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## **HOW CAN BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS WITH COMMUNITIES ENHANCE SOUND SECURITY SECTOR GOVERNANCE?**

### **ROUNDTABLE**

### **BIOGRAPHIES**

#### **Africa Center Leadership**

**Ms. Amanda Dory** is the Director of the Africa Center for Strategic Studies. She has served in multiple leadership roles in the Office of the Secretary of Defense for Policy, including Acting Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for African Affairs, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Strategy, and acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Plans and Posture. She also served on the National War College faculty and as associate dean for outreach. She is an alumna of Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service and received a master's degree with concentrations in international economics and African studies from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

**Dr. Catherine Lena Kelly** is Interim Academic Dean and Associate Professor of Justice and Rule of Law, and faculty lead for the Africa Center's portfolios on rule of law/security sector governance, as well as countering transnational organized crime. Her work focuses on citizen security, party politics and democratization, the rule of law, and transnational organized crime. She is also a term member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Prior to joining the Africa Center, Dr. Kelly was an advisor at the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative, where her work took her to Burundi, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Republic of Congo, and Rwanda. She designed and taught courses on contemporary Africa and democracy as a postdoctoral fellow at Washington University in St. Louis. At the State Department's Foreign Service Institute, Dr. Kelly taught the West Africa course and co-taught the governance and religion modules in the Area Studies course. She has been awarded numerous fellowships and grants, including a Fulbright Fellowship, a Mellon/American Council of Learned Societies Public Fellowship, a West Africa Research Association grant, several Harvard University grants, and two U.S. Department of Education Foreign Language and Area Studies fellowship for the Wolof language and eighteen months of doctoral research in Senegal. Her work has been published extensively, both in book form and in policy and academic journals.

Dr. Kelly holds a Ph.D. and M.A. in government from Harvard University, a Graduate Certificate in international politics (Europe, conflict resolution, and peacebuilding) from the Université Libre de Bruxelles, and a B.A. summa cum laude from Washington University in St. Louis.

## **CHEDS Leadership**

**General Mbaye Cissé** is a graduate of the National School for Active Officers in Thiès, which he joined in 1988. His career is divided between operational functions specific to his weapon, the artillery, and joint functions in the general staff.

At the end of his command time, he was assigned in 2009 to the General Staff of the Armed Forces as head of the General Studies Division (prospective studies), a position he left in 2012 to join the UN mission in Congo as deputy head of the security sector reform unit.

From 2013 to 2015, he was appointed Deputy Senior Officer to the Commander of Military Zone No. 3 in Kaolack, before joining the General Staff of the Army as Chief of the Human Resources Division. From September 2016 to August 2019, he commanded Military Zone No. 2 in Saint-Louis before serving as Cabinet Secretary to the Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces until June 2020. He has served as director general of CHEDS since July 2020. In military terms, General Cissé is a graduate of the United States Army Command and Staff College and a graduate of the Ecole Supérieure de Guerre de Paris (formerly the Collège Interarmées de Défense). He has also completed several training courses, particularly in the field of defense and security sector reform in general.

Academically, he holds a master's degree in philosophy, a graduate certificate in psychology and sociology, and a master's degree in international relations (public law-security-defense option) from the University of Paris 2 Panthéon Assas, France. General Cissé is the recipient of several awards and author of various publications in military journals, related to geopolitics, security, defense, and military history.

**Colonel Jean Sylvestre Djibianny Biagui** is Special Advisor to the Director General of CHEDS. In addition to this position, he is in charge of the Defense, Security and Peace Master program. A former soldier, he joined the Army after his Baccalaureate. His professional experience spans thirty-eight years in the Armed Forces from the tactical to the strategic level.

In 2005, he served in Sierra Leone with IMATT advising on security sector reform. He also served as an Observer with UNOCI in Côte d'Ivoire in 2006 and as Chief of Staff to the Force Commander of MINUSCA in 2017. At the strategic level, he was Head of Division at the Direction du Contrôle Législation, legal advisor to the Minister of Armed Forces from 2009 to 2012. Member of the scientific committee of the Dakar Forum, he has participated in several symposiums and conferences in Senegal and abroad.

Colonel Biagui holds a Master of Art in Defense from King's College London, a Master's degree in Citizenship, Human Rights and Humanitarian Action from the Faculty of Legal and Political Sciences at Cheikh Anta Diop University (UCAD) and a PhD in Public Law from UCAD. He is a security, human rights and gender expert. He has participated in the drafting of various strategies, including the strategy for integrating gender into the armed forces, the national mine

action strategy, and the national strategy to combat the proliferation of small arms and light weapons.

