



## MIGYIKRA MEMORIAL MUSIC AND CULTURAL INSTITUTE (3MCI)

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## WACPS

### WEST AFRICA CENTRE FOR PEACE STUDIES (WACPS)

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# WEST AFRICA CENTRE FOR PEACE STUDIES 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

# LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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As much as the year 2020 had several challenges due to the pandemic, **the West Africa Centre for Peace Studies (WACPS)** still accomplished both institutional and programmatic activities with a shoe string budget. Among others are the finalization of its legal and documental requirements, undertaking programmatic activities under extreme challenging period that the world-over is grappling with. Despite all trials the year witnessed, I can authoritatively say that the organization has made a milestone so far and achieved a lot.

Notably, WACPS is an independent, non-partisan, non-profit research, advocacy-based and policy focused organization, based in Accra, Ghana. It was founded in 2004 by Africans from diverse professional backgrounds dedicated to the promotion of democracy, good governance, peace and development in Africa. The centre provides research, training and advocacy support in its aim to enhance peace and human development initiatives at all levels in the region to impact Africa as a whole.

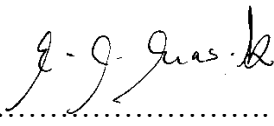
Peace and development, promotion of democracy, good governance, security, law, diplomacy and international relations is at the heart of everything we do at WACPS. Dealing with the unforeseen challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic has taken a significant toll on people all across the world. Medical News Today has spoken with people from different countries, asking how the pandemic has impacted their lives. As we live through the outbreak of the coronavirus, economic disruptions and calls for racial justice—as well as the uncertainty of what might come next.

Nonetheless we cannot be self-assured of what the future holds, we can be strong and resolute in our mission: to promote peace, human rights, democracy and development through training, research, advocacy and partnership. The pandemic has served to further reveal inequities in

housing, education, health care, food security, criminal justice and employment. Yet WACPS remain rooted in her commitments.

It was extremely difficult at times and yet our incredibly dedicated staff persevered and kept focused on our mission. I cannot thank them enough for their hard work and dedication. Without you, none of our accomplishments and commitment to deliver would have been possible. Thank you, again.

Though more work lies ahead, WACPS intends to make the year 2021, a year of fund raising and expanded activities. In this regard all legal requirements will be fulfilled before the end of the first quarter of the year. WACPS equally envisages clearer mission and vision to help in the implementation of its activities, a strategic plan in 2021 for the organization.

Sign.....

Migyikra Erasmus Ndemole

# STAFF MEMBERS



## **WACPS TEAM PROFILE**



### **Mr. Migyikra Erasmus Ndemole (M.E.N.)**

Migyikra Erasmus Ndemole (M.E.N.) is an international civil servant, solicitor and barrister-at-law (an advocate of the High Court of Kenya), social worker, the founder and Executive Director of the West Africa Centre for Peace Studies (WACPS) in Ghana. He currently works as a Child Protection Advisor with the United Nations Mission in South Sudan.

Since February 2012, he has been working on issues relating to children in armed conflict in the oil-rich Unity State and Greater Bahr el Ghazal area. Prior to this, he worked as a Human Rights Officer with the United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS), both in Nyala, Darfur and Wau in the South what was then the semi-autonomous region of South Sudan from March 2005 until February 2011. He also had 10 years' working experience with the Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice in his home country, Ghana, as an investigator (1994-2004).

In 2011, he taught a variety of courses in International Law and Refugee Studies in Kenyatta University and Africa Nazarene University, both in Kenya.

His research interests include children in armed conflict and children's rights more generally, international criminal justice, strategic studies, international human rights and humanitarian law, refugee law and IDPs issues as well as peace and conflict studies, with a particular focus on gender issues in Africa.

He is currently a Ph.D. Student in the University of Leicester's department of Politics and International Relations, which is based in the UK, where his focus is on the Protection of Children in Armed Conflict situation: Case study of South Sudan.

Prior to this, he achieved the following qualifications:

- MSc in Crime Science, Investigations and Intelligence, University of Portsmouth, United Kingdom
- LLM in International Crime and Justice (International Criminal Law) from UNICRI/ University of Turin, Italy
- MA in Peace and Conflict Studies from European University Center for Peace Studies, Austria
- LLM in International Human Rights and Humanitarian Law from European University Viadrina, Germany
- LLB Degree and Graduate Diploma in Law (GDL/CPE) Nottingham Law School, Nottingham Trent University, United Kingdom
- Diploma in Social Work/Administration from University of Ghana, Ghana

Having completed Kenya School of Law with a postgraduate diploma in legal practice, he was gazetted and called to the Bar as an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya and a member of Law Society of Kenya (LSK) and East Africa Law Society (EALS).

## **Mr. Daniel Kwaku Denteh (D.K.D.)**



Denteh Kwaku Daniel (DKD) is a Research and Advocacy Manager of (WACPS) and active member of the organisation since its inception in 2004. He represented WACPS in various international conferences in Cote Ivoire, Angola, Benin, Ghana, Ethiopia and UK. He also facilitates workshops, trainings and conferences, sport for peace and marathon events annually for WACPS. In 2013 he represented WACPS in a conference organised by UNESCO in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia to adopt a resolution to form **Network of Foundations and Research Institutes for the Promotion of Culture of Peace in Africa**. As a founding member, WACPS continue to be an active member of the Network.

Mr Denteh is a Public Servant in disaster management organisation in Ghana, an educationist and labour expert. He also works as the Deputy Director General of the National Disaster Management Organisation (NADMO) in Ghana.

Since April 2017, he has been working on issues relating to Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), as Head of Transport Division, NADMO and now heading the Finance and Administration Department of the Civil Defense Organisation responsible for disaster management.

Alongside his work in WACPS, in 2010, he taught Geography in one of the prestigious schools in Ghana, Presbyterian Boys High School (PRESEC), Legon Accra.

He studied Social Policy at the master's level in University of Ghana and Executive Post-Graduate Certificate in Labour Policy Studies from University of Cape Coast.

Prior to these, he achieved the following qualifications

- Bachelor of Education in Psychology from University of Cape Coast
- A 3year Post- secondary Teacher's Certificate in Education from Dambai College of Education.

