



AFRICA CENTER FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES

Human Smuggling, Human Trafficking and Border Governance in Africa

Panelist Biographies:

Ms. Maureen Achieng, a native of Kenya, has devoted more than 25 years to public service. She previously served as Chief of Mission of the International Organization for Migration to Ethiopia and its Representative to the African Union, UNECA and IGAD working on migration policy, operations, and humanitarian response. She also previously headed the International Partnerships Division at IOM Headquarters in Geneva where she worked on global inter-state cooperation and dialogue on migration, as well as on cooperation on migration among UN agencies and with non-governmental organizations. From 2004 to 2007 she served as IOM Chief of Mission in Haiti where she led the implementation of a national community stabilization program. Ms. Achieng has also served in IOM offices in Kosovo, Senegal, and her native Kenya in various capacities.

Prior to joining the IOM in 1995, Ms. Achieng worked with non-governmental organizations in Kenya focused on issues relating to the environment, climate change and human settlements.

Ms. Achieng possesses a sound grasp of migration policy issues and the geopolitics that underpin it, in addition to being a leader in humanitarian operations that have mobility consequences. She competed for and was successful in getting rostered for senior leadership positions with the UNDP and UN/DOCO. Additionally, she qualified as the top candidate for the IOM Deputy Director General (Management) position based on a rigorous selection process.

Ms. Achieng obtained a master's degree, with distinction, in Development Studies from the University of Birmingham and a bachelor's degree in Education from Kenyatta University.

Dr. Aly Tandian is associate professor in sociology at CAMES. He holds a PhD from the University of Toulouse 2 Le Mirail where he has lectured for several years before joining the Department of Sociology at the Gaston Berger University in Senegal. He is CEO and founder of the Groupe d'Etudes et de Recherches sur les Migrations & Faits de Sociétés. He has authored of several scientific publications and has received numerous scholarships and international awards, among which the 2010 grant of the Coimbra Group scholarship programme (Barcelona University), the 2008 Bourse d'Excellence de l'Agence Universitaire Francophone and the 2005 Bourse de la Fondation Francqui. Prof. Aly Tandian has carried out several scientific stays such as at the University of Nouakchott in Mauritius (2017). In 2012 he was Guest Speaker at the centre for Migration and Intercultural Studies (CemMIS) in Antwerp, Belgium. He was visiting scholar at the Erasmus University of Rotterdam in The Hague, The Netherlands (2012) and at the Department of History at the Leibniz Universität Hannover, Germany.