



AFRICA CENTER FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES

AFRICAN PARLIAMENTARIAN SECURITY SECTOR FORUM

INFORMATION NOTE

WHAT: The Africa Center for Strategic Studies will conduct a five-day forum for African parliamentarians on the role of legislators in the national security process. This workshop will help give members of parliament enhanced tools and understanding to engage with executive branch colleagues and carry out their oversight and legislative duties.

WHERE: Washington, D.C.

WHEN: March 25-29, 2019

WHO: African parliamentarians will be invited from the following countries: Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Liberia, Nigeria, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Tunisia, Uganda, and Zambia.

Each country is invited to nominate three representatives with responsibilities in leadership, budgeting, national security, defense, intelligence, interior or internal security, or foreign affairs; countries are asked to include at least one female member of the delegation. Leadership or membership on relevant committees is a requirement. Nominees may not all be members of the same political party except under extraordinary circumstances. Officials from the Departments of Defense and State, and USAID, as well as members of Congress or their staffs will be invited as observers or speakers.

WHY: Legislators can serve as an important bridge between security services and citizens and can play key roles in overseeing security policy. This workshop will provide a forum for participants to consider the African security environment and to hone their understanding of responsibilities and opportunities for engagement in the national security process.

HOW: Through peer discussions and discourse with practitioners and experts, participants will examine current security trends; analyze the budget process; and discuss the legislative role within the security arena. Real world challenges will be examined through discussion and simulation. The workshop will be conducted in English and French, and under a strict policy of non-attribution.