders; to provide entrepreneurship training and small business guidance to enable them to start their own businesses, and to expand access to capital and other resources for offender rehabilitation and reintegration;
- (x) Raise public awareness and engagement of stakeholders, including the private sector, by publicizing ex-offenders' positive experiences of rehabilitation through employment and entrepreneurship, and involve

ex-offenders as peer counsellors and role models in rehabilitation and reintegration programmes;

- (xi) Support community corrections agencies in identifying new community partnerships including with universities and other educational institutions, social welfare organizations and volunteers, and involving them in offender rehabilitation and reintegration;
- (xii) Assist countries with the establishment of post-release support programmes and facilities, such as halfway houses, aftercare treatment centres, case management services, employment and educational programmes, etc., in line with the Tokyo Rules;
- (xiii) Encourage partnerships with peer support groups to ensure on-going community support beyond the term of the criminal justice intervention.

MEASURING THE IMPACT OF STRATEGIES TO REDUCE RE-OFFENDING

- (i) Clearly define “re-offending” and similar terms within the context of specific studies, reports and technical assistance projects;
- (ii) Provide sustainable, progressive (step-by-step) assistance to countries in their development of data collection systems and processes for the analysis and publication of statistics in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice;
- (iii) Incorporate data collection and analysis with the implementation of evidence-based technical assistance projects;
- (iv) Promote quantitative approaches to measure the effectiveness of strategies to reduce reoffending, improve rehabilitation programmes and demonstrate their impact – reliable data can convince politicians and the public of the positive impact of a project as well as enhance the motivation of frontline officers to pursue and expand effective practices;
- (v) At the same time, promote qualitative approaches to effectiveness by, for

example, collecting stories of success and challenges – both by and about offenders – and implementing a professional media strategy to raise public awareness and understanding.

- (c) *Measures to enhance collaboration and information-sharing among technical assistance providers*
 - (i) The PNI should, in close cooperation with the UNODC, facilitate information sharing on promising technical assistance projects and practices in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice through regular in-person meetings and other forums;
 - (ii) Governments, the private sector and other donors are encouraged to provide adequate financial and other resources to ensure the ability of technical assistance providers to engage in such collaboration and information-sharing forums.

ANNEX 1

PARTICIPANTS LIST

1. Ms. Jee Aei LEE, Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Officer, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
2. Ms. Fumiko AKASHI, Consultant, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
3. Mr. Leif VILLADSEN, Deputy Director, United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI)
4. Mr. Andrew Karokora MUNANURA, Legal and Training Consultant, United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFRI)
5. Mr. Douglas DURAN CHAVARRIA, Director, United Nations Latin American Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (ILANUD)
6. Dr. Vincent Cheng YANG, Senior Associate, International Centre for Criminal Law Reform & Criminal Justice Policy (ICCLR)
7. Mr. Josh OUNSTED, Thematic Leader, Access to Justice, Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (RWI)
8. Dr. Phiset SA-ARDYEN, Executive Director, Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ)
9. Ms. Chontit CHUENURAH, Director of Office for the Bangkok Rules and Treatment of Offenders, Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ)

(In-person observers)

1. Dr. Matti Tapani JOUTSEN, Special Advisor, Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ)
2. Mr. Clarence Joseph Thomsen NELSON, Justice, Supreme Court of Samoa
3. Mr. Severino Hunt GAÑA Jr., International Director, Asia Crime Prevention Foundation (ACPF)

(Online participants)

1. Ms. Marcella CHAN, Director of Programs, International Centre for Criminal Law Reform & Criminal Justice Policy (ICCLR)
2. Dr. Mana YAMAMOTO, Research Expert, United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI)

(UNAFEI Faculty)

1. Mr. MORINAGA Taro, Director
2. Ms. IRIE Junko, Deputy Director
3. Ms. KIDA Makiko, Professor
4. Ms. TAKAI Ayaka, Professor
5. Mr. YAMANA Rompei, Professor
6. Mr. KUBO Hiroshi, Professor
7. Mr. OKUDA Yoshinori, Professor
8. Mr. NAKAYAMA Noboru, Professor
9. Ms. MIYAGAWA Tsubura, Professor
10. Mr. OTSUKA Takeaki, Professor
11. Ms. TANAKA Mii, Professor
12. Mr. Tom SCHMID, Linguistic Adviser

Please Note:

Details of endeavours by other countries and organisations to enhance the gospel of curtailing re-offending, can be found on the UNAFRI website.