## **Ms. Euphemia Akos Dzathor (E.A.D.)**



Euphemia Akos Dzathor is the Operations Manager at WACPS. She is a Development Practitioner with expertise in the areas of Women’s Empowerment, Gender, Peace and Security and holds a Master of Philosophy (M.Phil) Degree in Adult Education from University of Ghana. She also has a Bachelor of Language Education from the University of Education in Winneba.

She is the Queen mother (Traditional Leader) of Alavanyo Deme in the Hohoe Municipality of the Volta Region in Ghana where she is at the forefront of the community’s development. She has keen interest in promoting Education and issues pertaining to the advancement of women and children.

She has 20 years of experience working in development NGOs. Ten years of this experience have been in managing peacebuilding and women’s empowerment programmes and projects at the continental, national and community levels. Her work mainly focused on the thematic areas of women’s human rights, peace and security as well as community development.

In addition she has designed and implemented capacity building programs to promote leadership qualities of women and the promotion of sustainable peace in 36 countries across four sub regions in Africa.

Her notable achievements include leading the development of the Ghana National Action Plan on Women Peace and Security and the development of a Gender Policy for the Ghana Police Service.

She is an active member of the Women Peace and Security Working Group in Ghana and the President of the Ghana Chapter the Network on Peace and Security for Women in the ECOWAS Space (NOPSWEKO-Gh.)

Globally, she is recognized as one of the experts in the implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions on Women Peace and Security and has participated in several international meetings on these instruments thus becoming a member of the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP).

In February 2020 was nominated and recognized by the UN and AU as one of 20 African women for their role in promoting Women Peace and Security on the continent and was featured in a commemorative book titled **“20 Years 20 Stories”** to mark 20 years of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women Peace and Security.



## **Ms. Caroline Ogisa Kisato (C.O.K.)**

Caroline is a peace and security practitioner with expertise in bottom-up approach in addressing societal conflicts in the region of Great Lakes and the Horn of Africa. She recently joined WACPS, Ghana as the Network and Partner Relations Coordinator. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Moi University, Kenya majoring in Government and Public Administration (GPA). She is currently an Australian Awards scholar completing her Master of International Development (MID) degree at Flinders University, Australia. She is also an alumni of Queensland University of Technology (QUT) Australia, Uppsala University, Sweden and Coady Institute, Canada having attained fellowships to participate in short trainings on capacity building on Peacebuilding and Conflict Management (PBCM), International Training on Dialogue and Mediation (ITDM) and Social Enterprise for Inclusive Local Economies respectively. The Government of Kenya recognised her outstanding work in peacebuilding as a non-state actor. She volunteers at Kids to School Foundation, Netherlands as a Local Advisory Council (LAC) member.

Caroline has facilitated multiple peacebuilding and security training among the pastoralist communities in Kenya and cross-border nations. She was the Project Coordinator of Partnership for Peace and Security (PfPS), a body that brings together civil societies to chart a way forward for peaceful co-existence in the nation and neighbouring countries. Ms. Kisato participated in a study tour to Brazil in 2010 organised by National Steering Committee on Peacebuilding and Conflict Management (NSC-PBCM) and facilitated by United Nations Development Program (UNDP) to learn how ‘Youth and organised gangs’ are tackled in Brazil to bring best practices to Kenya. The findings informed the Government of Kenya (GoK) in drafting the Prevention of Terrorism ACT and how to address militia groups and crime in Kenya. In 2011, Caroline participated in a study tour to South Africa in partnership with the GoK and sponsored by Institute of Security Studies (ISS) and the East African Community (EAC). This was a follow-up of a 5-day training on small arms and light weapons (SALW). The purpose of the study tour was to understand the extent of cattle rustling and infiltration of SALW in South Africa and its impacts on security. The best practices guided the drafting of the control of small arms and light weapons policy in Kenya.

Prior to this, Caroline worked at Security Research & Information Centre (SRIC) an independent, non-profit-making think-tank committed to providing data and information on human security and security sector dynamics in Kenya and the sub-regions of the Great Lakes and the Horn of Africa. She also spearheaded Tax Justice Network-Africa (TJN-A) Organizational Capacity Assessment (OCA) which identified organizational gaps for which the organisation contracted her to develop missing organizational policies. She was involved in the evaluation of the UNDP program on “Consolidating the Peace Process and Establishing Foundations for a Peaceful Political Transition (CPP), 2010-2013”. CPP was an integrated programme coordinated by GoK through the Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government that brought on board state and non-state actors taking lead on implementation of specific programme outputs.

## **Ms. Freda Atsunyo (F.A.)**



Freda Atsunyo is a communication and knowledge management coordinator at the WACPS in Ghana.

In 2011, she completed Central University College, Accra, Ghana with BSc Business Administration (Human Resource Management option and her thesis title was The Influence of Organizational Culture on Employee Commitment.

She started her professional career at Unilever Ghana Limited, Tema, Ghana with the Customer Development Department where she worked for 1 year as a national service personal. In her time at Unilever Ghana Limited, Tema, Ghana, she focused on educating retailers on new products brand/category and standards that measure in-store performance. Her Customer Development role saw to providing leadership in shopper trends, habits, and behaviours. She had the privilege to start her career at the lowest level in the corporation and progress to a higher level now.

Freda is known for events organizing coordination for the past years as well. Freda excels in brainstorming ways to build the individual brand into surprising, yet relevant event effects. Freda recognizes that there is no secret formula for producing a perfect event. By combining passion with efficiency, personality with originality, Freda helps create events that deliver impact, memorability, and long-term brand value. Currently, she is also the CEO of Charme events since 2012, an event planner, best known for planning corporate and wedding events. Besides, while her human resource management skills represent a key part of her job, her greatest talent is to understand the vision of each client then tailor-makes an extraordinary event environment to reflect it.

Also, while her human resource management skills represent a key part of her job, her greatest talent is to understand the vision of each client by offering HR consultancy for a new startup. As a human resources (HR) officer at Mogon Company Limited, Tema, Ghana she develops, advise on and implement policies relating to the effective use of staff in Mogon Company Limited, Tema, Ghana.

She is a member of the Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) network since 2016. She is currently pursuing a Masters degree in Sustainable Environmental Management at the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Canada and her research areas is Masters of Promising Practices in Food Reclamation (to ensure food security in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan). Also, she has been awarded a Canadian Queen Elizabeth Commonwealth Scholarship for experiential learning for the Planetary Health Professional project.

