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## WACAP Newsletter #6, Jan - Apr 2017



**WACAP**  
West African Network of Central Authorities  
and Prosecutors against Organized Crime

In this newsletter:

- Train the Trainer course in Cape Verde
- Upcoming events
- News on International Cooperation
- Interview of WACAP's focal points: Guinea
- WACAP's newcomers !

### **Train the Trainer course in Mindelo, Cape Verde, 6-16 February 2017**

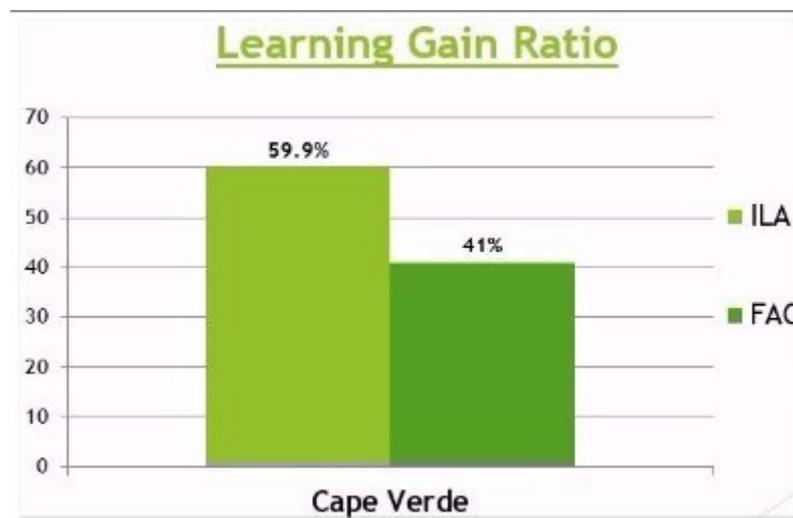
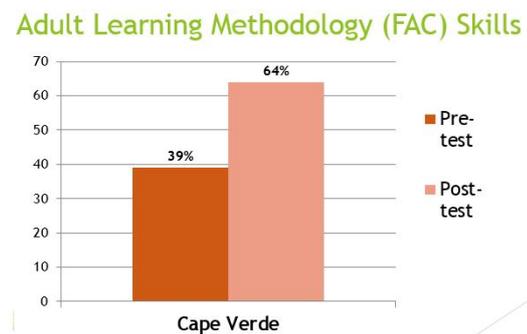
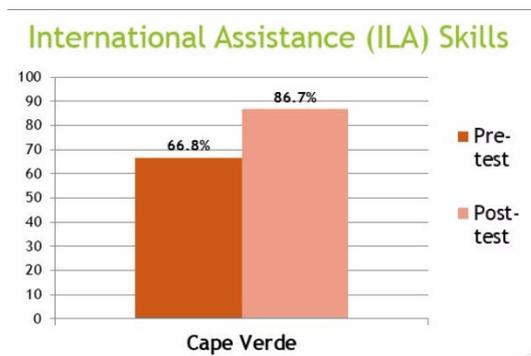


On 6-16 February 2017, 21 participants from Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau and the ECOWAS commission participated in the WACAP train the trainer course on adult teaching methodology and the law and procedure of international assistance in criminal matters. Week one was devoted to adult learning methodologies and training skills (FAC

skills). Week two was devoted to the law and procedure of international legal assistance (ILA skills) in criminal cases and use of the UNODC Mutual Legal Assistance Request Writer tool.

Participants found the exchange of experiences and best practices with other people working in the field very useful. Attendees also emphasized how valuable it was to learn the importance of communication and cooperation in combating organized crime. They found particularly enlightening the courses on how to be an efficient trainer and how to convey the right messages about international judicial assistance.

As usual, knowledge and participation were evaluated through pre-and post-tests and a co-facilitating session on an assigned topic for each of the participant. See below the progresses of the class:



Trainers who benefited from the TOT organized their transference of knowledge on international cooperation in their respective countries. A total of 10 transference trainings were held in The Gambia, Niger, Mali, Senegal, Guinea, Nigeria, Liberia, Ghana, Cape Verde and Togo between July 2016 and the beginning of May 2017. National practitioners were very pleased to be taught by their peers on international judicial cooperation and be familiarized with new cooperation tools such as the Mutual Legal Assistance Request Writer tool.

## Upcoming events



### **Train the Trainer course:**

Mauritania will hold its ToT on 5-16 June 2017 in Nouakchott.

### **Remaining transference trainings:**

Sierra Leone, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Benin and Guinea Bissau will have their train the trainer courses before the end of July 2017.

### **CRIMJUST-WACAP event:**

The CRIMJUST Project - Strengthening criminal investigation and criminal justice cooperation along the cocaine route in Latin America, the Caribbean and West Africa - and the WACAP are jointly organizing a **training on International Cooperation and effective investigation/prosecution of Organized Crime and Drug Trafficking Cases for officials of Ghana and Nigeria on 18 – 20 July 2017 in Lagos**. The present course is tailored to those involved in criminal justice system and international legal cooperation with a specific experience in handling organized crime and drug trafficking cases. It aims at improving the technical skills regarding sharing of information and successful mutual legal assistance requests enabling efficient investigation and prosecution. The main target groups include criminal justice practitioners, such as prosecutors and judges and law enforcement officials.