How UNAFRI AND UGANDA PRISONS SERVICE FIGHT RE-OFFENDING'



Uganda Prisons Service spokesperson Frank Baine.

As the world grapples with ideas on how best to reintegrate offenders back into their communities and to stop re-offending, UNAFRI and the Uganda Prisons Service have also mooted new ideas.

- (1). UNAFRI has assisted in a project to enhance family contact in Uganda. In Africa, the stigmatization of offenders is a serious problem that often results in their ostracization from society. The project, "From Prison Back Home", forms the bedrock of Uganda's rehabilitation and reintegration programme; to bring an offender back into their community, a needle is required to re-stitch the torn social fabric.

The project advocated starting rehabilitation immediately upon incarceration and maintaining family contact throughout the custodial sentence. Other measures promoted by the project include vocational training for offenders and linking inmates with trade schools and universities worldwide, ensuring that inmates are exposed to the outside world through access to print and broadcast media,

and promoting communication between inmates and their families through social workers. UNAFRI is also encouraging the government of Uganda to establish a legal framework for community care.

- (2). According to the Uganda Prisons Service, the current rate of re-offending or recidivism stands at 17%. The Spokesman, Frank Baine, says rehabilitation programmes include:

- (i) Formal Education
- (ii) Functional Adult Education
- (iii) Vocational Education
- (iv) Religious Empowerment
- (v) Counselling and Rigorous Discipline.

The average number of prisoners undertaking formal education is 5,000.

A breakdown of the categories of prisoners is as follows:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| - Capital convicts | 18,320 prisoners |
| - Capital but petty | 19,250 |
| - Capital Remands | 19,877 |
| - Debtors | 414 |
| - Total number of prisoners is | 74,319 |

Experts Meet in Kenya over Drug Trends and Challenges in the region

Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEA), Africa, flew into Nairobi, Kenya, for a weeklong meeting on 8th **November 2022** to brainstorm on drug trends and challenges in the region.

The 30th meeting discussed salient policy and enforcement issues; concealment methods, synthetic drug production, and trafficking; alternatives to conviction or punishment for drug-related offenses; and the role of regional cooperation platforms in facilitating the exchange of actionable intelligence.

The forum provides a platform for practitioners to discuss the regional perspective of the drug problem. The World Drug Report 2022 pities the youth (around 284 million) and people aged 15-64 against the prevalence of drug use worldwide in 2020. This number is on the rise. Young people are reported to be using more drugs than previous generations. In Africa and Latin America, people under 35 represent the majority of patients being treated for drug use disorders; primarily for cannabis use disorders.

The meeting emphasized the importance of galvanizing the international community, governments, civil society, and all stakeholders to take urgent action to protect people, including by strengthening drug use prevention and treatment; and by tackling illicit drug supply. Whereas there are existing regional and international legal instruments for criminalization of illicit drug use, the problem of drugs escalates in all countries, and continues to destabilise economies, particularly in vulnerable communities.

Through dedicated interventions, the meeting discussed measures for reduction of demand and control of supply of drugs through more

of dissuasion, and health/mental care means than through sanctions. In this case, the meeting discussed options for sensitization of the public, with emphasis on the youth about the dangers of drugs to their health and the hazards it imposes on their future as well as the impact on national development.

The issue of illicit trafficking in drugs is a global phenomenon, and has taken on proportions which cause Africa to suffer considerably as a source, transit and destination of the illicit drugs. It is imperative therefore that African countries devise corresponding measures at regional and international level to address the challenges drugs bring to their nationals. In this regard, Africa lacks sufficient capacity to match the drug cartels illicit operations.

The compromising impact drugs have on the safety of nations, stability of regions and health of nationals compels nations to work together to achieve what a single nation cannot envisage. Through mechanisms for boosting capacity of member States to detect, criminalise and treat drug-related practices, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) is spearheading the provision of necessary technical support to Africa to fight the vice. In this regard, the meeting acknowledged all the work in progress that is inspired by various actors in fighting illicit drugs.