### **Ms. Alberta Horlu (A.H.)**



Alberta Horlu is the Finance and Administrative Officer with WACPS. She is an experienced Social Worker with competence in evaluations, relationship building, critical thinking, empathy, bookkeeping and administration. She completed her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Social Work and Social Administration from Victoria University, Kampala, Uganda attaining a First-class honour. She also has a Diploma in Social Work (distinction) from the same University in Uganda and Stenographer grade II in Secretarial and Administration from Government Secretariat School in Ghana.

Alberta is a founding member and Child counsellor at ‘The OTHERCHILD’ Uganda, a child services provider formed in 2015 which works with children living and working on the streets (Street Children), orphans and highly vulnerable households in Entebbe, Uganda. She has also worked for more than two years at the Centre for Autism intervention in Kampala as a social worker and doubled as Administrative Manager of Ace Vocational Training School in Entebbe, Uganda.

Ms. Horlu joined WACPS in 2013 as Program Assistant, and took leave for further studies, having returned with a degree, she was promoted to head the Finance & Administration Section of WACPS. Currently, she and her colleagues are providing financial and administrative support to colleagues, partners and stakeholders of the organisation



## **Ms. Rebecca Owusua Ama Ampaw (R.O.A.A.)**

Rebecca Owusua Ampaw is the Gender Policy and Children's Rights Advisor at WACPS an organisation that seeks to promote Culture of Peace in Africa. Some of her qualities include: professional teacher, gender and feminist champion with a solid history in child nurturing; motivated leader and role model with strong organizational and prioritization ability. Area of expertise includes teaching and facilitation, Child Rights advocate, security and gender expertise. She is skilled in research, analytical thinking and report writing.

Other technical and soft skills Ms. Ampaw holds are: Information Communication Technology (ICT), education and training skill; decision making with patience, integrity and respect for diversity; good interpersonal relations; learning strategies; public safety and security; psychology and organizational behaviour. She reflects a varied personality including ambitious, generous and thoughtful. Ms. Ampaw is a renowned gender activist and research fellow at Sia Global Leadership Foundation, a non-profit Christian foundation where they provide Godly leadership training to the youth and community leaders across the globe. She doubles her duties with WACPS as Head of Mathematics Department, La Presbyterian Senior High School, where she serves as a teacher and a role model; creating avenues for young individuals to develop their talents and instil in them a culture of peace drawn from WACPS. She is also an active member of a working group on women, peace and security, Ghana. Her research interests include the impact of educational migrants on the country of origin, a case study of returned Ghanaian educational migrants, post conflict reconstruction and development, child rights advocacy, peace and security. She has been involved in a research on human security implications on school dropout, women's right and reproductive health. Ms. Ampaw qualifications are as follows:

- Master of Art in Gender, Peace and Security from Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC), a constituent University of Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA)
- Bachelor of Education in Mathematics from the University of Education, Winneba
- A 3year Post-secondary Teacher's Certificate in Education from Presbyterian College of Education, Akropong Akuapem.



## OUR MISSION

To promote Peace, Human Rights, Democracy and Development through Training, Research, Advocacy and Partnership.



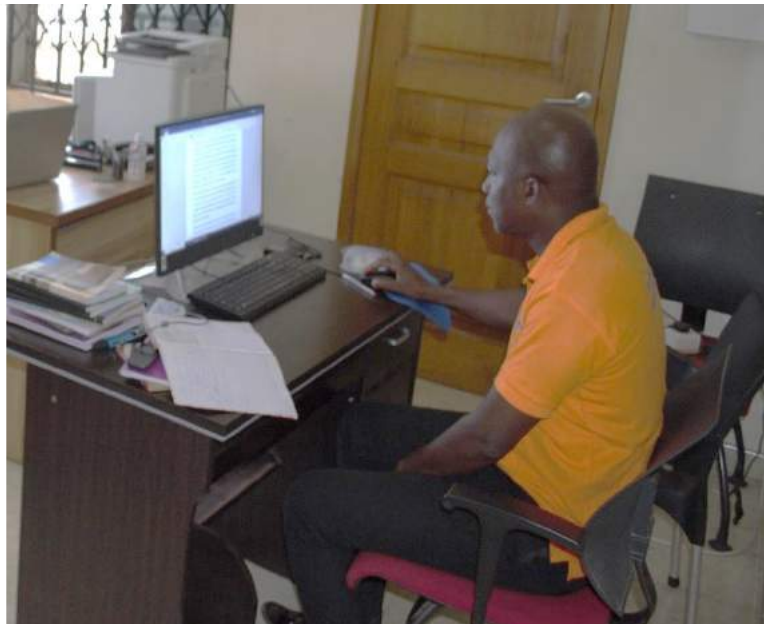
## OUR VISION

An International Centre for Excellence in Building a Peaceful African Region devoid of Conflict and Injustices.

# WHAT WE DO



# WACPS OFFICE SPACE IMAGE





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## 1.0 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF WACPS

West Africa and Africa as a whole witnessed and continue to experience various form of conflicts.

In his early days as a national and later as an international civil servant, Mr. Erasmus Ndemole Migyikra, observed uncountable number of conflicts and wars raging in many countries across the African continent and other parts of the world.

In his quest to contribute to the resolution and management of these social issues, he brainstormed with colleagues across Africa with the same philosophy about peace and the idea of creating an organization which will be at the Centre of peacebuilding, conflict resolution, diplomacy and development. This made the founder, Erasmus N. Migyikra to mobilize Africans and peace-loving individuals to come together to create WACPS. The organization was registered in 2005 as a legal entity for non-profit with the Registrar General Department of Ghana.

**SPEECH DELIVERED BY MR. ERASMUS N. MIGYIKRA**  
**INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVANT, SOLICITOR AND BARRISTER-AT-LAW**  
**(AN ADVOCATE OF THE HIGH COURT OF KENYA),**  
**SOCIAL WORKER AND A FOUNDING MEMBER/CEO OF WACPS AND 3MCI**

**Mr. Chairman**

**The media fraternity,**

**Members of the two organisations**

**Ladies and gentlemen**

**West Africa Centre for Peace Studies (WACPS)** is an independent, non-partisan, non-profit research, advocacy-based and policy focused organization, based in Accra, Ghana. It was founded in 2004 by Africans from diverse professional backgrounds dedicated to the promotion of democracy, good governance, peace and development in Africa. The centre provides research, training and advocacy support in its aim to enhance peace and human development initiatives at all levels in the region to impact Africa as a whole.

