



## First Batch of MCPS Students Graduate, MGPS Inaugurated...



*First batch of graduating students of the MCPS*

"Indeed, the KAIPTC has carved a niche for itself as a global Multi-dimensional Peace Support Operations training ground and I can confidently say the sky would be the limit"

These were the exact words of Ghana's Minister of Defense when he gave the key note address at the graduation and inauguration of two

post graduate programmes at the KAIPTC. The graduation ceremony for students of the Master of Arts in Conflict, Peace and Security (MCPS) and inauguration of the Master of Arts in Gender, Peace and Security (MGPS) were held jointly on 1st June, 2012. The two programmes have further consolidated the Centre's position as

one of the leading peace and security training institutions in the sub-region.

First batch of thirty (30) students enrolled to pursue the one-year modular MCPS programme launched on 17th May 2011, were conferred with post graduate degrees at the graduation ceremony. The students undertook courses in:

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# LIBRARY COMPLEX INAUGURATED

The KAIPTC has inaugurated a library complex to support research, training and academic work at the Centre. The growing need for the library was re-affirmed when the Centre began the accreditation process to run post graduate courses in 2010.

The state-of-the art facility includes a reader and e-resources unit, a multi-media conference room, stack rooms, an acquisition and cataloguing unit, IT and serials unit and offices for the Centre's research staff.

The Centre has seen tremendous growth to its structures since the first phase of building works started with the Administration and Teaching Blocks in 2002 with support from the German and UK governments. Three years later, the activities of the Centre grew to an extent that there was the need to develop the Centre's research capabilities while at the same time provide accommodation for the increasing number of course participants. Thus in 2005, the second phase of building works which



included the conference and research block, student accommodation and mess facility were completed with support from the UK, Netherlands and Italian governments. The commissioning of the library completes the third phase of construction which started in 2010.

The governments of Italy, Germany and United States supported the construction and resourcing of the library which is a symbol of international cooperation in the area of peace and security. Cranfield University in the UK is providing training for library staff to enable them improve their skills to manage the e-library section.

## Expert Workshop On Security Threats In The Sahel Held

The Centre has held a two-day expert workshop to examine and discuss the impact of the Arab spring to the Sahel Region.

The workshop also discussed emerging security threats posed to the region after the fall of the Gaddafi regime and as well as proposals aimed at mitigating the challenges.

Speaking at the opening session, the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration, Amb. Chris Kpodo said prior to the Arab Spring and the subsequent collapse of the Gaddafi regime, countries in the Sahelian region had been battling with enormous socio-economic, environmental and security challenges. Amb Kpodo mentioned that this situation has aggravated further by the recent Arab Spring which has increased the proliferation of sophisticated

weaponry and armed activity and increased activities of terrorist groups such as Al Qaeda in the Islamist Maghreb (AQIM) and Boko Haram in Northern Nigeria.

"Reports have emerged that arms traffickers have taken advantage of the situation in Libya to move material across the southern desert borders of Chad, Niger and Sudan, and then into Mali and Mauritania," Amb. Kpodo said.

He mentioned the need to address the unstable security situation in Mali and forestall any additional repercussions in other Sahelian states and was hopeful participants would provide "concrete, practical and solution-oriented recommendations to inform policy decisions" for stakeholders.

Opening the workshop, the Deputy

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## Swiss Government Sponsors MGPS Students

The Government of Switzerland has offered scholarships to 3 students pursuing the newly inaugurated Master of Arts in Gender, Peace and Security.

The scholarships are worth GHc35,400 and cover tuition and accommodation for Ms Emebet Abate from Ethiopia, Ms Sem Abena Boakyewaa and Mr. Samuel Jeff Azakasi from Ghana. The students were selected for the scholarships based on a criteria set by the Centre for eligible candidates.

In a presentation at the Centre, the Swiss Ambassador H.E. Andrea Semadeni indicated his country's support for the KAIPTC's MGPS programme which is a direct response by the Centre to implement UNSCR 1325. He expressed the hope that the impact of training provided by the MGPS would be felt at all levels of the peace and security community. He

pledged Switzerland's continued support to training programmes at the Centre.

