AIRCOP HOLD ITS 16TH GLOBAL STEERING COMMITTEE

The 16th meeting of the Project Steering Committee (PSC) of AIRCOP was held by videoconference on 22 April 2021. The PSC brought together representatives from UNODC, INTERPOL, WCO and the European Union (both HQ and Delegations). During the three-hour session, AIRCOP progress, achievements and new priorities were discussed. Ongoing expansion in Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean and South-Eastern Europe, as well as new expressions of interest received from Member States were also presented. The Representative of the EU expressed once again the satisfaction of the EU with the concrete results and impact which AIRCOP is having, as well as the cooperation spirit demonstrated by joint activities with other UNODC projects as well as with other regional and international organisations.

AIRCOP ORGANIZES ANNUAL REGIONAL MEETING FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

On 29 April, almost 200 participants from the AIRCOP Task Forces from Latin America and the Caribbean, officials of associate countries, representatives from the European Union and Canada, partners from UNODC as well as collaborators from CARICOM IMPACS, the Canadian Border Service Agency and UK Border Force, participated in the AIRCOP Annual Regional Meeting. Participants shared experiences and best practices in combating organized crime by air and identifying challenges faced.

AIRCOP MEETS ETIOPHIAN AUTHORITIES TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION

From 26 to 30 April, AIRCOP coordinators for Africa and Eastern Africa discussed with national and international counterparts in Ethiopia the operationalization of a Joint Airport Interdiction Task Force at Bole Airport in Addis Ababa. In-depth meetings were held with the Ministry of Peace, Federal Police, National Intelligence Security Service, Immigration, Customs, Airport Authority, Ethiopian Airlines and the EU. Further internal discussions, coordinated by the Ministry of Peace, will be conducted to assign roles and responsibilities in the future JAIF. AIRCOP thanks its partners for the excellent exchanges and looks forward to future engagement.

KEY SEIZURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Seizure</th>
<th>Further information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27 March</td>
<td>Niamey</td>
<td>1.37 kg of methamphetamine</td>
<td>Hidden in painting’s frames, in a parcel, on bound for Qatar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 April</td>
<td>Cotonou</td>
<td>450 pairs of dried shark fins</td>
<td>Hold luggage of a Nigerian Courier, from Mauritania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 March</td>
<td>Abuja</td>
<td>2 kg of heroin</td>
<td>Hold luggage of a Nigerian Courier, on bound for Italy (Ethiopian Airlines)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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OSCE SHARES ITS EXPERIENCE AND GOOD PRACTICES ON GENDER MAINSTREAMING

Ms. Inesa Nicolaescu, Associate Border Security Officer at the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) participated in the AIRCOP Weekly Update on 27 April to discuss initiatives related to promoting gender equality in border security. The OSCE Gender Equality Platform, the Online Training on Gender Mainstreaming in Border Security, and the Brochure “Gender Made Easy” are some of the inspiring tools developed by OSCE. AIRCOP is learning from OSCE’s experience and is currently developing its own tools.

SAVE THE DATE!

“From Take Off to Landing: Providing Assistance to set up a Passenger Information Unit under the UN CTTP’s operational pillar.”
Join the side event organized by the CT travel programme and AIRCOP on 20 May, at 1 pm Vienna time!

AIRCOP LAUNCHES TRAINING CYCLE FOR AIRCOP / CCP INTERAGENCY GROUP IN BELGRADE

As part of the establishment of an AIRCOP/CCP interagency group, AIRCOP organised and delivered a virtual two-day workshop on World of Drugs 1 - Cocaine to 13 officers from the Customs Administration and the Ministry of Interior / Border Police Directorate of Serbia. By enhancing the knowledge on the cocaine threat, the workshop is an integral part of the comprehensive training curriculum developed for the region.

AIRCOP also receives financial contributions from Australia, Canada, France, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

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