**Dr. (PhD) Christiane Agboton Johnson** is currently the Director of Special Programs at the Centre des Hautes Etudes de Défense et de Sécurité (CHEDS), Senegal, where she has served since 2013. Passionate about human security, women's leadership, and youth empowerment, she designs and oversees programs specifically targeting women, media, youth, and political actors. The prevention of violent extremism with a focus on the involvement of the Defense and Security Forces (FDS), the regulation of the arms trade (TCA), as well as reinforcement of synergies between civilians and security services to promote living together in peace are her preferred areas of intervention.

Since 2017, Dr. Agboton coordinates the activities of the Permanent Secretariat of the Scientific Committee of the Dakar International Forum on Peace and Security in Africa; within the framework of the promotion of women's leadership in the SDF she supervised the implementation in Senegal of the MOWIP Methodology of the ELSIE Project for the increase of women's participation in Peacekeeping Operations. From 2000 to 2008, she served as Founding President and Executive Director of the Movement against Small Arms in West Africa (MALAO), and from 2008 to 2012, as Deputy Director of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament (UNIDIR) in Geneva.

Dr. Agboton remains committed to working through "living together in peace" for a stable, secure, and prosperous Africa.

## **Panelists**

**Ms. 'Kemi Okenyodo** is the Executive Director of the Rule of Law and Empowerment Initiative also known as Partners West Africa Nigeria (PWAN), a non-governmental organization dedicated to enhancing citizens' participation and improving security governance in Nigeria and West Africa broadly.

She was the Team Lead of the Policing Component of the Security Justice Reform Program supported by the UK Government Conflict, Stability and Security Fund (CSSF) where she provides technical, strategic and programmatic leadership for the Nigeria Policing Programme (NPP), a program working with policing providers, government and civil society for accountable policing services in Nigeria, and where applicable programme partners. From August 2015 to December 2016, she provided support to the Head- West Africa Conflict Security & Stabilization Unit on Transition from Military Operations to a Stabilized Community Policing Approach in the Northeast. She has also previously served as the Team Lead of the Component Intervention Program 'Police Accountability' of the Justice 4 All (J4A) Program- a justice sector programme, funded by the UK Department for International Development (DFID) and implemented by the British Council.

'Kemi has over 15 years' experience in justice / security sector and governance issues in Nigeria and West Africa, and NGO management. She is particularly interested in police accountability, citizens engagement with security institutions, evolution of non-state actors and their

contributions to improving public safety and security environment, gender and policing, criminal justice system reforms- in particular, judicial reforms and legal defence of indigent persons, mainstreaming women's participation both in security and governance issues and election security management. She's a graduate of the Faculty of Law, University of Lagos, a member of the Nigeria Bar Association, the Africa Security Sector Network and an alumnus of the Africa Center for Strategic Studies (ACSS) and the Secretary General of the Nigeria Chapter Alumni Chapter.

**Dr. Abdou Ndao** is a socio-anthropologist and has worked successively as a researcher at CODESRIA, the UNDP LIFE Program, the BREDA Social and Human Sciences Department at UNESCO, the West Africa regional office of Plan International, the PANOS Africa Institute, and the OECD Sahel Africa Club in Paris. He was director of the International Research and Documentation Center (CIRD) in the Republic of Guinea. He is an associate researcher at LARTES of IFAN, Co-founder of the School of Applied Social Sciences in Lower Casamance (ESSABC) where he has been conducting research for more than a decade and has just published a book with Matar Ndour: *From Tenda to Ajamat*. Abdou Ndao is a field researcher who has been working for more than 20 years in southern Senegal, The Gambia, the Republic of Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Togo, Ghana, Benin, and Nigeria on some twenty ethnolinguistic communities in Africa. He is the author of several manuals/books on qualitative analysis applied to computer science, West African migration. Innovative Methods and Methodologies with Harvard, Domestic Economies in Senegal with OXFAM and many other scientific or consulting articles at the national, regional, or international level. Abdou Ndao is specialized in methodologies and qualitative analysis applied to computer science which he teaches in several universities of UCAD, UASZ, UGB where he was a student 31 years ago and other universities or research institutes in Africa. Abdou Ndao has a particular interest in security issues, especially in Lower Casamance.