Framework of Cooperation

Between

the United Nations Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict and

the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre

Concerning Capacity Building Initiatives for the Prevention and Response to Conflict-related Sexual Violence in West Africa

The United Nations Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict (OSRSG-SVC) and the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC), building on prior positive collaboration, agree to enter into a Framework of Cooperation to collectively address conflict-related sexual violence in Africa.

Under this Framework, the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict recognizes KAIPTC as a key interlocutor when dealing with capacity-building issues related to conflict-related sexual violence in West Africa, and KAIPTC recognizes the Office of the SRSG-SVC as its primary interlocutor within the UN system on issues related to conflict-related sexual violence.

Under this Framework, the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict and KAIPTC agree to the development of a joint strategy to prevent and address conflict-related sexual violence, which would include, *inter alia*:

- Engaging with Member States of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Commission and the African Union (AU) to identify gaps and seek opportunities for the implementation of initiatives for the prevention and response to conflict-related sexual violence; This should draw amongst others on the training needs analysis currently ongoing under the auspices of the AU through the African Peace and Support Trainers’ Association (APSTA).
- Promoting and organising capacity-building activities, including joint trainings, workshops, and the development and revision of materials on the prevention of conflict-related sexual violence;
- Increasing the visibility of efforts to address conflict-related sexual violence in West Africa, in collaboration with the ECOWAS Commission and other relevant organizations, particularly through the inclusion of conflict-related sexual violence contents in the watching briefs delivered by KAIPTC on various conflict situations;
- Working towards the integration of modules on conflict-related sexual violence in training and academic programmes at KAIPTC where feasible, particularly in training courses related to mediation, negotiation, DDR, and SSR, in line with UN Security Council Resolutions 1888, 1960 and 2106, as well as the KAIPTC Masters Course in Gender, Peace and Security;
- Promoting the participation of women in training courses and their subsequent engagement in mediation, negotiation and ceasefire efforts as well as DDR and SSR programmes in West Africa;
- Collaborating and training to enhance the capacity of civilian, police and military personnel to be deployed in peacekeeping operations and other crisis situations by ECOWAS and other regional organisations, in order to prevent and respond to conflict-related sexual violence; these efforts, undertaken with relevant partners, will build on the existing collaboration between the KAIPTC, ECOWAS and various training institutions and organizations in West Africa, including centres of excellence; and,

To facilitate this cooperation, the Parties agree to jointly do the following:

Develop an implementation plan annually around the above-mentioned areas to direct the implementation process.

Develop a communication strategy to clearly and adequately communicate the outcomes of the framework and work plans.

Design a coherent fundraising strategy to seek funding to support the implementation process to collectively address conflict-related sexual violence in Africa.

Where necessary, specific details of any collaboration shall be set forth in a Supplemental Letter of Agreement or other attachments, which upon approval by the parties, shall become an integral part of this Framework. This Framework may also be periodically reviewed and updated by the parties.

The Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict and KAIPTC will each designate an institutional focal point through which communication may be channelled.
The Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict

Date: 6th August 2013

Ms. Zainab H. Bangura

The Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC)

Date: 6 Aug 13 2013

Maj Gen Obed B. Akwa