



AFRICA CENTER FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES

EMERGING SECURITY SECTOR LEADERS SEMINAR

INFORMATION NOTE

- WHAT:** In its ongoing efforts to help prepare the next generation of public servants to cope with the unprecedented security challenges that the African continent faces, the Africa Center for Strategic Studies will conduct a three-week program for mid-level African security sector professionals who are emerging leaders within their fields. With an emphasis on peer to peer exchanges, this flagship seminar embodies the Africa Center's mission to advance African security by expanding understanding, providing a trusted platform for dialogue, building enduring partnerships, and catalyzing strategic solutions.
- WHERE:** Washington, D.C. and New York
- WHEN:** 10 - 28 June 2019
- WHO:** This program is designed for rising professionals within the security sector. Each country is invited to nominate up to two (2) participants, ideally one uniformed and one civilian (Major to Lieutenant Colonel, or civilian equivalent). Uniformed participants should be drawn from across the security sector (e.g., military forces, police, gendarmerie, border guards, etc.). Civilian participants should be drawn from relevant security sector government ministries or departments (e.g., Defense, Foreign Affairs, Interior, etc.), or from governmental oversight bodies (e.g., Ombudsman, Auditor General office, Inspector General office, Parliamentary committees, etc.). All nominees must have a firm grasp of Africa's security challenges and should have demonstrable leadership potential. Regional organizations and Africa Center partner institutions will also be invited. All participants must be able to read and engage in detailed, sector-specific discussions in English, French, or Portuguese and will be required to submit a short essay as part of the nomination process.
- WHY:** In a complex and uncertain world, effective decision-making lies in the quality of information about alternatives and choices. This program will address African security threats from a strategic perspective and enhance the professional development of the participants to play effective roles within their own institutions. This program seeks to ground decision-making process in strategic thinking and to emphasize professionalism, critical thinking, ethics, and leadership. It will: (a) discuss strategic leadership, particularly as it pertains to the

security sector; (b) examine Africa's contemporary and emerging security threats through strategic lenses; (c) scrutinize African regional conflict mechanisms; and (d) explore how to leverage external assistance and examine its possible impacts on decision-making.

HOW:

This program promotes exchanges on strategic leadership, critical thinking, ethics, and democratic governance in the context of security challenges facing the African continent. A spirit of academic inquiry and debate guides the program, which will follow the Africa Center format of plenary sessions followed by discussion group sessions. Knowledgeable speakers will frame the key issues and engage participants in questions and answers during the plenary sessions. Plenary sessions will be followed by breakout group discussions to exchange insights and lessons learned. Field trips, case studies, and a simulation exercise will provide further access to subject matter experts. Additionally, during the seminar participants will write short papers on topics related to the course.

All discussions and activities will be conducted under a policy of strict non-attribution, a cardinal principle of the Africa Center. The entire program will be conducted in English, French and Portuguese.