However, it was noted that there are emerging tactics being used by international cartels in trafficking drugs; including their ingenious methods of concealment, which are constantly changing to circumvent the existing mechanisms for detection, making drug trafficking a dynamic and sophisticated phenomenon. For this matter, the meeting

discussed at length the need to share intelligence to spur intelligence-led operations and judicial cooperation to the benefit of investigators and law enforcement agencies.

This meeting comes at a critical time and delegates reiterated the regional commitment to protecting the safety and assuring the security of individuals by intensifying regional efforts to prevent and counter illicit cultivation, production, and manufacture of narcotic and psychotropic substances, as well as drug-related crime and violence. Through various initiatives based on innovations and pragmatic interventions, African countries are engaging all stakeholders (public, private sectors, civil society and traditional authorities) to reach out with professional interventions to treat and preempt the use of drugs because of their detrimental effects on health and stability of communities.

The momentum to fight the impact of drugs was seen in the context of their impact on the future of the continents' development agenda 2030.

It is crucial to protect the vulnerable population (women and youth) from drugs. Given the transnational nature of the drug problem, Africa has to join the rest of the world to tap into the existing global initiatives anchored on regional and international cooperation under the ambit of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and related institutions, UNAFRI, UNDP, WHO, Interpol. It is envisaged that when all of these entities put their resources together, the interventions will be more visibly appropriate in addressing the vice; hence the need for institutional collaboration.

The trade in drugs is a lucrative business, organized by cartels and international syndicates across the world, with daring incursions in areas of their interest. This calls for concerted efforts of African countries to intercept, destroy and sanction culprits on the trafficking trails. Sharing of intelligence and experiences in various African countries will be useful in building capacity at regional levels for interceptions of concealed drugs en-route to their illicit destinations. The Meeting discussed



modalities of cooperation at informal and formal levels among the anti-narcotics authorities through existing and upcoming platforms in order to burst the illicit activities.

After consultations with delegates, UNAFRI acknowledged that there is need for enhanced technical assistance and regional cooperation as tools for dedicated interventions in the ever-increasing trends in illicit trafficking of drugs.

It is likely that the available support from donor communities will continue to help Africa, but for a meaningful strategy to fight illicit drugs, African communities need aggressive sensitization coupled with factors which will work against poverty among the youth. Poverty is seen as one of the primary factors inspiring the youth to

engage in the illicit drugs operations.

Through its programmes, UNAFRI can make relevant interventions tailored to individual countries in accordance with their realities. The 30th HONLEA meeting provided an opportunity for a needs assessment in areas of identified need and opportunities for networking manifested with a number of other partner organisations which attended the meeting.

The Institute should make a collaboration with Kenya's National Authority for the Campaign Against Alcohol and Drug Abuse (NACADA) to implement some of the resolutions reached in this and previous meetings at regional level. Consultations with each party will lead to sources of funding for regional engagements.



A Glimpse into the

United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI)



The United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI) was established in 1962 to promote sound development of criminal justice systems and mutual cooperation, mainly, in the Asia and the Pacific Region. UNAFEI activities focus on training courses and seminars for personnel in crime prevention and criminal justice administration, and the research and study of crime prevention and the treatment of offenders. It also conducts special workshops outside of Japan jointly with the governments of participating nations, to promote effective measures for the fight against crime.

As a member of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network of Institutes (PNI), UNAFEI has collaborated actively with its members, including the UNODC. UNAFEI and UNODC have organized training courses, seminars and workshops on a wide range of crime prevention and criminal justice issues. At its training programmes UNAFEI regularly delivers lectures on the United Nations' legal instruments against crime, corruption and terrorism to enhance the understanding of international legal norms.

UNAFEI holds two international training courses and one international senior seminar annually. The international training course that is held in Spring deals mainly with the treatment of offenders, while the one held in Autumn concentrates on crime prevention and countermeasures against various crimes. The international senior seminar tackles current criminal justice issues. In addition to acquiring knowledge and skills during the official training sessions seminar participants also benefit significantly from the opportunities to network and interact with professionals from different regions; not only in Asia and the Pacific, but also Africa, Latin America and Europe.

International crackdown on West-African financial crime rings

14 October 2022

The INTERPOL-coordinated operation, yielding more than 70 arrests, confirms the global footprint of Black Axe and similar organized crime groups.

