AIRCOP ON MISSION IN BENIN DURING A TRAINING FOR THE NEW OFFICERS OF THE TASK FORCE

From 24 to 28 May, AIRCOP delivered a first week of specialized on site mentoring for the JAITF of Benin on combating drug smuggling by air. It was led by a Senegalese Customs Officer and UNODC Expert with extensive experience in the field of drug enforcement. Prior to this on-site training, a virtual introduction on these topics took place at the beginning of May on the UNODC GoLearn Platform. This training will be followed by a week of practical exercises to ensure the application of skills. AIRCOP took the opportunity of being in Cotonou to meet national partners and discuss the excellent results of the Task Force as Benin emerges as a strategic transit hub.

AIRCOP’S EXPLORATION MISSION TO MONTENEGRO

During a four-day exploration mission to Montenegro, UNODC officers and the AIRCOP Regional Coordinator met with the national authorities and the EU delegation to discuss regional and international cooperation. Representatives from Customs Administrations, State Secretariat, Ministry of Interior, Border Police and Ministry of Foreign Affairs were present. This mission represents an important step to extend the fight against organized crime and threats targeting airports in the region.

SIDE EVENT BY AIRCOP AND UN OFFICE OF COUNTER TERRORISM

On 20 May, AIRCOP in partnership with UNOCT co-organized the virtual side event “From take-off to landing: providing assistance to set up a Passenger Information Unit (PIU) under the UN Countering Terrorist Travel Program’s (CTTP) Operational Pillar” on the margins of the 30th Session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. The event brought forward insights and lessons learnt from CTTP’s operational pillar, led by AIRCOP, in Azerbaijan, The Gambia and Togo, and shed light on the critical role that CTTP is playing in supporting Member States in the establishment of national PIUs to detect and prevent terrorism as well as serious crimes.

KEY SEIZURES

Between 10 and 14 May, AIRCOP participated in a mission organized by the Container Control Programme (CCP) to Kampala and Entebbe in Uganda. The Subregional Coordinator discussed with relevant agencies at Entebbe International Airport (Customs, Immigration, Police and Aviation Security) as well as INTERPOL NCB and wildlife authority at their headquarters. All representatives suggested that AIRCOP expertise be brought into the future CCP unit to build a joint unit in charge of air cargo and passengers. AIRCOP is looking forward to follow-up discussions for the establishment of that unit.

AIRCOP PRESENTS ITS PROJECT TO UGANDAN AUTHORITIES

AIRCOP HOLD MEETING WITH PERU TO PLAN FUTURE RECORDINGS OF “ALTO FRONTERA” EPISODES

On 19 May, AIRCOP held a meeting with the Ambassador Betancourt of the National Commission for Development and Life without Drugs (DEVIDA), the antinarcotics police (DIRANDRO), the Ministry of Interior Communications Office, and the TV producer OMAMWA to plan future recordings of the work done by the AIRCOP Task Force at Jorge Chavez Airport. More than fifteen episodes have already been released by the A&N Channel and aired with international reach, showcasing the work of the JAITFs of Argentina and Bolivia.