The Center engages in activities that helps in shaping and influencing policy formulation in governance, human rights issues, peace and security in the region. We are committed to ensuring that the learning acquired through our programmes are used to inform and strengthen policies and practices that will promote peace and development on the African continent.

Ladies and gentlemen, we will provide training and capacity building on specific topics for a wide variety of local and international organisation, including NGOs, government entities at different levels, international development groups, donor agencies and businesses. Some of these training are through targeted groups, workshops and seminars, we will also be producing a range

of training materials and resource packs. The Center will be organizing training for senior government officials, policy makers and civil society activists. The Center will also conduct high quality research on matters related to peace, security, human rights and governance.

The center will design and encourage national, regional and international conferences, round table debates and symposia in support of various subjects in the broader area of center's thematic interest.

### **Friends in the profession, ladies and gentlemen**

The Center's main goal is to help build lasting peace and justice in West Africa in particular and Africa in general. By combining research, advocacy, education and comparative analysis, WACPS hopes to address the causes and consequences of conflict in Africa and internationally, and promote conflict transformation strategies, essentially by aiming to influence policymakers and practitioners involved in peace, conflict and reconciliation issues while enhancing the nature of peace research in the region.

This mission will be pursued through:

- Researching and producing publications on issues relating to human rights, peace and security, good governance and development in Africa in order to improve practice and policy
- Supporting groups working at local, national and international levels to develop effective solutions to social, economic and political problems related to violent conflicts
- Providing training for key public and civic institutions working for peace, security and democratic governance in the region
- Promoting peacebuilding and democratic conflict management in the African region.
- Providing opportunities for inclusive dialogue and improved relationships within conflict affected communities at all social and political levels
- Engaging and influencing governments and other decision makers to employ conflict transformation policies that promote alternatives to violence

- Challenging stereotypes and raise awareness of human rights, conflict and peace issues in African countries

**Mr/madam Chairperson Having said these,**

History and current affairs taught as that:

People in West Africa and Africa as a whole have and continue to face catastrophic consequences directly attributed to the insecurity of life and property. The political landscape of the region is pockmarked with violent conflict. While these are mostly civil wars, they invariably spill over borders and adversely impact neighbouring countries. Almost every country in the region has experienced some form of conflict since independence in the 1960s. Currently, there are four main post conflict areas in the region – Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea, which comprise the Mano River Union (MRU); Ivory Coast; Senegal and Guinea-Bissau; and the internecine conflicts and religious insurgence in Nigeria.

These conflicts, which have devastated local communities, have largely been marked by extreme cruelty, senseless atrocities and the widespread use of sexual violence and child soldiers along with a great deal of impunity. Schools, hospitals, roads, electricity, water and other public infrastructure have also been destroyed. The conflicts in both Sierra Leone and Liberia have since been ended through peace agreements in 2002 and 2003 respectively but armed conflict continues in Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal, and Guinea remains seriously unstable.

The region faces many challenges to achieving lasting peace. International military and humanitarian interventions are leaving behind complex and difficult legacies. These measures, alongside international transitional justice processes, have largely failed to improve most people's lives. Traumatized conflict-affected communities are struggling to recover. The level of poverty is acute poverty, unemployment is high among young people and the culture of impunity and violence remains serious threat to the fragile peace in Sierra Leone and Liberia.

## **PROGRAM FOR THE INAUGURATION OF WACPS AND 3MCI**

- Opening prayer
  - Purpose of gathering by..... Rebecca Ama Ampaw
  - Introduction of the chairperson
  - Introduction of guest
  - Chairperson's remarks
  - Performance/remark
  - Speeches
1. ***Mr. Erasmus Ndemole Migyikra – founding Member and Executive Director  
WACPS/MMCBMI***
  2. ***Mr. Denteh Kwaku Daniel- Deputy Director General NADMO***
  3. ***Ms. Euphemia Akos Dzathor- Consultant Peace and Conflict, Women and Security  
Matters***
  4. ***Francesca Managing director TMENS***
  5. ***Adei foundation School- Regina Adei Hammond***
  6. ***Dr. Inusah Abdul-Nasiru – Snr Lecturer Dept. of Psychology, University of Ghana***
- Launching
  - Refreshment
  - Closing remarks
  - Vote of thanks

**SPEECH DELIVERED BY DR. INUSAH ABDUL-NASIRU**  
**SENIOR LECTURER, DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY UNIVERSITY OF GHANA**  
**ON THE OCCASION OF OFFICIAL OPENING OF WACPS AND 3MCI**  
**ACCRA: 15TH FEBRUARY 2020**

Mr. Chairman,

Nananom

Invited

Friends from the Media

Ladies and Gentlemen

I am a friend of this important organisation. I am for peace and security. Peace and security underline every nation's development. You will all agree with me that without peace and security, there cannot be development. The West African Centre for Peace Studies (WACPS) is one of the member organisations forming the Network of Foundations and Research Institutions for the Promotion of Culture of Peace in Africa. The WACPS has had several collaborations with sister organisations across Africa, including Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, and others.

As explained by the Executive Director in his remarks, there are key areas that remain the focus of the organisation. For want of time, I will base my presentation on two of the core areas, namely: Encouraging collaboration between decision-makers and civil society. From conflict zones to dialogue to ensure grassroots perspectives are fed into decision-making, and decisions are effectively communicated to those who are impacted by them; Conducting research with partners in conflict zones to develop understanding and analysis of local contexts, issues, needs and good practice, and linking them with global-level research in order to deepen analysis and thinking on more effective responses to conflict situations.

As a practicing psychologist, and one who is passionate about Humanitarian Work Psychology, I support the notion of engagement. It is a form of strategy used in psychological empowerment. I am an advocate of training and attitudinal change. This is where my values meet those of the WACPS which focuses on training and advocacy support to enhance peace and human development initiatives at all levels. Ladies and Gentlemen: People behave based on the perception they have about an issue, and mostly the kind of attitude they have about situations around them can influence the behaviours. As a result, it behoves citizens, political actors and leadership to promote peaceful coexistence, and where there is any misunderstanding, engage in peaceful collaboration in resolving any conflict. Engagement and training cannot be overemphasized when dealing with living peacefully with people.