The Commandant of the Centre, AVM Christian Dovlo expressed his gratitude to the Swiss

government for the scholarships which he said will support the training of skilled personnel required for meeting existing security challenges in the sub-region and beyond.



■ HE Andrea Semadeni (right) presented the sponsorship package to the Commandant on behalf of the Swiss government.

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## Expert Workshop On Security Threats In The Sahel Held

Commandant of the KAIPTC, Brig Gen Benjamin F Kusi mentioned there is evidence the recent Arab Spring has brought about consequences reaching far beyond North Africa. He said the workshop is timely and appropriate as it brings experts and practitioners together to brainstorm, discuss and identify concrete solutions to the looming problems in the Sahel.

“It is my sincere hope that this unique array of people assembled, which include academics, researchers and security service practitioners, will engage in fruitful deliberations which will shape policy decisions for states, sub-regional and regional

organisations.” Brig Gen Kusi said.

HE William (Billy) Williams, High Commissioner for Australia who was the special guest of honour at the opening session was hopeful that through the workshop, Australia would continue to play a role in fostering discussions on and working toward solutions to serious security challenges in the Sahel, particularly Mali.

The workshop was organized by the KAIPTC in partnership with the Nordic Institute, Uppsala Sweden and the government of Australia.

# Danish Minister Visits KAIPTC

The Danish Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Villy Søvndal has visited the KAIPTC as part of an official visit to Ghana. He held discussions with the Executive Committee on issues of regional integration, regional peace and stability as well as Ghana's role in peacekeeping in West Africa. The delegation also toured facilities of the Centre.

Denmark supports research and training activities at the Centre and the visit strengthens existing collaborations between the Denmark and the Centre.

The Minister was accompanied by the Danish Ambassador to Ghana, H.E

Carsten Nilaus Pedersen, officials from the Danish Embassy and some journalists.



■ AVM Dovlo explained the KAIPTC model to Mr. Villy Søvndal (second from left). Also in the picture is the Danish Ambassador to Ghana, H.E Carsten Pedersen (right) and the Deputy Commandant, Brig Gen Kusi (left)

# KAIPTC Documentary Launched

The KAIPTC has launched a documentary on its activities in Ghana and the sub-region.

The documentary traces the establishment of the Centre and highlights key research and training activities, programmes, collaborations with Development Partners and Institutions, staff and the centre's facilities.

The documentary also highlights achievements in the sub-region. The documentary was produced with support from GIZ.



▲ HE Eberhard Shanze, German Ambassador, launched the documentary

# KAIPTC Boosts Skills of Unit & Programme Heads

By *Lucy-Ann Dordunoo*  
 • Programmes Officer

The Plans and Programmes Unit, in collaboration with the Human Resource Unit, has organized a hands-on training programme on report writing, proposal writing and resource mobilization.

The capacity-building programme is aimed at equipping selected staff with requisite skills in report writing as well as skills to develop proposals to mobilize resources for the KAIPTC. The topics discussed at the five-day programme included: project identification; project development cycles; resource mobilization techniques; formulating good project proposals; donor criteria for award of

resources and many more. The discussions were accompanied by practical exercises and presentations.

Staff were confident the skills acquired at the training would augment their work at the Centre and aid in further identifying, developing and expanding the resource base of the Centre.

The programme was facilitated by experts from the West Africa Civil Society Institute (WACSI). A total of thirty-three (33) Unit and Programme Heads across all departments at the Centre participated in the programme.



Group picture of KAIPTC staff and facilitators at the five-day programme



## KAIPTC Unveils Ceremonial Cloth

The Centre has launched a ceremonial cloth for its staff. The cloth will complement other activities being undertaken by the Centre to create a distinct identity for itself in the area of peace support training and capacity building.

The Head of HR, Louisa Duncan-Williams explained the cloth communicates the core activities of the Centre and illustrates the excellent relationships between the Centre and its partners. The cloth is designed from the KAIPTC logo and colours as well as a Ghanaian Adinkra symbol called Funtunfunefu-Denkyemfunefu (Siamese crocodiles) which symbolizes unity in diversity.