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## News on International Cooperation

**Ratification of Judicial Cooperation Agreement between Chad, Mali and Niger:** On 9 May 2017, Chad, Mali and Niger, facing strong threats such as terrorism attacks, drug trafficking and smuggling of migrants issues, ratified a Judicial Cooperation Agreement. This agreement allows states to better cooperate on tackling transnational organized crime and strengthening border control. Mr. Amadou Morou, WACAP focal point of Niger, notably participated in the negotiations and the drafting of the convention. According to him, "this text provides for better cooperation, better access to justice, and encourages the use of joint investigations and transfer of proceedings in criminal matters". The agreement should also foster informal cooperation, by allowing prosecutors to work on advanced copies of requests in order to accelerate processes. Mr. Morou added that this convention was encouraging countries "to consult central authorities in order to facilitate the handling of incoming and outgoing mutual legal assistance requests". According to him, good practices promoted by the Sahel Platform and the WACAP largely inspired the drafting of the convention. See more [here](#).

**Senegal-Gambia:** Senegalese authorities have surrendered Lt. Gen. Bora Colley to the Gambian authorities, the first victory for the Barrow administration's attempt to have those wanted for human rights abuses extradited in the Gambia to face trial. The administration invoked international criminal repatriation cooperation processes regarding wanted former officials who are of the jurisdiction, including a former interior minister, Ousman Sonko. General Colley has been processed to be handed over to Gambian authorities. He was intercepted by Senegalese security forces while attempting to cross into Guinea-Bissau after former President Yahya Jammeh was forced to flee the country. Colley was the head of a paramilitary hit squad that carried out covert operations for Jammeh. The squad is accused of human rights abuses, especially targeted killings and tortures. See more [here](#).

**Senegal:** Senegalese authorities have arrested two suspected foreign jihadists (one Malian and one Mauritanian) in Dakar. One of them had been in contact with the mastermind of the attack on the hotel in Grand Bassam, Cote d'Ivoire on March 13, 2016. See more [here](#).

**Niger:** Following on the "stolen babies" case that came to light five years ago, judges from Niger sentenced Mr. Hama Amadou to one year in jail. This case, involving Nigeria, Benin and Niger, implicated no less than 20 high personalities, among them bankers, businessmen, one army officer, and their wives. See more [here](#).

**Guinea:** On 12 March 2017, Senegal extradited Mr. Aboubacar Sidiki Diakité aka "Toumba" to Guinea where he is being prosecuted for murder, rape, armed robbery, looting, assault and battery, torture, among other 15 counts. See more [here](#).

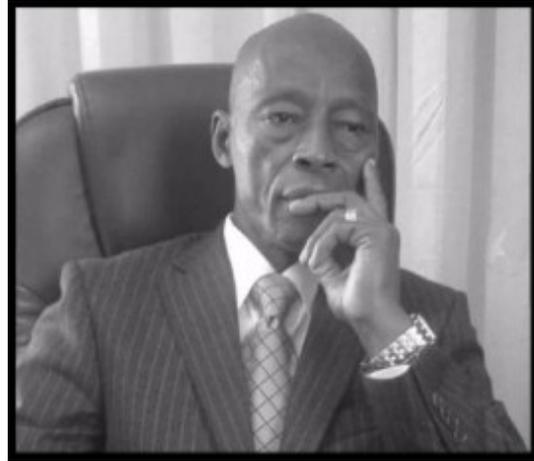
**UNODC:** UNODC presented in January its new plan to fight organized crime in West Africa. With an envelope of 90 billion CFA for 2016-2020, the office of Dakar will combat drug trafficking, terrorism, corruption, money laundering, smuggling of migrants and human trafficking, among other issues that threaten peace and stability of the region. See more [here](#).

If you wish to contribute and share your stories on the WACAP Newsletter, please contact us to [wacap@unodc.org](mailto:wacap@unodc.org).

## Interview of WACAP's focal points: GUINEA



*Mr. Mamadouba Keita, Director for  
Criminal Affairs and Pardons*



*Mr. Ndiaye Sidy Souleymane, Dixinn  
Prosecutor*

As Guinea's focal points, we regularly attend judicial cooperation training developed by the UNODC for the WACAP. After the acquisition of new skills and knowledge on adult learning methodology, we organized the transference training for Guinean magistrates and law enforcement officers in March 2017.

We use the WACAP's network in order to facilitate inter-regional cooperation on transnational cases. In particular, over the past two years, we used direct contacts with our counterparts in Senegal and in Burkina Faso.

Regarding the Bawala Diallo case for instance, an extradition request has been sent to Senegalese authorities in July 2014 and we have received a response two months later (the extradition was denied because Guinea hasn't abolished the death penalty).

In 2009, a rogatory commission has been sent to Burkina's judicial authorities requesting the hearing of Mr. Moussa Dadis Camara on a crime against humanity case. Unfortunately, the request was rejected and the pool of judges had to travel to Ouagadougou to perform the hearing. However, the two countries collaborated closely during the trial.

On the Commandant Aboubacar Diakite alias "Toumba" case, judicial authorities from Senegal and Guinea cooperated in order to issue an international arrest warrant that led to Toumba's arrest by Senegalese authorities in 2016. He could then be extradited to Conakry on 12 March 2017. It is a successful example of cooperation between WACAP's member countries.

We encourage all focal points to participate to WACAP's growth and increased impact on regional judicial cooperation.

## WACAP's newcomers !

WACAP Team is happy to welcome 4 new focal points:

**Burkina Faso** : Mr. Abasse Nombre, Magistrate

**Ivory Coast** : Mr. Souleymane Kone, Deputy Prosecutor

**Guinea-Bissau** : Mr. Mamadu Embalo, Judge

**Mauritania** : Mr. Mohamed Bouya Nayi, Director of the Terrorism Department,  
within the Department of Studies, Legislation and Cooperation

*To obtain their contact details, please send a message to [wacap@unodc.org](mailto:wacap@unodc.org)*



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