



HIGH-RISK, HIGH REWARD:
**OPERATING IN CHALLENGING
WEST AFRICAN ENVIRONMENTS**

— Date —

28 - 29 September 2022

— Venue —

Accra - Ghana



INTRODUCTION

The West Africa Mining Security Conference brings together academics, security practitioners, subject matter experts, and the mining industry to discuss regional security trends and operational challenges.

The conference provides an opportunity for mine management and security professionals to share current assessments of risk and best practice risk mitigation strategies.

In 2019, the Australian Government through the Australian High Commission in Accra, Ghana in partnership with the Australia-Africa Minerals and Energy Group (AAMEG) and MS Risk, and sponsored by mining companies hosted the first West Africa Mining Security Conference (WAMS).

A planned conference in 2020 was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



PROGRAM

West Africa Mining Security Conference

28-29 September 2022 | Accra, Ghana

Master of Ceremonies (MC) : Ms Nicole Guihot, Australian Deputy High Commissioner to Ghana

Panel Moderator : Mr Roger Staley, CEO Australia-Africa Minerals and Energy Group (AAMEG)

DAY ONE – WEDNESDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2022

- 0800-0900 : **Registration**
- 0900-0905 : **Conference Opening**
- 0905-0920 : **Welcome Remarks**
H.E. Berenice Owen-Jones, Australian High Commissioner to Ghana
- 0920-0930 : **Conference introduction**
Roger Staley, Chief Executive Officer, Australia-Africa Minerals and Energy Group (AAMEG)
- 0930-0935 : **Video message**
The Hon. Tim Watts M.P., Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs, Australia
- 0935-1000 : **Keynote Address**
The Hon. Albert Kan-Dapaah, Minister of National Security, Ghana
- 1000-1030 : **Morning Tea**
- 1030-1230 : **SESSION ONE**
- 1030-1100 : Developments in the regional security environment and trends in violent extremism
– *Dr Neveen Abdalla, Lecturer, Brunel University*
- 1100-1130 : Sahel: trajectory and the spread of extremism – *Rinaldo Depagne, Africa Deputy Director, International Crisis Group (ICG)*
- 1130-1200 : Increasing presence of Private Military Companies (PMCs) in the region and implications for mining – *Dr Richard Warnes, Senior Consultant, Vedette Consulting*
- 1200-1230 : Terrorism spill-over from the Sahel to littoral states – *Dr Lori-Anne Thérroux-Bénoni, Director, Regional Office for West Africa, Sahel and Lake Chad Basin, Institute for Security Studies*
- 1230-1330 : **Lunch**

- 1330-1530 : **SESSION TWO**
- 1330-1400 : Analysis of regional security trends and outlook and implications for international mining investment – *Jeremy Zakis, Australian Department of Home Affairs*
- 1400-1430 : Understanding the threat: evolution of terrorist tactics and safe havens and the challenges for mine operators – *Lt Col Liam Morrissey, Chief Executive Officer, MS Risk Limited*
- 1430-1500 : Security environment challenges for mining companies and risk mitigation – *John Moller, Head of Security Crisis and Emergency Management, Perenti*
- 1500-1530 : Contingency Planning: a retrospective analysis – *Herlé-Xavier Carn, Vice President and Security Adviser, Security Services, International SOS*
- 1530-1600 : **Afternoon Tea**
- 1600-1700 : **SESSION THREE**
- Moderated panel discussion and audience Q&A on high-risk environment challenges and risk-based approaches to operations – *moderated by Roger Staley, Chief Executive Officer, Australia Africa Minerals and Energy Group (AAMEG)*
- 1830-2100 : **Welcome Cocktail Reception, Australian High Commission** – *hosted by HE Berenice Owen-Jones, Australian High Commissioner to Ghana with non-resident accreditation to Togo, Cote d'Ivoire, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea, Senegal, Mali and Burkina Faso*

DAY TWO – THURSDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 2022

- 0830-1030 : **SESSION ONE**
- 0830-0900 : Assessment of security risk for mining investment in littoral West Africa: potential flashpoints for conflict – *Karana Olivier, Mediator and Conflict Analysis Expert*
- 0900-0930 : Countering violent extremism: community peace and resilience building – *Mutaru Muqthar, Executive Director, West Africa Centre for Countering Extremism (WACCE)*
- 0930-1000 : Working alongside artisanal miners: engagement strategies for mining companies – *Elizabeth Arnott, TDi Sustainability*
- 1000-1030 : Partnership opportunities between the mining industry and GCERF – *Dr Khalid Koser, Executive Director, Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF)*
- 1030-1100 : **Morning Tea**

