



**22nd EAPCCO Annual General Meeting**  
**VIRTUAL, WEBEX & KUDO ONLINE PLATFORMS**

**JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ**

**18 September, 2020**

**THE 20<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR POLICE AFFAIRS IN  
EAPCCO COUNTRIES**

***Empowering regional law enforcement agencies in combating transnational  
organized crimes amidst COVID 19 global pandemic***

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## 1. PREAMBLE

- a) The Ministers responsible for Police Affairs in the Eastern Africa region held their 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting on 18 September, 2020 virtually, through the WEBEX and KUDO online platforms
- b) The meeting was attended by Ministers/Representatives from the following EAPCCO member countries namely; **Burundi, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda.**
- c) It was also attended by the INTERPOL Secretary General, Mr. Jürgen STOCK, the Director Global Outreach Regional Services, the Special Representative of INTERPOL to the African Union (SRIAU), Heads of Regional Bureaus Nairobi, Harare and Staff of INTERPOL General Secretariat.
- d) The following EAPCCO Cooperating partners attended; The African Union Commission (AUC), AFRIPOL, European Union (EU), Institute for Security Studies (ISS), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Regional Centre on Small Arms (RECSA), EU-Regional Law Enforcement for the Greater Horn of Africa and Yemen, BKA Liaison officer in Kenya, African Policing Civilian Oversight Forum (APCOF), Royal Marachaussee, FACEBOOK and Cyber Security Limited.
- e) The INTERPOL Secretary General, Mr. Jürgen STOCK acknowledged that the 22<sup>nd</sup> EAPCCO Annual General meeting was taking place during challenging times as the Covid 19 continued to spread causing severe disruption to the societies and communities. He however, pointed out that despite all the challenges, police officers from around the world are still manning the frontlines: supporting and enforcing containment measures, while discharging their heavy mandate against crime in all forms. Mr. STOCK pledged INTERPOL's continued support to the region by strengthening network in East Africa through various funded projects, supporting the Regional Centers of Excellence and fostering closer ties with other regional security organizations in Eastern Africa to better compliment the response to crime threats.
- f) The Chairman of the Council of Ministers, the Minister of Home affairs of the United Republic of Tanzania Hon. George B. SIMBACHAWENE in his opening

speech congratulated the Chiefs of Police under the Chairmanship of the Inspector General of the Tanzania Police Force for their effort and ensuring a peaceful environment in the region amidst the COVID 19 pandemic. He further recognised INTERPOL under the leadership of Mr. Jürgen STOCK for the continued support on policing activities. In addition he also appreciated the role played by AFRIPOL in the promoting peace and security in Africa. He urged his colleagues' to continue supporting the Chiefs of Police in their effort to combat crime.

- g) The Council of Ministers was informed of the decision by the EAPCCO Chiefs' of Police to support the continuation of the EAPCCO chairmanship by the Inspector General of Tanzania Police Force until the next EAPCCO AGM.
- h) The Council of Ministers congratulated the EAPCCO Chairman, the Inspector General of Tanzania Police Force, Mr. Simon N. SIRRO for his dedication and commitment in serving the region to combat transnational organized crime despite the challenges posed by the pandemic.
- i) The Council of Ministers further recognized EAPCCO member countries, INTERPOL and other cooperating partners for their continued cooperation towards the implementation of the resolutions of the 21<sup>st</sup> EAPCCO Annual General Meeting.
- j) The Council of Ministers took note of the request by Member countries to support the candidature of the Republic of Sudan to the INTERPOL Executive committee as a delegate for Africa and expressed commitment to fully support the candidate.

**2. THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS WERE BRIEFED ON THE DECISIONS OF THE COUNCIL OF POLICE CHIEFS AND ADOPTED THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE 22<sup>ND</sup> EAPCCO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND TOOK NOTE OF THE FOLLOWING;**

- a) The Council of Ministers advised the chiefs of Police to develop harmonized standards of training and mobilize resources across the region to enhance capacity of law enforcement agencies.
- b) The Council of ministers took note of the continued activities of the member countries and other law enforcement agencies amidst COVID 19 global

pandemic. It was noted criminals have become more daring and innovative to perpetuate crime while taking advantage of the prevailing social and economic environment. The Council of Ministers therefore calls for strengthening of cooperation and collaboration in order to empower law enforcement agencies to fight crime amidst the pandemic.

- c) The Council of ministers took note of the signing of the EAPCCO/CAPCCO cooperation agreement by the Chiefs of Police and Ministers of interior from the CAPCCO region. They appreciated the progress so far and encouraged the EAPCCO Ministers who have not signed the Agreement to do so once availed by the EAPCCO Secretariat.
- d) The Council of Ministers took note of the need for a formalized cooperation framework between EAPCCO and the Spanish National Police' on combating terrorism and other transnational organized crime and expressed full support for this initiative.
- e) The Council of Ministers was informed of the adoption of the 2021 EAPCCO Business Plan that was going to provide action plans for 2021 and pledged support in its implementation.
- f) The Council of Ministers was informed of the continued threat of Terrorism and the important role of evidence based research in gathering and analyzing terrorism related data. In this regard, therefore, the Ministers encouraged member countries to develop research capabilities addressing all aspects of Terrorism and enhance crime intelligence sharing.
- g) The Council of Ministers was also informed of the need by the EAPCCO member countries and other cooperating partners to continue supporting the Regional Counter Terrorism Centre of Excellence based in Nairobi towards its full operationalization.
- h) The Council of Ministers welcomed the decision by the Council of Police Chiefs to establish association of Retired Police officers in their respective member countries and utilize the associations to build capacity, professionalism and mentorship programmes for Law enforcement.

