



DIRECTORATE OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

REMARKS OF THE DIRECTOR OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS MR. MOHAMED AMIN, EBS, OGW, 'ndc' (K) DURING THE OPENING OF THE UNODC DRUG INVESTIGATION TACTICS AND OPERATIONAL PLANNING COURSE HELD ON 21ST TO 24TH MARCH 2023 AT THE SERENA HOTEL IN NAIROBI.

The Senior Programme Manager - Security Sector at Foreign & Commonwealth Office, UNODC, Miss Toral Vadgama,

The representatives of the Kenya Coast Guard Services,

All other resource persons here present,

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning.

It gives me immense pleasure to be here today to officiate the opening ceremony of the UNODC drug investigation tactics and operational planning training of officers drawn from the DCI's Anti-Narcotics Unit and the Kenya Coast Guard Services.

I sincerely convey my appreciation to the facilitators of this training for the timely preparations you have put in place to receive these trainees and more so the reception of guest that you have here today.

Before I go any further, let me in a special way thank the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for the support they have accorded the Directorate overtime.

New and stronger levels of structured and productive collaborations between our two agencies have seen tremendous improvements in how we handle cases of drug abuse and other crimes.

At the onset, let me point out to the participants that the training you are about to be taken through is very crucial in how you plan and investigate drug-related cases. Further from that, it will enhance your professionalism and competencies for career progression as officers serving in different capacities.

It is a training within which emphasis will be placed on, among others; case file management, interview and interrogation theory, surveillance tactics and operational planning in an anti-drug context.

Participants, during your period of training, you will meet experts in different fields, who have done exemplary well in imparting knowledge and skills that are essential in the daily execution of duties, in enhancing the standards for criminal justice responses to drug trafficking and related offenses.

It is no secret that the supply of illicit drugs everywhere around the globe is more abundant, more sophisticated and more diverse than it has ever been before. In this regard, we should all endeavour to come together in countering the illicit production, trafficking and abuse of drugs by conducting effective operations against drug trafficking and expedite any ongoing investigations. Criminal analysis of intelligence on drug trafficking routes, modus operandi and the criminal networks involved should also be a priority if we are to emerge victorious.

Ladies and gentlemen, when it comes to drug trafficking especially in non-landlocked countries like ours, the coastal regions are always the most preferred routes for traffickers. It is for this reason that I believe a multidimensional approach is necessary to build our maritime capacities since coastal and island communities are highly vulnerable.

This way, a protection force must guarantee security for civilians and the private sector through solid presence at sea and patrolling. Interdiction actions are also

directed to tackling maritime terrorism. This entails trained personnel and proper materials and infrastructure to combat highly dangerous and bellicose groups.

To advance development and promote prosperity, we must holistically combat immediate threats to maritime security, while building local capacities and empowering coastal assemblage to manage the problem sustainably over the long term. This requires meaningful investment, commitment, and political will.

Good people, as law abiding citizens, we all have a shared interest in working to ensure that the economic and political influence of criminal organizations such as drug traffickers, does not undermine trust in the integrity of the financial services marketplace on which our economy depends, nor that criminal activity should weaken the social fabric, collective ethical standards and ultimately the democratic institutions of society.

Indeed, the economies of East Africa and the Horn are increasingly plugged into the broader global economy, which means that regional illicit activities benefit from this expanding connectivity, because informal economies tend to grow in parallel with formal ones. For this reason, the movement of money and information in the region is also becoming increasingly friction-less.

Another serious challenge is that while groups and individuals engaging in such kind of crime often operate in the same types of spaces that terrorist groups occupy, the extent to which this would constitute collaboration is very hard to establish. This is why you are all here, to learn and identify ways of cracking such puzzles.

As I approach conclusion, let me reiterate that stemming of drug trafficking and other crimes would make a significant contribution to the economic growth of our nation.

Once again, let me extend my sincere acknowledgement to the UNODC for the realization and facilitation of this thought and programme. The DCI is truly thankful for your unceasing support and cooperation towards not only meeting

both our goals and endeavors, but also in realizing our partnerships and engagements for the betterment of the police service.

A good starting point, though, will be to find areas as partners where priorities are convergent and work from there.

Ladies and gentlemen, as I take my seat, may I reiterate that the Directorate of Criminal Investigations remains committed to its course; offering a service of Dedication, Care and Integrity.

Thank you and God bless you.