



AFRICA

Center for Strategic Studies - Newsletter

Senior African and American Officials Discuss Global Concerns at Inaugural African Executive Dialogue

Twenty-one senior government officials representing nine African countries, the African Union, and the United States discussed pressing global concerns on Nov. 9, the first day of the Africa Center for Strategic Studies' (ACSS) inaugural African Executive Dialogue.

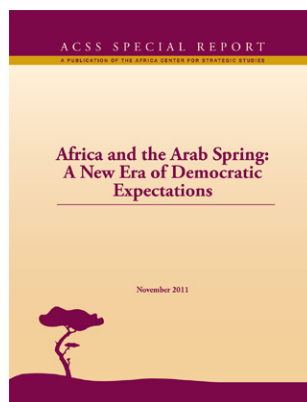
The high-level meeting's participants found that water scarcity, climate change, and unstable food supplies in Africa are security issues that could derail democratic and economic advances being made on the continent. They tackled other major international issues on the second day including booming population growth and how governments could best respond to complex emergencies.

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Catalyst of Reform: The Arab Spring in Africa

North Africa's dramatic repudiation of autocratic rulers during 2011's Arab Spring is adding new vitality to Sub-Saharan Africa's governance landscape, a report from a working group of experts convened by the Africa Center for Strategic Studies (ACSS) has found.

The November 2011 report, *Africa and the Arab Spring: A New Era of Democratic Expectations*, is the first volume of the Africa Center's new Special Report series. During an ACSS roundtable at the National Defense University on November 16, three coauthors of the report presented their findings and responded to questions from an audience of 120.



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ACSS Director William M. Bellamy poses for group photo with Inaugural African Executive Dialogue participants

Military and Civilian Leaders Join ACSS for Seminar on Managing Security Resources



Group photo of Managing Security Resources in Africa participants

Resource scarcity during bleak economic times is the best opportunity for countries to become more efficient at conducting the business of government, the head of the Africa Center for Strategic Studies (ACSS) said during opening remarks for the organization's annual Managing Security Resources in Africa Seminar.

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Developing National Security Strategy/ Security Sector Reform in Guinea

After several decades of authoritarian rule, the Republic of Guinea has been undergoing an intense period of political openness and economic and social transformation since Professor Alpha Condé's election to president. Central to this process of political recomposition are the struggles aimed at combating and reversing the country's past and the construction of a democratic future.



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Africa Center Releases New Brief on Alternative Dispute Resolution in Africa



Low-level disputes in Africa can spiral into violence and conflict due to the lack of effective judicial systems that can provide a credible and timely process for resolving differences. Alternative Dispute Resolution techniques can strengthen dispute settlement systems and bridge the gap between formal legal systems and traditional modes of African justice. They may have particular value in stabilization and statebuilding efforts when judicial institutions are weak and social tensions are high.

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ACSS Joins Government of Senegal for Regional Security Conference in Dakar

Senegal's Chief of Defense, Abdoulaye Fall, and the Government of Senegal invited the Africa Center for Strategic Studies (ACSS) to be part of a November 2011 conference in Dakar that addressed cross-border threats in West Africa.



More than 80 high-ranking civilian and military officials, including army chiefs of staff and ambassadors to Senegal from member nations of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), heard presentations and discussed regional security. They talked about problems shared by countries of the region, including drug trafficking, cross-border organized crime, the flow of small arms, and terrorism.

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ACSS Congratulates Veteran Staff Members on Promotions

The Africa Center is pleased to announce that Kareem Oweiss has been appointed the new Director of Operations of the organization. In this capacity, he manages and develops policy and overall guidelines affecting operational functions for ACSS.



Kareem Oweiss and Claude Toze

The Africa Center is also pleased to welcome Claude Toze as the new Regional Operations Program Specialist at the ACSS Regional Office for West Africa in Senegal. In this position, Claude will provide management support and coordinate ACSS activities throughout the sub-region.

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ACSS Community News



Burkina Faso

Major **Saidou Sanou** has recently been promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

In addition, Lieutenant Colonel Sanou recently received his Masters degree in Management and Human Resources. Lieutenant Colonel Sanou participated in the 2010 Next Generation of African Military Leaders Course.

Professor **Albert Ouédraogo** has been named the Minister of Secondary and Higher Level Education in Burkina Faso. Prior to this position, Minister Ouédraogo served as the Vice President of the University of Ouagadougou. Minister Ouédraogo participated in the 2010 United States Africa Command Academic Symposium.



Chad

Lieutenant Colonel **Mahamat Brahim** has completed his Masters in Strategy, Defense, Security, and Disaster Management from the University of Yaoundé II in Cameroon. In addition, he was named the Chief of the Central African Multinational Force (FOMAC/ MICOPAX1) Operational Unit in Bangui, Central African Republic. Lieutenant Colonel Brahim participated in the 2007 Next Generation of African Military Leaders Course and is very active in the Chad ACSS Community Chapter.



Ghana

Mr. Michael Kwasi Offei, Director of Administration in the Policy, Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation Department, Ministry of Defence, has been busy travelling throughout Ghana as part of a team of officials and consultants supporting the Institute of Local Government Studies in training Sub Metro, Municipal, District Councilors in governance issues. Mr. Offei participated in the 2010 Senior Leaders Seminar and is part of the Ghana Chapter.



Mali

Ambassador **Boubacar Gouro Diall**, formerly the Director of Judicial Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, will take the post of Ambassador of Mali to Ethiopia. Ambassador Diall participated at the 2006 Senior Leaders Seminar and spoke at the ACSS Mali Chapter Topical Symposium in April.



Mauritius

Assistant Superintendent of Police **Chandan Ramanand Ramkeelawon** obtained his degree in Legal Studies and Management from the University of Mauritius in October. He is currently the Station Commander of the Police in the Metropolitan South Division of Port Louis. He also participated in the 2006 Next Generation of African Military Leaders Course and is a member of the Mauritius Chapter.



Morocco

Colonel Major **Ahmed Lemkhir**, the current Attaché of the Royal Gendarmerie to the Embassy of Morocco in Madrid, Spain, is currently pursuing studies at the French National Institute of Security and Justice. Colonel Major Lemkhir participated in the 2010 Senior Leaders Seminar.

Upcoming Events

- **AFRICOM Advanced Area Studies**
Stuttgart, Germany — January 2012
- **Preventing Terrorism Workshop**
East Africa — January 2012
- **Transnational Threats: Illicit Commons**
Washington, D.C. — February 2012

Please contact our [Registrar's Office](#) should you have a question about a particular program.



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