- Ms. Louisa Duncan-Williams, Head of HR explained the rationale for the cloth.

# Life As A National Service Person At The KAIPTC

By *Maxwell K. Lugudor*  
National Service Person

As graduates from tertiary institutions in Ghana, we have no choice than to pursue the one-year mandatory service to our nation after completing school. Quite frankly, we look forward to this service with some skepticism, especially because it is our first attempt at work and meant to give us first insights into what awaits us after school. Well, we have been fortunate to serve at the KAIPTC and it has been an extremely special experience!

I recollect vividly the first day I entered the premises of the KAIPTC. I was in the company of some other national service personnel assigned to the Centre. We had made the journey wondering what was at stake. The impressive sky blue premises that communicated the peace and security message associated with its operations reminded me of the United Nations. At the main entrance, the many colourful but beautiful flags representing the countries of the various partners, trainees, trainers and staff at the Centre flapped incessantly to welcome us. The neatly pruned and well manicured lawns told us we were in for an experience of a lifetime. The premises of the Centre was however very serene and we kept wondering whether any work was going on at all. Obviously, we were yet to fully appreciate what was in store for us.

After the very short drive to the premises of the Centre, we were taken to a fairly large auditorium called the Schröder Hall. We later got to know the auditorium was named after Gerhard Schröder, former Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany in recognition of Germany's contributions to the Centre. At this stage, the myth we previously had that the Centre is a military zone and a "no go" area for "ordinary people" like us had begun to fade away.

Our orientation was swift and precise. Time was of essence and truly, the Centre lived

to the adage that "time is money". I was lucky to get posted to the Training Department where I initially thought I would have less work to do. I needed just a few days to change this conception. Work came in droves and in ways I had never experienced before. I was tasked to take minutes at meetings, support the planning, organizing and implementation of training courses, support course evaluations, book flights for facilitators and trainees, write reports and many more. I was so inundated with work that I did not recognize the easy transition and excellent rapport from the different military, police and civilian personnel who work on different aspects of multi-dimensional peace support operations at the Centre.

There has been a lot of interesting times at the Centre but my most interesting moment was when I was tasked to assist in the implementation of the ECOWAS Election Observation Course. I could not imagine myself, a fresh university graduate with no work experience, sitting next to diplomats; ambassadors; senior military officers from different countries in Africa; and peace and security experts from international organizations. The diversity at the Course was striking and very useful. In fact, it is a hallmark with all the training programmes run throughout the year at the Centre. My engagement with some of the dignitaries who participated in the course has given me some insights into the future as far as my career is concerned. Truly, the experience has been worth it!

One can only imagine the "peace and security" we are enjoying as national service personnel at the KAIPTC. The experience gained so far has been tasking but very fulfilling. We have learnt and experienced so much more than we initially anticipated and we can proudly say 'we are up for more'.

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## First Batch of MCPS Students Graduate, MGPS Inaugurated...



Theories and Concepts of Conflict, Peace and Security; Comparative African Politics; Leadership: Concepts, Principles and Management; Contemporary and Emerging Security Issues; Legal Framework for Peace Support Operations; International Relations; Good Governance: Principles, Practice and Perspectives; and Research Methods.

The Master of Arts in Gender, Peace and Security, on the other hand, was inaugurated as part of the Gender Academic Programmes (GAP) being introduced by the Centre. GAP was established through the Women, Peace and Security Institute (WPSI) Start-Up Support in response to recommendations set out in United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR 1325). Fifty-one (51) students from Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria and Ethiopia were matriculated a day prior to the inauguration to pursue a one-year modular programme in Gender, Peace and Security.

The post graduate programmes have been developed based on an evidenced-based need to train a generation of highly skilled personnel to handle emerging security issues. The tertiary programmes are specifically aimed at equipping participants with tools for analytical thinking, leadership and other critical managerial skills.