Secondly, for actors in conflict resolution, and for that matter, individual experts on peace and security matters to be able to live up to expectation, they must base their recommendations on reliable metrics, driven by research. Research forms part of how WACPS works. Here I am talking about rigorous research using the appropriate scientific method. When security experts get things right using research, there will be a reduction in false alarms, and very few charlatans.

Today we hear about people whom suddenly have become security experts speaking on diverse issues, not based on research or observation. I am not a security expert. As a layperson in that area, I will recommend that the appropriate state authorities or international bodies assess and certify all security experts professionally to minimize subjectivity and biases inherent in analyzing and reporting security matters. Lives are important, and any projections not founded on verifiable details tend to cause problems. The media can help in this direction. Already, media houses are doing so well and deserve commendation in asking the right questions, sometimes more detailed that tend to provide prompts to analysts when discussing security.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We cannot conclude without mentioning the influence of the late Mr. Yaw Tawiah Denteh Migyikra. He was a peaceful individual, courageous, caring, a father, a teacher, a great leader by all standards. I was in his class. Yes, I stand here as a beneficiary of what he stands for. He taught me in Middle School Form 2 in Chinderi

L/A Middle School, in the Krachi Nchumuru District of the Oti Region. He was a technical person in Agriculture as a subject, but before every class, he made it a policy to take students through what I will describe as Moral Lessons 101. Outside of the classroom, we called him in Nchumuru dialect: sekaase, (meaning: father's younger brother) i.e., uncle. Sekaase gradually transformed into Oskaa. His love for the youth was great, and his readiness to tell stories to teach moral lessons was so profound that for me, it is not surprising that today, his son, and indeed all of us are gathered here to celebrate him, to preserve his name by naming a cultural band and musical institute after him. We know what culture has for us. We cannot develop without the right attitudes, the positive cultural values, and we cannot maintain peaceful coexistence without respecting the elderly and having mercy on the young. Ladies and Gentlemen: In conclusion, I entreat all to be peaceful especially this year being an election year. We should as much as possible minimise suspicion of each other, cooperate with security agencies, be mindful of our environment and think about our dear nation. No need to make the elections a matter of life or death. We are one people, one nation with a common destiny. We are a shining example of nations in Africa. We can only improve upon this achievement, and this cannot be left to chance. It requires a conscious effort by all of us in one way or the other. Let us live peacefully.

Thank you.

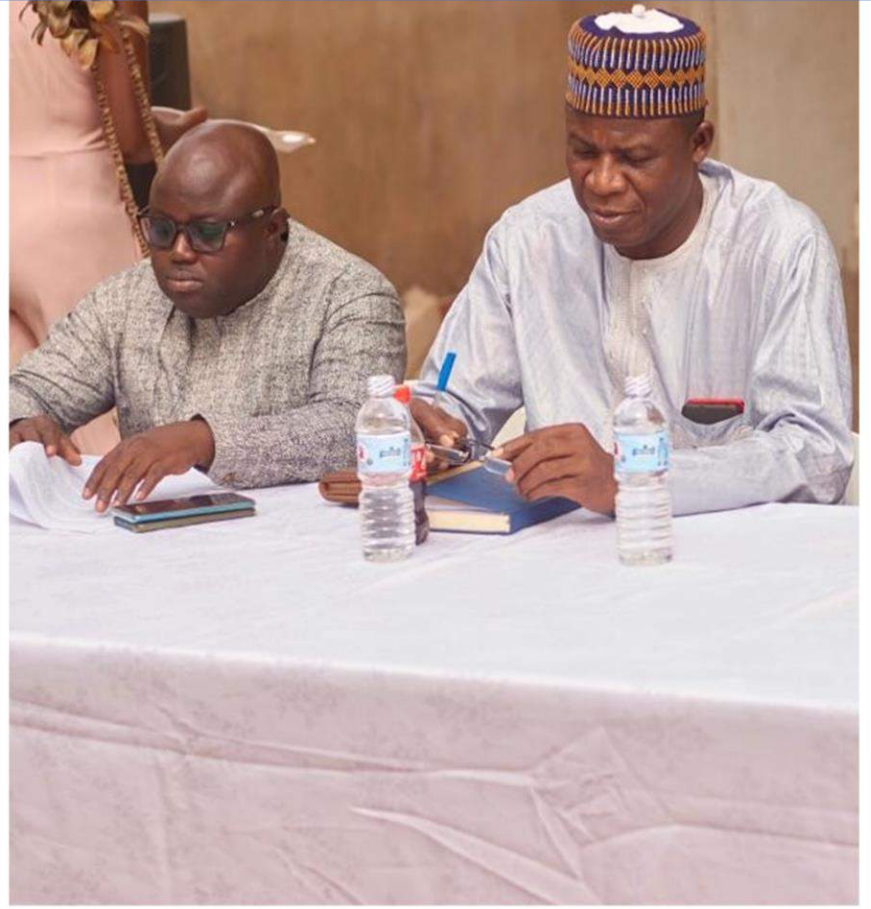
Dr. Inusah Abdul-Nasiru

Senior Lecturer / Industrial-Organizational Psychologist

Department of Psychology

University of Ghana, Legon, Accra

# INAUGURATION OF WACPS AND 3MCI



**SPEECH DELIVERED BY MR. DANIEL KWAKU DENTEH ON THE OFFICIAL  
OPENING OF MIGYIKRA CULTURAL, BAND & MUSICAL INSTITUTE (MMCBMI)  
AND WEST AFRICA CENTRE FOR PEACE STUDIES (WACPS).**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and gentlemen of the media you have been invited here today for the official opening of Migyikra Cultural, Band and Musical Institute (MMCBMI) and WACPS.

This man Migyikra whom 3MCI has been named after hails from Chinderi in the Nchumuru District of Oti. Though deceased, he has contributed a lot in educating the younger ones in his family and even extended his benevolence to many people outside his family.

Let me tell you a story about this man.