- i) The Council of Ministers noted the growth in the use of internet and social media platforms to plan, support and commit acts of Terrorism and other crimes. Therefore, they encouraged member countries to continue working closely with INTERPOL and FACEBOOK through the National Points of contacts to investigate and combat all forms of online crimes to ensure user safety in the cyber space.
- j) The Council of Ministers was informed of the growth of mobile and internet banking in the region as a result of the pandemic and advised member countries to put in place strict regulatory control on mobile and internet banking.
- k) The Council of Ministers took note of the need by Member countries to consider reviewing the EAPCCO Regulations on conduct of meetings to include code of conduct on adopting of meeting reports and hand over of chairmanship in the event that physical meetings are not possible.
- l) The Council of Ministers appreciated the initiatives of INTERPOL in collaboration with other partners in the following projects I-ONE; Regional Counter Terrorism Node for Eastern and Southern Africa, the I-EAC , Disrupting Harm, SOTERIA, GEMINI, ENACT project among others.

### **3. THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS FURTHER EXPRESSED THEIR APPRECIATION TO THE FOLLOWING:**

- i. The EAPCCO Chiefs of Police for demonstrating great leadership amidst the challenges posed by the COVID 19 global pandemic.
- ii. The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania and the Tanzania Police Force through the EAPCCO Chairman, the Inspector General of the Tanzania Police Force for their tireless effort in organizing the 22<sup>nd</sup> EAPCCO AGM;
- iii. The EAPCCO Chairman, the Inspector General of the Tanzania Police Force for accepting to continue with the chairmanship of EAPCCO until the next EAPCCO Annual General Meeting;

- iv. EAPCCO member countries for their support and full participation during the 22<sup>nd</sup> EAPCCO Annual General Meeting;
- v. INTERPOL and cooperating partners for their continued support to the EAPCCO activities;
- vi. INTERPOL General Secretariat for their support in organizing the 22<sup>nd</sup> EAPCCO AGM and provision of the KUDO online virtual platform;
- vii. The Republic of Rwanda for offering to continue with the preparations of the 4<sup>th</sup> EAPCCO Games;
- viii. The Republic of Sudan for offering to continue with the preparations to host the 3<sup>RD</sup> EAPCCO Field Training Exercise.
- ix. The Democratic Republic of Congo for confirming to host the 23<sup>rd</sup> EAPCCO Annual General Meeting and the 5<sup>th</sup> EAPCCO Police Chiefs' retreat in the year 2021;
- x. The Republic of Djibouti for offering to host the 24<sup>th</sup> EAPCCO Annual General Meeting and the 6<sup>th</sup> EAPCCO Police Chiefs' retreat in the year 2022;

**\*\*\*End\*\*\***

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**Mr. Ruceke MELCHIADE, IGP**  
FOR: Minister of Public Security and  
Disaster Management  
**THE REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI**

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**Mr. Johnson BUSINGYE**  
Ministry of Justice and Attorney General  
**THE REPUBLIC OF RWANDA**

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**Mr. Mohamed DAOUDOU**  
Ministre de l'Interieur, de l'information,  
de la Décentralisation  
**UNION OF COMOROS**

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**Mr. Ted BARBE**  
**Deputy Commissioner of Police**  
For: Minister of Home Affairs  
**THE REPUBLIC OF SEYCHELLES**

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**Mr. Innoncent Bokele WALAKA**  
Deputy Minister of Interior, security and  
Home Affairs  
**THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO**

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**Mr. Yusuf ALI**  
For: Minister of Internal Security  
**THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF SOMALIA**

.....  
**Mr. Moumin Ahmed CHEICK**  
Minister of Interior  
**THE REPUBLIC OF DJIBOUTI**

.....  
**Lt. Gen James Pui YAK**  
Representing Minister of Interior  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN**

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**Col. Beraki Mehary TSEGGAI**  
Commander of Eritrean Police & Security  
Forces  
**STATE OF ERITREA**

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**1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Gen. Al-Traifi Dafallah IDRIS**  
Minister of Interior  
**REPUBLIC OF SUDAN**

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**Com. Endashaw Tasew GEBREGIORDIS**  
For: Minister for Ethiopian Federal Affairs,  
**FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF  
ETHIOPIA.**

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**Hon. George B. SIMBACHAWENE**  
Minister of Home Affairs  
**UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA**

.....  
**Mr. Fred MATIANGI**  
Cabinet Secretary, Interior and Coordination of  
National Government  
**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**

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**Hon. Obiga Mario KANIA**  
Minister of State for Internal Affairs  
**REPUBLIC OF UGANDA**







