

3RD PREVENTING AND COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM (P/CVE) COURSE

July 26, 2018



Algiers, 25 July 2018, The African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT) and the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) with support from the Governments of the Democratic Republic of Algeria and the Kingdom of Spain, organized the third training course on “Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism” in Algiers, Algeria from 15 to 25 July 2018. The first two courses were held at the KAIPTC in Accra, Ghana in August and December 2017.

2. The opening ceremony featured remarks by H.E. Demenongu. A. AGEV, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to the People’s Democratic Republic of Algeria; Ms. Ana. F. ALBURQUERQUE, Councilor in the Embassy of the Kingdom of Spain to the People’s Democratic Republic of Algeria; H.E. Larry GBEVLO-LARTEY (Esq.), AU Special Representative for Counter-Terrorism Cooperation/ Director ACSRT; and Dr. Kwesi ANING, Director of the Faculty of Academic Affairs and Research at the KAIPTC. H.E. Nana Kwasi ARHIN; Ambassador of the Republic of Ghana to the People’s Democratic Republic of Algeria, also attended the opening ceremony.

3. The main objective of the course was to review the response to violent extremism (VE) and terrorism in Africa by identifying the strengths and weaknesses of the current strategies and providing alternative approaches spanning from the planning, preparation, and implementation of these responses. Additionally, the course served as a platform for scrutinizing the current threat situation; sharing national, regional and international experiences; as well as fostering cooperation and harnessing consensus among participants on the common threat of violent extremism to African Union Member States (AUMS).

4. The participants comprised senior officers drawn from Law Enforcement Agencies, the Military, Intelligence Agencies and Civil Society Organizations of AU MS. The training combined presentations, discussions, and group work and was delivered by facilitators drawn from ACSRT and the KAIPTC. Issues covered include the nature of the state, cyber security, identity, demography, citizenship, transnational organized crime, counter insurgency, deradicalization, peacekeeping, media, and gender – particularly their respective relationships with violent extremism.

5. At the end of the course, participants were able to gain a common understanding of the factors leading to Radicalization, Violent Extremism and Terrorism. Additionally, participants’ capacities to appreciate the existing measures to address the problem, the existing weaknesses and alternative approaches that can be adopted to address such issues of on the African continent were enhanced.

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