Lyon, France: Behind the headlines that emerged earlier this month on the [arrest of two suspected online scammers in South Africa](#) lies a global police operation coordinated by INTERPOL. Codenamed Operation Jackal, the joint law enforcement effort mobilized 14 countries across four continents in a targeted strike against Black Axe and related West-African organized crime groups. Operation Jackal marks the first time INTERPOL has coordinated a global operation specifically against Black Axe, which is rapidly becoming a major security threat worldwide.

Black Axe and similar groups are responsible for the majority of the world's cyber-enabled financial fraud as well as many other serious crimes, according to evidence analyzed by INTERPOL's Financial Crime and Anti-Corruption Centre (IFCACC) and national law enforcement. In South Africa alone, the two suspects arrested were wanted for online scams that extracted USD 1.8 million from victims.

Lifblood of organized crime

Over one coordinated 'action week' (26-30 September), police worldwide launched enforcement operations against individuals linked to the Black Axe group,

arresting suspected criminal operators or money mules, raiding and shutting down premises and seizing assets related to ongoing cases. Two INTERPOL operational support teams were also deployed to South Africa and Ireland respectively to help coordinate international law enforcement teams on the ground. In Italy, the Carabinieri made three arrests in Campobasso within the framework of the operation.

In total, the operation resulted in:

- EUR 1.2 million intercepted in bank accounts
- 75 arrests
- 49 property searches
- 7 INTERPOL Purple Notices, detailing criminal modus operandi
- 6 INTERPOL Red Notices, issued for internationally-wanted fugitives

"Illicit financial funds are the lifblood of transnational organized crime, and we have witnessed how groups like Black Axe will channel money gained from online financial scams into other crime areas, such as drugs and human trafficking. These groups demand a global response," said Stephen Kavanagh, Executive Director of Police Services, INTERPOL.

Lavish lifestyles

The immense quantity of assets seized, including 12,000 SIM cards, have provided new investigative leads for law enforcement, generating 13 analytical reports and allowing police to identify more than 70 additional suspects. The lavish lifestyles and greed of many suspects – allegedly paid for by defrauding members of the public of their savings and other criminal activities – was on clear display at the scenes of their arrest. Various luxury assets were seized, including a residential property, three cars and tens of thousands in cash.

The operation also saw INTERPOL successfully deploy its new global stop-payment mechanism known as the

[Anti-Money Laundering Rapid Response Protocol \(ARRP\)](#), currently in its pilot stage. Used within the framework of INTERPOL's Global Financial Crime Task Force, the ARRP enables member countries to quickly intercept illegal proceeds of crime.

“The ARRP is a game-changer in the fight against global financial crime, where speed and international cooperation are crucial to intercepting illicit funds before they disappear into the pockets of money mules abroad,” said Rory Corcoran, Director of IFCACC. “INTERPOL's Global Financial Crime Task Force has shown remarkable effectiveness in disrupting illicit financial flows, bringing together cyber and finance experts across sectors to track and cut off criminal money trails.”



Behind the headlines that emerged earlier this month on the arrest of two suspected online scammers in South Africa lies a global police operation coordinated by INTERPOL.

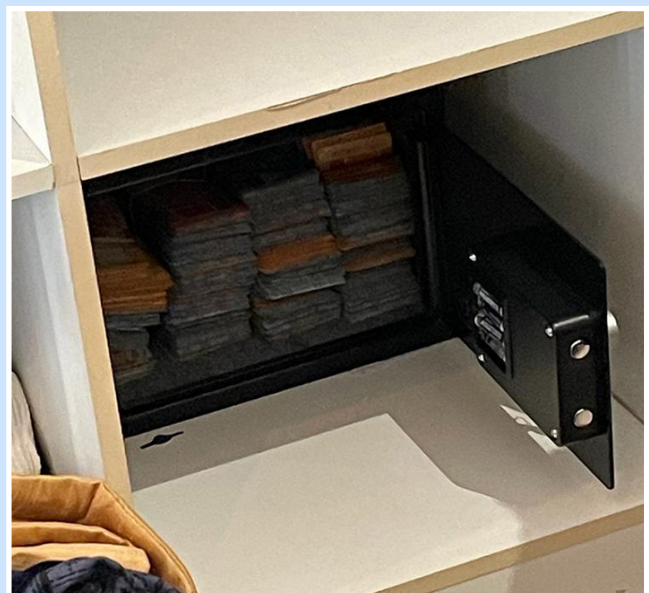
*“Fraud is transnational, there are no borders,”
said Detective Superintendent Michael Cryan of Ireland’s Garda National
Economic Crime Bureau, which participated in Operation Jackal.*



Operation Jackal mobilized 14 countries across four continents in a targeted strike against Black Axe and related West-African organized crime groups



In South Africa alone, the two suspects arrested were wanted for online scams that extracted USD 1.8 million from victims.



