From 16 to 22 July 2019, 9 AIRCOP Joint Airport Interdiction Task Forces (JAITFs) took part in the 4th edition of the INTERPOL-led joint operation ADWENPA, funded by Germany. This operation aimed at strengthening border controls in West Africa. During the operation, the JAITFs of Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Senegal and Togo intercepted illicit goods and high-risk passengers including: in Lomé a female passenger wanted by INTERPOL (red notice) and a passenger from Côte d’Ivoire on his way to Mali with fraudulent passports; in Lagos, 3 kg of methamphetamine in a parcel going to the United Kingdom; in Cotonou, 2.3 kg of cocaine concealed in the luggage of a female passenger travelling from Ethiopia to Brazil.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO JOINING THE AIRCOP NETWORK

From 9 to 15 July 2019, AIRCOP coordinator for the Caribbean met with the Minister of National Security for Trinidad and Tobago to discuss further collaboration between the Government and UNODC with regards to border management. As a new beneficiary country, Trinidad and Tobago has recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with AIRCOP for the establishment of a JAITF at Piarco International Airport. So far, AIRCOP has contributed to the fight against transnational organized crime in Latin America and the Caribbean by operationalizing 9 JAITFs while work is ongoing with 5 additional JAITFs under establishment. In 2018, in Latin America and the Caribbean, the strengthened capacity of law enforcement has led to the interception of 1.2 tons of cannabis, USD 341,000 in undeclared cash, 2.9 tons of cocaine, 1 individual wanted by FBI/INTERPOL, as well as heroin, methamphetamine, falsified medicine and fraudulent documents.

UN CT TRAVEL PROGRAMME—IMPLEMENTATION OF AN API/PNR SYSTEM IN TOGO

From 24 to 26 July 2019, an assessment mission was organized for the future implementation of an Advance Passenger Information (API) and Passenger Name Record (PNR) system in Togo. This mission took place in the framework of the “All of UN” CT travel programme (launched in April 2019), with participation of representatives of UNODC/AIRCOP, UNODC/TPB, UNOCT, CTED, ICAO and INTERPOL. Togo was the first African country to receive such a joint mission.

Key seizures

Date: 4 July 2019
Place: Niamey, Niger
Seizure: 182 kg of khat
Route: Ethiopia - Niger
Transportation: Cargo

Date: 8 July 2019
Place: Accra, Ghana
Seizure: 5 kg of heroin
Route: South Africa - Ghana
Concealment: Luggage

Date: 16 August 2019
Place: Yaoundé, Cameroon
Seizure: 100 pellets of cocaine (1.5 kg)
Route: Nigeria - Ethiopia - Cameroon
Concealment: Ingested

Date: 26 July 2019
Place: Lima, Peru
Seizure: 10 kg of cocaine
Route: Peru - Panama
Concealment: Edible products