

WANEP Trains Peace and Security Practitioners in Gender Mainstreaming and Inclusivity



WAPI 2019 OPENS

BY WANEP REGIONAL

ACCRA-GHANA- The West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) on October 20, 2019 commenced a five-day training on Gender and Peacebuilding for 11 peace practitioners from the African Union(AU), PBF-Niger and WANEP national office. The training, which is holding at the Sunlodge Hotel in Accra-Ghana is under the auspices of the West Africa Peacebuilding Institute (WAPI) of WANEP. This 2019 specialised WAPI is being organised within the framework of WANEP's partnership with the African Union based on a request from the AU

Mrs. Levinia Addae-Mensah, Program Director/ Deputy Executive Director in her welcome remarks stated that the training comes not only as a reaffirmation of the value WANEP places on its partnership with the African Union (AU)

but also its commitment to ensuring the effective promotion and implementation of the UNSCR 1325.

She stated that the idea of incorporating gender perspectives into (post-conflict) peacebuilding and conflict prevention initiatives at Continental, Regional and National Levels remains a primary preoccupation of WANEP, adding “at WANEP, we believe that a clear distinction of the experiences of men, women, girls and boys, is crucial hence the prioritization of Gender in our programming”.

“The mix of participants representing International, Continental and Civil Society Organisations, I believe will ensure that the effective implementation of engendered programmes in a sustainable manner. It provides an opportunity to understand each other’s needs in terms of Application of gender concepts in our day to day activities and will therefore facilitate knowledge exchange and mutual learning.”

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Further, she urged all participants in the spirit of fraternity and mutual respect to interact with each other to devise sustainable strategies/ solutions towards addressing our shared challenges and commended the Governments of Austria and Sweden for their continued support to WANEP, particularly on WAPI.

The Course is highly participatory with the faculty drawn from the WANEP Regional Office comprising Ms. Queeneth Tawo, Regional Coordinator Women, Peace and Security, Mr. Ifeanyi Okechukwu, Regional Coordinator Early Warning and Mr. Edward Jombla, Regional Conflict Analyst- Organized Crime and Violent Extremism.

The West Africa Peacebuilding Institute (WAPI), the flagship capacity building program of WANEP, is a practice-based highly interactive and intensive training program organized by the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP). WAPI offers various courses aimed at addressing contemporary and emerging peace and security challenges. Established in 2002, WAPI seeks to provide specialized, intensive, and culturally sensitive training in conflict transformation and peacebuilding to a varied array of critical stakeholders in the field of peace and security from West Africa and worldwide. Since its establishment, WAPI has trained over 600 practitioners in Peacebuilding Paradigms; Natural Resource Governance and Conflict Management; Human Security and Development; Dialogue and Mediation; Youth and Peace Education; Gender and Peacebuilding, Early warning and Early response among others.

Regional Coordinator- Women, Peace and Security, Mrs. Queeneth Tawo (pictured below) leads session on the Concept of Gender



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