At the graduation and inauguration ceremony, the Vice President of the Republic of Ghana, who was represented by the Minister of Defence, Lt. Gen. John Henry Smith, noted the significance of the ceremony and said it marked an important milestone in the achievements of the Centre. He indicated his delight to see the KAIPCT grow from strength to strength, especially with the introduction of post graduate programmes. He paid tributes to the Centre's leadership, staff, partners and all stakeholders that have contributed to make the Centre's Post Graduate Programmes a success.

"With the vision, initiative and foresight of the leaders of this Centre, we are not too surprised that the Centre continues to introduce new and very relevant programmes that address the needs of participating countries," Lt. Gen JH Smith said.

He urged the graduating students to make utmost use of the knowledge and skills acquired to manage, maintain, and sustain peace and security in their respective fields.

The Commandant of the Centre, AVM Dovlo in his message to the students, acknowledged the rigorous nature of the Master of Arts in Conflict, Peace and Security Course and indicated that it had provided the Centre with an opportunity to produce a set of well drilled batch of graduands with requisite expertise needed to resolve peace and security challenges in Africa.

Madam Helen La Lime of the United States Africa Command (AFRICOM), who delivered a goodwill message at the ceremony, indicated the MGPS demonstrates the Centre's leadership role in addressing important security issues that are sometimes overlooked while assessing Africa's security problems. She hoped the inauguration of the MGPS will bring to the fore the benefits and responsibilities of including perspectives of gender and participation of women in resolving conflicts and building peace in the sub-region.

"I am confident that an acknowledgment of the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts will result in more effective and enduring solutions and contribute to the further professionalization of security forces on continent," Madam Helen La Lime said.

The special Guest of Honour at the programme, Prof Naana Jane Opoku-Agyemang who is the Vice Chancellor of the University of Cape Coast had a word for the graduands. She encouraged them to put their talents, knowledge and skills acquired from the course into productive use and freely at the disposal of society.

The Graduation and Inauguration Programme was also attended by Prof Yaw Agyemang Badu, Rector of GIMPA - the mentor Institution, Service Chiefs and Officers of the Ghana Armed Forces, Members of the Centre's Governing Board, diplomats, members from Academia, staff of the KAIPCT and families of the students.

# HIV/AIDS and Wellness Policy Launched

“A motivated workforce in a secure work environment” is one of the KAIPTC's core principle and value. It is within this framework that the Centre, in partnership with GIZ, has launched its HIV/AIDS and wellness policy for all staff of the Centre.

The policy would ensure a consistent and fair approach to the prevention of HIV/AIDS and other diseases among employees and their families. Although focused on HIV/AIDS, the policy would also address all general health and wellbeing issues affecting employees at the workplace.

At the launch of the policy, the Commandant, AVM Dovlo said the policy demonstrates a commitment to proactively ensure there is a healthy workforce to promote the activities of the Centre. He reiterated the strong link between a healthy staff and the bottom line and hoped the policy would motivate staff to lead healthy lifestyles while it takes care of their needs during sickness.

Speaking about the rationale for the development of the policy, the Head of Human Resource, Ms. Louisa Duncan-Williams said HIV/AIDS and many other preventable diseases pose a challenge to the well-being of an organisation's workforce and affects productivity. She said the Centre's policy was developed to guide management and staff on how to address disease related challenges at the work place.

The policy was later launched by a representative of the Director General of the Ghana AIDS Commission (GAC), Mr. Michael Gold. He said the policy contributes towards a broader national response on HIV&AIDS stigmatisation and discrimination at the workplace and commended the Centre for developing the policy. He was hopeful it would serve as a model for adoption by other institutions in Ghana.

The Deputy Country Director of GIZ, Konrad De Bortoli, was happy about the collaboration between his institution and the Centre which has existed since 2004 and led to the development of several programmes including the well-being policy. He said GIZ has worked with the Centre for the past three years to organize a number of awareness raising events on various diseases, offered regular testing for HIV and other diseases, held several community outreach activities within the community of the Centre and trained peer educators at the Centre. He wished the Centre well in the implementation of the policy.

Some of the highlights in the policy include protection of staff against discrimination, victimization and harassment; employment opportunities and termination of employment; provision of counseling services; care and support for employees and family; and health awareness and education.



*This billboard was unveiled at the Centre after the launch of the policy*



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