Various luxury assets were seized, including a residential property, three cars and tens of thousands in cash.

49 property searches were carried out during the operation around the world.



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The immense quantity of assets seized, including 12,000 SIM cards, have provided new investigative leads for law enforcement



The lavish lifestyles and greed of many suspects was on clear display

NO BORDERS

Operation Jackal comes on the heels of INTERPOL's [first-ever roundtable engagement event with the Financial Action Task Force \(FATF\)](#) in Singapore last month, where a new joint initiative to take action against illicit financial flows was launched between the organizations. Up to USD 2 trillion in illicit funds are laundered through the global financial system every year, according to the United Nations, and is estimated that less than 1% of these funds are intercepted and recovered. "Fraud is transnational, there are no borders," said Detective Superintendent Michael Cryan of Ireland's Garda National Economic Crime Bureau, which participated in Operation Jackal. "This is a great example of

what can be achieved when international police forces cooperate by sharing intelligence, information and evidence. By working together with support from INTERPOL, the activities of these criminal gangs can be greatly disrupted, making it safer online for everyone." Operation Jackal was conducted under the aegis of Project CEFIN, which targets cyber-enabled financial crimes and is funded by the Republic of Korea. The full list of participating countries in Operation Jackal are: Argentina, Australia, Côte d'Ivoire, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Malaysia, Nigeria, Spain, South Africa, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom and the United States. Countries involved:



[ARGENTINA](#)



[AUSTRALIA](#)



[CÔTE D'IVOIRE](#)



[FRANCE](#)



[GERMANY](#)



[IRELAND](#)



[ITALY](#)



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[UNITED STATES](#)



[KOREA \(Rep. of\)](#)

<https://www.interpol.int/en/News-and-Events/News/2022/International-crackdown-on-West-African-financial-crime-rings>

Crime Rate by various Countries in 2022

Rank	Country	Crime Index	2022 Population
1	Venezuela	83.76	28,301,696
2	Papua New Guinea	80.79	10,142,619
3	South Africa	76.86	59,893,885
4	Afghanistan	76.31	41,128,771
5	Honduras	74.54	10,432,860
6	Trinidad and Tobago	71.63	1,531,044
7	Guyana	68.74	808,726
8	El Salvador	67.79	6,336,392
9	Brazil	67.49	215,313,498
10	Jamaica	67.42	2,827,377
11	Syria	67.18	22,125,249
12	Peru	66.72	34,049,588
13	Angola	66.48	35,588,987
14	Cameroon	65.24	27,914,536
15	Namibia	65.21	2,567,012
16	Nigeria	64.06	218,541,212
17	Bangladesh	63.9	171,186,372
18	Argentina	63.82	45,510,318
19	Puerto Rico	62.84	3,252,407
20	Bahamas	62.06	409,984
21	Libya	61.78	6,812,341
22	Dominican Republic	61.02	11,228,821
23	Kenya	60.14	54,027,487
24	Belarus	59.58	9,534,954
25	Zimbabwe	59.3	16,320,537
26	Guatemala	58.67	17,843,908
27	Bolivia	57.77	12,224,110
28	Fiji	57.62	929,766
29	Malaysia	57.29	33,938,221
30	Colombia	56.87	51,874,024
31	Kyrgyzstan	56.87	6,630,623
32	Uganda	56.12	47,249,585
33	Somalia	56.04	17,597,511
34	Mongolia	56.01	3,398,366

