

UNODC AND NORTH MACEDONIA JOIN FORCES TO ENHANCE BORDER CONTROL



The government of North Macedonia and AIRCOP (in coordination with the Container Control Programme) formally agreed to pursue cooperation in the area of border control by signing a joint Letter of Agreement (LoA) and committing to the establishment of a nationally owned airport inter-agency group, that will consist of a CCP Air Cargo Control Unit (ACCU) and an AIRCOP task force focusing on passengers at Skopje, International Airport. The LoA was signed by Mr Oliver Spasovski, the Minister of Interior of North Macedonia and Mr John Brandolino, Director of the Division for Treaty Affairs of UNODC. During the ceremony, signatories underlined the importance of the fight against cross-border movements of illicit goods and organized crime. Learn more [here](#).

AIRCOP PRESENTS ITS ADDED VALUE FOR BORDER CONTROL IN KENYA

AIRCOP and CCP coordinators for Eastern Africa delivered a joint presentation to senior officers from different law enforcement agencies in Kenya. Through this presentation, benefits of AIRCOP and CCP were underlined, in particular in terms of proactive targeting, inclusion within global communication and exchange networks as well as sharing of information. A follow-up meeting has been organized to further discuss and answer questions of border control experts on AIRCOP and CCP implementation.



ONLINE TRAINING COURSE ON THE DETECTION OF TERRORISTS AND THEIR TRAVEL MOVEMENTS : SIERRA LEONE



The [CT Travel Programme](#) (CTTP) delivered an online training course for focal points in Sierra Leone 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). The training course was preceded by a pre-training and a deep-dive assessment mission from 14 to 18 September 2020. The aim is for Sierra Leone to initiate the implementation of the API and PNR system in the country.

KEY SEIZURES



Date: 8 January
Place: Cotonou
Seizure: 14 kg of cocaine
Further information:
Abandoned luggage, from Sao Paolo, via Addis Ababa.



Date: 11 January
Place: Kingston
Seizure: 6.4 kg of cannabis
Further information:
Bound to Antigua and Barbuda.



Date: 1 January
Place: Douala
Seizure: 4.2 kg of cocaine
Further information:
Concealed in thermos, from Sao Paolo via Addis Ababa to Lagos.



Date: 8 January
Place: Cotonou
Seizure: 9 kgs of meth
Further information:
Hold luggage bound to Brussels (with Brussels Airlines).



FOCUS : INVESTIGATIVE DRUG CASE FORUM IN ACCRA, GHANA

On 27 and 28 January, five AIRCOP JAIFs (Abuja, Accra, Cotonou, Lagos, Lomé) participated in the CRIMJUST-AIRCOP Investigative Case Forum held in Accra, on the growing use of Cotonou's airport as a major transit point for drug trafficking (cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine) towards Europe. In addition, the Forum gathered investigators and prosecutors from Benin, Ethiopia, Ghana, Nigeria and Togo, police liaison officers from Italy and France, and magistrates from Belgium and France. During the forum, a total of 61 drug seizure cases were discussed and analysed including 16 inbound and 45 outbound from Cotonou Airport. CRIMJUST and AIRCOP officials provided African authorities with technical and strategic guidance, enabling affected authorities to identify common issues and solutions. A second Inter-Regional Investigative Case Forum, to take place online, has been scheduled for 9 February 2021 to update counterparts on respective investigations and provide additional assistance to the law enforcement and prosecution authorities of Benin.