Many many years ago, people who attended school in the Nchumuru area of Ghana, were not many. This man Migyikra was among the privileged few who benefited from formal education. After Middle School, he went to Tamale Technical School, where he obtained London City and Guilds Certificate. In those days, it was one of the highly rated certificates.

Although he did not achieve higher educational laurels, the little he achieved impacted positively in the lives of many.

For instance, in those days because there was no television, traditional storytelling was the order of the day. However, the old man Migyikra read so many books such as “Things fall apart” “Robbison Crusoe”, “The head of Medusa”, “The Treasure Island” to mention a few. Anytime he read a story, he will seat the young ones down and summarize these stories to them.

Along the line, many boys and girls became enthused about most of the stories he told. So, when one out of curiosity finds out from him where he got all these stories. He answered, “if you learn how to read, you may get more stories than what I have”. Statements such as these encouraged the young ones to explore to read.

Through these singular efforts, many of the young ones who came after Migyikra took a serious interest in reading and today most of them occupy various positions in Ghana. Apart from that, he was also a lover of music. Though not a very good dancer or singer, he encouraged the young ones

to make effort to sing, dance and play musical instruments. For these may send them far even beyond the shores of Ghana.

Sometimes he makes statements that learning can take place when play and music are used.

Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, it is for the above and many other reasons that time may not allow us to espouse, that we want to immortalize and keep in memory of coming generations and generations yet unborn the contributions of Migyikra Yaw Tawiah Denteh regarding the cultural heritage of Nchumurus and Ghana as a whole.

Mooters of these great ideas have the conviction that this will in not too distant future transmogrify to a full-fledged university that will put a premium on reading, culture and music to transform the African.

## 2.0 WACPS RESUMES WORK

WACPS has been working since its inception without office accommodation until July 2020 when the founder made office space available in his community 18 Cambodia house to house 3 organizations namely WACPS, 3MCI and MGCEW. (where we acquired office space in Tema Community 18 Cambodia to house the 3 organizations namely WACPS, 3MCI, MGCEW).

In July 2020, the West African Centre for Peace Studies was revamped with the opening of an office space in Cambodia Community 18 Tema-Ghana. The office was equipped with furniture, 24/7 internet, IT equipment (laptop and desktop), 3 in 1 HP printer, conference table, bookshelves etc.

New Administrative staff who are all volunteers were recruited to take care of the day-to- day administrative functions of the NGO.

The organisation has also been challenged with creating and hosting internet due to non-funding/challenges, staffing has always been on voluntary bases of which Denteh Kwaku Daniel and Mama Awanyo as part of founding members trying to sustain the organization in their perspective houses and workplaces.

On 16th February 2020, WACPS was re-inaugurated and brought to shape. With well organize function where media houses and prominent persons were invited to witness Dr. Inusah Abdel Nasiru, Mr. Kwaku Daniel gave reviving messages.

## 2.1 INITIAL STEP

In order to comply with the legal requirement for the establishment of NGOs and the authority to commence business, WACPS complied with the statutory legal requirement with the state organizations such as, The Registrar General Department and the Social Welfare Department who are tasked to and keep a record of Non-Governmental Organization.

## 2.2 BUILDING ALLIANCES/ NETWORKING AFFILIATIONS

### 2.2.1 Partnership with Network of Foundations and Research Institutions for the Promotion of Culture of Peace in Africa (REFICA).



The West Africa Centre for Peace Studies has been selected to participate in the Virtual World Congress on Transdisciplinary which started from October 30, 2020 to September 30, 2021 on behalf of the Africa Committee coordinated by the Network of Foundations and Research Institutions for the Promotion of Culture of Peace in Africa (REFICA).

The organization presented a document entitled: Perspectives on Peace and Development” virtually the World Congress on Transdisciplinarity and was given a certificate of excellence

École Nationale d'Anthropologie et d'Histoire (ENAH-INAH) – Mexique

Centre International de Recherches et Études Transdisciplinaires (CIRET) - France Chaire Transdisciplinaire UNESCO (CTU) - Italie

Centre d'Éducation Transdisciplinaire (CETRANS) – Brésil

There was a presentation with the World Congress on Transdisciplinarity on the theme: Knowledge of African Traditions and African Culture in February 2021.

## THE EFFECTS OF COVID-19 ON OUR OPERATIONS.

Before COVID-19, most of the International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs) and CSOs including WACPS were already facing challenges to their economic survival due to limited funding. The situation became worse when the virus spread globally and in Africa it was exacerbated due to unpreparedness of countries to cope with the disruption caused by COVID-19.

For most of the NGOs that depended solely on the donor funding, these donors were also fighting for their own survival during this critical and uncertain period.

Due to the shutdown during the pandemic, NGOs and the NPOs lost a lot of revenue from cancelled and closed operations as individual donations also reduced. Serious work must be done to diversify funding before any more pandemic.

It is a well-known fact that a big chunk of the money in non-profit organisations comes from individual donations, WACPS does not have multiple streams of income or funding but solely relies on limited internal funding.

CSOs have a long tradition of performing crucial developmental, humanitarian and advocacy functions across Africa, often under challenging conditions. As a result, there can't be any effective response to COVID-19 without the involvement of CSOs. However, at a time when their contributions are more critical than ever, they are also confronted with the negative impact of the pandemic on their operations and sustainability.

COVID-19 impacted and disrupted our operations in many ways since we had to observe all the safety protocols in our meetings which needed more people.

Even our staff have to work from home with its attendant challenges and extra costs.

### 3.0 ACTIVITIES

#### 3.1 Donation to Ghana School of Law



The CEO of WACPS on The Left and Acting Director of GSL on The Right



## WACPS DONATES TO GHANA SCHOOL OF LAW

A non-governmental organization called West Africa Centre for Peace Studies (WACPS) has presented an undisclosed amount to the Ghana School of Law on Wednesday, September 30, 2020 in Accra.

Mr. Erasmus Ndemole Migyikra, the CEO of the organization who did the presentation expressed his excitement about the tremendous contributions of the Ghana Law School (GLS) to the society and therefore needed the support of all and sundry.

The Acting-Director of the Ghana School of Law, Mr. Maxwell Opoku-Agyemang, thanked WACPS for their gesture of social responsibility.

Mr. Maxwell Opoku-Agyemang, stated that law is the foundation for peace and development. He assured WACPS that GSL will continue to cooperate to ensure that peace is promoted and preserved at all times.

