In the third quarter of 2019, UNODC ROEA continued to upscale presence in Eritrea, signing a momentous document to this effect. In conjunction, existing projects continued to flourish, with particular

**UNODC SIGNS PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK WITH ERITREA**

UNODC ROEA signs momentous document with the State of Eritrea paving the way for further collaboration.

**AFRICAN REGIONAL HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON COUNTER TERRORISM**

Attended by the Secretary-General, UNODC assists in the facilitation of crucial Nairobi-based conference with specific regional relevance.

**KENYA’S PROSECUTION SERVICES STRENGTHENED THROUGH PLEAD**

UNODC’s landmark PLEAD project continues to help Kenya enhance its prosecutorial capacity.
Eritrea, Asmara - On 25 July 2019, UNODC and the Government of State of Eritrea momentously signed a Partnership Framework on further cooperation. The Signature was led by UNODC Director for Operations Ms. Miwa Kato, alongside Government of the State of Eritrea (GoSE) Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr. Osman Saleh and Eritrea Resident Coordinator Ms. Susan Namondo Ngongi. The document stands as the first partnership of this kind between the United Nations and Eritrea.

The Government of the State of Eritrea intends to partner with UNODC on three areas of interventions; Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, Administration of Justice and Combating Transnational Organized Crime and International Cooperation. These areas are set to pave the way to help Eritrea realize Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16 which aims to expand access to justice for all and build effective and accountable institutions at all levels. The furtherance of SDG 16 will also help Eritrea in their pursuit to achieve other SDGs such as Goal 10, aiming to reduce global inequalities, and Goal 8 targeted at promoting sustainable and inclusive economic growth.

UNODC continues to develop an extensive knowledge of the drugs and crime situation in the region, advancing cooperation links with relevant national authorities and partner organizations.
"For terrorism to be defeated, it is essential that African counter-terrorism is holistic, well-funded, underpinned by respect for human rights, and most importantly backed by strong political will.” – Secretary-General Antonio Guterres

African Regional High-Level Conference on Counter-Terrorism

Nairobi, 11 July 2019 - The largest ever meeting of African states to determine collective solutions in support of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy concluded in Nairobi.

The two-day African Regional High-Level Conference on Counter-Terrorism and the Prevention of Violent Extremism Conducive to Terrorism was officially opened by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres and His Excellency the President of Kenya Uhuru Kenyatta. More than 1,400 delegates from Member States, regional and international organizations, and civil society participated in the conference hosted by the Government of the Kenya and the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT), with UNODC among the supporting partners. The conference outcomes include a commitment to build new and strengthened partnerships, both between African states, and between Africa states and the rest of the international community, including the United Nations.

“I deeply believe that African peace-enforcing and counter-terrorism operations must have strong and clear mandates by the UN Security Council backed by sufficient, predictable and sustainable financial support, namely through assessed contributions.” President Kenyatta stated that Kenya had established anti-terrorism county action plans to reduce threats to the country and called on African states to enhance both their internal capacities to deal with terrorism as well as their preparedness to attend to cross-border threats. UNODC held four well-attended side events that attracted constructive debate and information sharing on the links between terrorism and transnational organised crime, gender dimensions to criminal justice responses to terrorism, a database to use evaluation results of preventing violent extremism (PVE) initiatives and children associated with terrorism and violent extremist groups (more information available on website).
Partners unite to strengthen Kenya's prosecution services through PLEAD

Naivasha, 26 August 2019 - International and national experts in prosecution, legal innovation and research shared their experiences and best practices at a Strategic Planning Conference for the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP). Focused on developing a new Strategic Plan for Kenya's national prosecuting authority, the conference was supported by the European Union and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) through the Programme for Legal Empowerment and Aid Delivery in Kenya (PLEAD). Speaking today at the opening, the Director of Public Prosecutions, Mr Noordin Haji, said that ODPP must do things differently to succeed in delivering its mandate in a progressively complex criminal justice environment. PLEAD is a KES 4.2 billion (EUR 34.15 million) partnership funded by the European Union that is improving the delivery of justice services and use of alternatives to imprisonment in Kenya. Through PLEAD, UNODC is providing technical assistance to five criminal justice institutions to strengthen the administration of justice - the National Council on the Administration of Justice, the Judiciary, Probation and Aftercare Service, Witness Protection Agency and the ODPP. "The ODPP has grown, decentralized and continues to take great strides towards strengthening prosecutorial services," the UNODC Deputy Regional Representative for Eastern Africa, Ms Sylvie Bertrand, told the 120 delegates. "UNODC welcomes ODPP’s intensified focus on stamping out corruption because the delivery of justice will remain a high-profile issue in this country for as long as corruption continues to capture public sentiment." 