Rank	Country	Crime Index	2022 Population
35	Tanzania	56	65,497,748
36	Maldives	55.34	523,787
37	Ecuador	55.23	18,001,000
38	Costa Rica	54.22	5,180,829
39	Mexico	54.19	127,504,125
40	Kazakhstan	53.77	19,397,998
41	Chile	53.42	19,603,733
42	Botswana	52.98	2,630,296
43	Algeria	52.03	44,903,225
44	France	51.99	64,626,628
45	Uruguay	51.73	3,422,794
46	Cambodia	51.13	16,767,842
47	Belize	50.39	405,272
48	Iran	49.38	88,550,570
49	Paraguay	49.37	6,780,744
50	Ethiopia	49.3	123,379,924
51	Mauritius	48.88	1,299,469
52	Morocco	48.66	37,457,971
53	Iraq	48.42	44,496,122
54	Sweden	48	10,549,347
55	Nicaragua	47.89	6,948,392
56	United States	47.81	338,289,857
57	Ukraine	47.42	39,701,739
58	Ghana	46.98	33,475,870
59	Egypt	46.83	110,990,103
60	Lebanon	46.77	5,489,739
61	Myanmar	46.51	54,179,306
62	Moldova	46.35	3,272,996
63	Vietnam	46.19	98,186,856
64	United Kingdom	46.07	67,508,936
65	Indonesia	45.93	275,501,339
66	Greece	45.85	10,384,971
67	Ireland	45.51	5,023,109
68	Panama	45.15	4,408,581
69	Italy	44.85	59,037,474

Rank	Country	Crime Index	2022 Population
70	Belgium	44.58	11,655,930
71	India	44.43	1,417,173,173
72	Palestine	43.74	5,250,072
73	Tunisia	43.69	12,356,117
74	Zambia	43.62	20,017,675
75	Australia	43.03	26,177,413
76	Bosnia and Herzegovina	42.99	3,233,526
77	New Zealand	42.88	5,185,288
78	Albania	42.53	2,842,321
79	Pakistan	42.51	235,824,862
80	Philippines	42.46	115,559,009
81	Sudan	42.34	46,874,204
82	Canada	41.89	38,454,327
83	Sri Lanka	41.39	21,832,143
84	Montenegro	41.18	627,082
85	Malta	40.39	533,286
86	Russia	39.99	144,713,314
87	Jordan	39.96	11,285,869
88	Turkey	39.62	85,341,241
89	Thailand	39.35	71,697,030
90	North Macedonia	39.12	2,093,599
91	Latvia	38.77	1,850,651
92	Bulgaria	38.21	6,781,953
93	Serbia	38.1	7,221,365
94	Nepal	36.01	30,547,580
95	Germany	35.79	83,369,843
96	Hungary	34.36	9,967,308
97	Luxembourg	34.13	647,599
98	Norway	33.72	5,434,319
99	Uzbekistan	33.42	34,627,652
100	Kuwait	33.42	4,268,873
101	Lithuania	33.42	2,750,055
102	Spain	33.32	47,558,630
103	Azerbaijan	32.02	10,358,074

Rank	Country	Crime Index	2022 Population
104	Israel	31.47	9,038,309
105	Cyprus	31.28	1,251,488
106	Poland	30.5	39,857,145
107	Slovakia	30.37	5,643,453
108	China	30.14	1,425,887,337
109	Portugal	29.91	10,270,865
110	Brunei	29	449,002
111	Cuba	28.33	11,212,191
112	Romania	28.3	19,659,267
113	Singapore	27.96	5,975,689
114	Finland	27.59	5,540,745
115	Netherlands	27.16	17,564,014
116	South Korea	26.68	51,815,810
117	Denmark	26.22	5,882,261
118	Bahrain	25.64	1,472,233
119	Austria	25.54	8,939,617
120	Czech Republic	25.52	10,493,986
121	Saudi Arabia	25.23	36,408,820
122	Rwanda	24.89	13,776,698
123	Croatia	24.59	4,030,358
124	Iceland	23.75	372,899
125	Estonia	23.71	1,326,062
126	Georgia	23.38	3,744,385
127	Armenia	22.79	2,780,469
128	Slovenia	22.28	2,119,844
129	Japan	22.19	123,951,692
130	Hong Kong	22	7,488,865
131	Switzerland	21.62	8,740,472
132	Oman	20.34	4,576,298
133	Isle of Man	19.25	84,519
134	Taiwan	15.46	23,893,394
135	United Arab Emirates	15.23	9,441,129
136	Qatar	12.13	2,695,122

Source: <https://worldpopulationreview.com/country-rankings/crime-rate-by-country>



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