He therefore assured WACPS that the donation will be put to good use.

(Captured in The Spectator, Vol.No.1, 382, Saturday, October 31- 2020.)

### **3.2 Press Releases**

WACPS being a watch dog organization monitored the media landscape and the political scene constantly. Press releases were issued from time to time to keep the political actors on their toes.

The relationship with the media will be strengthened for more visibility in subsequent years.

### **3.3 Building Capacities for Its Volunteer Workers Brilliants but Needy individuals**

The Centre has also been interested in the Professional advancement of its volunteers and other vulnerable individuals outside the organization. Currently, there are five workers who have been enrolled into Ghana Institute of Journalism; Accra Technical University, Kyebi College of Education, Ghana School of Law, University of Ghana, University of Professional Studies Law

School (UPSA) each has one student respectively and also four remedial students at Church of Christ Senior High School- Ateiku.

### **3.4 Peace Talks**

#### **Richard Anaman writes: Promoting peace before, during and after elections**

The development of every nation depends largely on its human capital. As such, there is the need to allow and engage the citizenry in the process of governance especially when democracy has become an essential element in every nation.

As eligible voters get ready to exercise their franchise in the 2020 Presidential and Parliamentary elections in Ghana and in turn to elect leaders to run the affairs of the state for the next four years, it is therefore prudent for citizens to be aware of the power they have use to execute it responsibly and also be abreast with the utmost care, consciousness of duty and responsibility power comes with.

Without an iota of doubt every time there is an election, there is equally some degree of tension. Hence, having this conversation is crucial. For example, the Ayawaso West Wuogon by-election which was marred by violence paints a picture of what is likely to happen in an election if tensions are not brought under control ahead of time.

In light of this, the West Africa Centre for Peace Studies (WACPS), an independent, non-partisan, non-profit research and advocacy-based and policy focused organization situated in Accra, Ghana, comprising of professionals from diverse backgrounds who are dedicated to promoting good governance, development and more importantly peace in West Africa and beyond thought it wise for the need to educate Ghanaians on peace promotion before, during and after the elections.

Thus, creating a socio-political environment free of violence is essential to the development of every nation.

As part of their peace campaign, members of WACPS embarked on a four-day trip to the Oti Region specifically to Dambai (regional capital) and Chinderi in the Krachi Nchumuru District

respectively as they engaged and educated the members of the Chinderi community on the need for peace building under the theme “Peace Begins With You”.

The campaign saw the Programmes Manager, Mr. Godwin Kouwoadan, Gender Policy and Children’s Right Advisor, Ms. Rebecca Ampaw – both of WACPS, Assembly Member for Chinderi, Hon. Awal Muhammed and other opinion leaders.

Mr. Godwin Kouwoadan in delivering a keynote address said the peace campaign aims at building and promoting long lasting peace before the 2020 polls.

Explaining that, the need for building an environment characterized by peace is crucial to the development of every nation.

While urging the people of Chinderi to be ambassadors of peace, Mr. Kouwoadan indicated that peace is priceless and therefore must be highly valued especially when the nation heads towards the general elections.

“The peace we enjoy as a nation must always be protected and preserved. We must see elections only as a period when we exercise our franchise and in turn elect into government the leaders to run the affairs of the state. We must not allow ourselves to be swayed by political influence which can adversely impact innocent people as a result of our violent acts”, he said.

He further called on all stakeholders and opinion leaders to use the power vested in them to be united and promote peaceful coexistence between members of the community before, during and after the elections as they have much influence on the people.

“I want to use this opportunity to urge all the leaders of various groups to promote peace from now on and see ourselves as one people with one destiny. The time has come for us to build and promote long lasting peace. We are not enemies. No country can develop out of violence. It is the peace we enjoy that creates a conducive environment to enable people to go about their duties freely. Therefore, let us all be agents of peace from now and forever”, he added.

He noted that peace is a situation where there is harmony, understanding such that people feel safe and secure.

He pointed out that in the absence of peace there is violence and that violence is not only about using physical force or weapons. Sometimes harsh words could escalate violence as well.

“We must allow the body which has been constitutionally mandated to carry out the elections peacefully. We are not to interfere with the duty with the Electoral Commission as it may escalate violence in the long run”, Mr. Kouwoadan said.

Honorable Awal Muhammed, the Assembly Member for Krachi Nchumuru electoral area noted that various religious groups, as well as other social groups, take upon themselves the duty to talk to their members on the need to build sustainable peace.

“Anytime election is approaching, the churches, Islamic groups mostly talk about peace messages as part of their sermons. They do that because they know without peace, their religious activities cannot take place. For you to worship, for you to also live, there should be peace. When we go to our mosques and churches, the leaders, imams and pastors preach about peace to the members”, He said.

Honorable Muhammed also pointed out that the ties between members of the community is strong that it does not allow any room for violent act from any community member.

“Our community is such that almost everyone here is known by someone in a way or the other and as a result of that we do not encourage people to engage in violent acts as it may lead to serious consequences”, He added.

“One message I have for all my members is that we must see ourselves as one people. We should accept the results of the EC because whoever the winner may be is a Ghanaian and we must support him to be able to deliver what we want”, Honorable Muhammed said.

# PICTURES OF WACPS IN OTI REGION ON PEACE TALK



Peace Talk In the Mosque at Chinderi



Hon. Awal Muhamed(Assembly member for Krachi Nchumuru electoral area)



PEACE TALK AND MUSICAL CONCERT AT DAMBAI WITH WACPS



STAFF OF WACPS IN A FERRY TO DAMBAI PEACE TALK



SOME OF THE COMMUNITY LEADERS AT CHINDERI WITH WACPS



*WACPS Engaged the Christian Community in a Peace Lecture, 2020*



WACPS PEACE TALK AT NYAME ABASA, A SUBURB IN LASHIBI COM. 20

### 3.5 Peace walk

The West Africa Centre For Peace studies as part of its core values to ensure peace within the West Africa sub-region took upon themselves to educate Ghanaians on the topic: Peace Begins With You.

This is to create awareness on the need to maintain and ensure peace before during and after the 7<sup>th</sup> December 2020 general elections.

Being a peace council, the West Africa Centre for Peace Studies organized a peace walk in collaboration with the Church of Pentecost, Ghana, Labone assembly.

