REGIONAL COOPERATION AND RESUMPTION OF FACE-TO-FACE TRAINING

From 14 to 19 February, an on-site AIRCOP mentoring on Risk analysis and targeting was delivered by a Malian WCO-accredited expert for the benefit of the Joint Airport Interdiction Task Force (JAITF) of Abidjan. This training was also attended by officers from the JAITFs of Bamako and Ouagadougou, to promote South-South cooperation and exchanges of best practices. The following week, a CRIMJUST-AIRCOP joint training was conducted on Ethics and Integrity challenges in law enforcement agencies for the JAITF of Abidjan. Drug detection equipment was handed over to the JAITF by the AIRCOP Team at the end of the training.

AIRCOP RAISES AWARENESS ON FUTURE COOPERATION

During a training on Border Security and Traveler Identification Systems in the Aviation Domain organized by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) which took place from 22 to 24 February in Ethiopia, the AIRCOP Sub-Regional Coordinator presented AIRCOP and its implementation at Bole International Airport. The audience, composed of senior officers from national intelligence, immigration, airport security, civil aviation and Ethiopian Airlines officials, stressed the importance of AIRCOP implementation for the country.

ONLINE TRAINING COURSE ON CT TRAVEL PROGRAMME

The CT Travel Programme (CTTP) delivered an online training course for focal points in The Gambia on countering terrorist travel using travel information including Advance Passenger Information (API) and Passenger Name Record (PNR). The five-day training covered threat assessment, international legal framework, operationalization of a Passenger Information Unit, state carrier engagement, goTravel software and international cooperation. AIRCOP is leading CTTP’s second pillar (operational). Following the deep-dive assessment mission (in October 2020), the Gambia has now initiated implementation of an API and PNR system in the country.

KEY SEIZURES

Date: 6 February
Place: Douala
Seizure: 4.2 kg of cocaine
Further information:
Hold luggage, hidden in blankets, from Sao Paulo via Addis Ababa to Douala

Date: 13 February
Place: Cotonou
Seizure: 5.7 kg of heroine
Further information:
Hold luggage of 2 Nigerian Couriers, with Italian residency permit

Date: 1 January
Place: Kingston
Seizure: 611 kg of cocaine
Further information:
Concealed in the interior structure of a passenger car

Date: 26 January
Place: Lima
Seizure: 258.8 kg of cannabis
Further information:
Seized from a fuel truck directly on the airport tarmac

WEBINARS TO STRENGTHEN THE CAPACITIES OF FRONTLINE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

AIRCOP launched a virtual training workshop on Pre and Frontline Identification of Suspicious Passengers at Iraqi international airports. The virtual training, delivered to seventy participants, started in mid-February and will run to the end of March 2021. Delivered by AIRCOP, INTERPOL as well as Dutch & Brazilian experts, its aim is to reinforce frontline law enforcements officers’ capacities to identify and detect suspicious passengers through risk assessment and behavioral detection. Participants come from different agencies operating at Iraqi airports in order to facilitate inter-agency cooperation and exchange of information at the national level.

ANNUAL TASK FORCES SUMMIT

From 3 to 5 February, AIRCOP task forces in Jamaica (Kingston and Montego Bay) organized their annual summit on Preserving our Border Security Culture, Embracing the New Norm, with support from AIRCOP and the Jamaican Ministry of National Security. Topics covered included the review of results achieved in 2020 and targets for 2021, staff welfare and the legislative framework regarding PNR, and the potential for AIRCOP units to access these data.