

The types of inter-regional coordination ongoing in West Africa, Central Africa, and the Gulf of Guinea to fight Transnational Organized Crime (TOC)? Please briefly explain your work at the Inter-Regional Coordination Centre and with ECOWAS, ECCAS and the Gulf of Guinea Commission in your response.

Coordination between West and Central Africa in the fight against transnational organized crime takes place mainly at the following 4 levels:

- **TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS:** The Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and ECOWAS *adopted a bilateral regional cooperation agreement and an action plan to fight against **trafficking in persons**, especially women and children (2009).*

- **MARITIME SECURITY:** the Summit of Heads of State and Government of ECOWAS, ECCAS and GGC ended on 25 June with the adoption of three fundamental instruments: the Memorandum of Understanding between ECCAS, ECOWAS and GGC on Safety and Security in the Maritime Space of West and Central Africa; the Declaration of the Heads of State and Government of Central and West African States on Safety and Security in their Common Maritime Space; and the Code of Conduct on the Prevention and Suppression of Acts of Piracy, Armed Robbery against Ships and Illicit Maritime Activities in West and Central Africa. Article 5 of the Memorandum of Understanding provided for the establishment of an Inter-Regional Coordination Centre (ICC) to be at the Summit of the Maritime Security Architecture in the Gulf of Guinea. The ICC reports to the Annual Meeting of Heads of Institutions of ECCAS, ECOWAS and GGC. The Head of the RSD is the ECOWAS maritime security focal point.

- **THE LOME DECLARATION:** The Heads of State of ECOWAS and ECCAS adopted on Monday 30 July 2018, the Lomé Declaration on Peace, Security, Stability and the Fight against Terrorism and Violent Extremism in their spaces.

- **CRIMINAL POLICE:** The Draft Agreement on Cooperation in Criminal Police Matters between Central and West African States