The team set off from Tema at 6:00am and arrived in Labadi, Mcdan Town Park at 7:20am where the event commenced.

The event started with a football match between people in the community and members of WACPS.

The peace match ended with awards going in favour of the people in the community winning the football match.

While the football match was on going our cultural group were preaching peace through traditional dance moves.

These interesting activities attracted a lot of people on site and at exactly 9:30am the peace walk began. The peace walk started with a word of prayer from the head pastor of the church.

The youth department of West Africa Centre for Peace Studies distributed the placards with peace messages on them which include “PEACE BEGINS WITH YOU, NO PEACE NO DEVELOPMENT, SAY NO TO ELECTORAL VIOLENCE,”

# GALLERY PHOTOS OF THE PEACE WALK IN LABADI





### 3.6 EOM-EU – WACPS Partnership.

The European Union has deployed an Election Observation Mission for the Presidential and Parliamentary Elections in Ghana scheduled for 7 December 2020. The EU EOM is led by Chief Observer Javier Nart, a Member of the European Parliament from Spain.

The mission's mandate is to observe all aspects of the electoral process and assess the extent to which the elections comply with international and regional commitments for elections, as well as with the laws of Ghana.

Two staff of the West Africa Centre for Peace Studies (WACPS) were recruited by the EOM EU Ghana 2020 to play very pivotal roles in the election management activities of the European Union.

Mr. Godwin Kouwoadan, Deputy- Manager, Programmes of WACPS was appointed Observer Coordinator Assistant at the EU EOM Headquarters at Kempiski Hotel in Accra.



*WACPS  
Working With  
The EU  
During  
Ghana's Dec.,  
2020 General  
Elections.*



The EU EOM also appointed Miss Alberta Horlu, Finance and Administration Officer of WACPS as an Assistant Secretary and Logistics Officer.

The EU team was highly impressed about the WACPS staff's sterling performance during the mission.

By this unique dedication to duty, WACPS have established the foundation for future collaborations.

### **3.7 Partnership with Ghana Photo Journalist Network**

In 2020, the West Africa Centre for Peace Studies entered into a professional alliance with the Ghana Photo Journalists Network for photo exhibition projects. One of the pending projects is the proposed photo exhibition that will be done in 2021.

WACPS Head Offices will be used for future photo exhibitions.

### **3.8 Research and Documentation of Crises across Africa**

The West Africa Centre for Peace Studies has been researching and documenting the trouble spots across the continent. Most of these hotspots are places that have become unstable due to political instability especially after elections. Countries like; Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea (Conakry), Serra Leone, Uganda, Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, Nigeria etc.

### **3.9 Partnership with Amann Center for Democracy, Security and Counter Terrorism (ACDS-Africa)**

ACDS-Africa also expressed interest in forming a strategic partnership with WACPS. This is because the two organizations have common grounds of operations. Therefore, they decided to synchronize their efforts and expertise in peace building, the enhancement of the democratization process and the promotion of general security across the continent.

# FINANCIALS

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR 2020

Budget Line	Budget Amount (GH¢)	Actual Expenditure (GH¢)	Variance in GH¢	Variance in Percent
<b>General Expenses</b>				
Educational Sponsorship	30,000.00	28,094.30	(1,905.70)	-6.4%
Donations (USD1000 RoE=5.88)	6,000.00	5,880.00	(120.00)	-2.0%
<b>Subtotal General Expenses</b>	<b>36,000.00</b>	<b>33,974.30</b>	<b>(2,025.70)</b>	<b>-5.6%</b>
<b>Election Peace Campaign Expenses</b>				
Oti Region	28,500.00	25,675.00	(2,825.00)	-9.9%
Tema	4,500.00	3,900.00	(600.00)	-13.3%
Labadi-Labone	7,000.00	6,230.00	(770.00)	-11.0%
<b>Subtotal Election Peace Campaign Expenses</b>	<b>40,000.00</b>	<b>35,805.00</b>	<b>(4,195.00)</b>	<b>-10.5%</b>
<b>Administrative Expenses</b>				
Volunteers Allowance	9,000.00	8,000.00	(1,000.00)	-11.1%
Registrar General's Department	400.00	270.00	(130.00)	-32.5%
Social welfare registration	3,500.00	2,800.00	(700.00)	-20.0%
Miscellaneous Expenses	11,100.00	9,160.00	(1,940.00)	-17.5%
<b>Subtotal Administrative Expenses</b>	<b>24,000.00</b>	<b>20,230.00</b>	<b>(3,770.00)</b>	<b>-15.7%</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>GHC 100,000.00</b>	<b>GHC 90,009.30</b>	<b>(GHC 9,990.70)</b>	<b>-10.0%</b>

# ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS



**Dr. Inusah Abdul-Nasiru**  
(Univ of Ghana Dept of psychology)



**Migykra Erasmus Ndemole**  
(Ghana)



**Madam Janet Adama (Ghana)**



**Dr Abiodun Onadipe (Nigeria)**



**Sam Muhumure (Uganda)**

# THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

- Migyikra Erasmus Ndemole (Esq)**
- Euphemia Akos Dzathor (Mama Awanyo)**
- Agustine Yao Dzathor (Prof.)**
- Amina Abugdanroka Kaguah (Esq)**
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## 4.2 Conclusion

The West Africa Centre for Peace Studies has demonstrated its commitment to development, peace building, human rights, good governance, peace and diplomacy throughout its existence especially in 2020. With the right partnership and resources, we can positively affect the geo-political landscape of the West Africa sub-region and the entire African continent.

This annual report climaxes the activities accomplished during the year under review, 2020. Multiple projected plans, projects, programmes and research were not executed or implemented due to financial challenges. Most donors focused on addressing Covid-19 related issues.

Based on the challenges WACPS faced, our future projections for the year 2021 will involve applying different strategies such as adaptive management and revamping fundraising or resource mobilization. WACPS will further reach out to likeminded individuals, communities and organizations in order to impact more targeted groups and beneficiaries. Thank you so much for your support and contribution both in-kind donations and monetary.



*Despite COVID-19 setbacks, the management of WACPS Express their Sincere Gratitude to their dedicated Volunteers, Friends and Partners for Their Immense Contribution in Making 2020 an Impactful Year.*

# Thank You.