- 1100-1200 : **SESSION TWO**
- 1100-1130 : Developments in regional political instability and the coup contagion factor – *Mustapha Abdallah, Senior Researcher, Kofi Annan International Peace-keeping Training Centre (KAIPTC)*
- 1130-1200 : Regional Political Outlook: 2023-2024 elections - *Rinaldo Depagne, Africa Deputy Director, International Crisis Group (ICG)*
- 1200-1315 : **SESSION THREE**
- 1200-1300 : Panel discussion and audience Q&A on engaging with mining communities - *moderated by Roger Staley, Chief Executive Officer, Australia-Africa Minerals and Energy Group (AAMEG)*
- 1300-1330 : Conference wrap-up - *Roger Staley, Chief Executive Officer, Australia-Africa Minerals and Energy Group (AAMEG)*
- 1330-1430 : **Lunch – conference plenary concludes**
- 1430-1730 : **WORKSHOP - Kidnap Mitigation**
- 1430-1600 : **Workshop – PART ONE**
Lt Col Liam Morrissey, Chief Executive Officer, MS Risk Limited
- 1600-1630 : **Afternoon tea**
- 1630-1730 : **Workshop – PART TWO**
Lt Col Liam Morrissey, Chief Executive Officer, MS Risk Limited



SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Roger Staley

CEO, Australia-Africa Minerals & Energy Group

Mr Staley has 40 years of practical and management experience in mineral exploration and the mining of a wide range of commodities and mineralisation styles. He began his career as a geologist with major companies in Australia and has since held global, regional and country leadership positions with mining and mining service companies. His extensive experience includes projects in Australia, Zambia, Congo-Brazzaville and South-East Asia in which he led - or was part of - exploration teams engaged in the discovery, definition and evaluation of world-class mineral projects.

Mr Staley has also been accountable for business development and the sales of services and technical solutions to mineral resource companies in all geographies.



Mutaru Mumuni Muqthar

Executive Director, West Africa Centre for Counter-Extremism

Mr Muqthar is P/CVE Practitioner and Executive Director for West Africa Centre for Counter-Extremism (WACCE). In the last eight years, Mr Muqthar has worked to stop more than 23 radicalised individuals from travelling to join terrorist groups. His work has helped to deepen local understanding around radicalization and violent extremism, and has trained more than 6,600 youth and community leaders as peace ambassadors to build resilience against violent extremism in the region.

Mr Muqthar also serves as conference speaker and guest lecturer to universities and several institutions in Ghana and abroad. He is an alumnus of the Mandela Washington Fellowship, a Global Shaper of the World Economic Forum (WEF), Scholar of the Aspen Institute (USA) and serves as a mentor for youth career and professional development. Among several other awards, Mr Muqthar was a recipient of the African of the Year Award (2018), the youngest recipient at the time, for his impactful work in preventing violent extremism in Africa.

Mr Muqthar has a BSc in Business Administration from Ashesi University, Ghana, and MA in International Terrorism, Global Crime and International Security from Coventry University, UK. He also understudied anti-mafia prosecutors in Sicily, Italy, regarding organized crime.



Dr Lori-Anne Thérroux-Bénoni

Director, Regional Office for West Africa, Sahel and Lake Chad Basin, Institute for Security Studies

Dr Thérroux-Bénoni is Director of the Institute for Security Studies Regional Office for West Africa, the Sahel and the Lake Chad Basin. She leads a team of researchers from Dakar to N'djamena working on key policy issues in the region, including violent extremism, terrorism, political instability, community conflicts, organized crime, peace operations and political processes.

Before being appointed Director in 2014, Dr Thérroux-Bénoni worked as a senior researcher and analyst for the ISS, the Network on Peace Operations at the University of Montreal, Canada and the Carter Center in Côte d'Ivoire. Dr Thérroux-Bénoni has a PhD in anthropology from the University of Toronto, Canada.



Dr Richard Warnes

Senior Consultant, Vedette Consulting

Dr Warnes is a Senior Consultant with Vedette Consulting and has a broad range of experience in the fields of international relief and human rights, counter-terrorist policing, military operations and defence research. He regularly writes and lectures on aspects of both terrorism and irregular warfare. He previously served as an NCO in a Field Intelligence Team in Bosnia and as a Detective in the Metropolitan Police Special Branch and Counter Terrorism Command, before working for RAND Europe as an analyst in the Defence and Security group.

Working as a civilian contractor, he was part of a team conducting in-country evaluations of a security capacity-building programme for local forces in Iraq and Afghanistan between 2008-2014. Dr Warnes has a PhD on human factors in effective counter-terrorism and an MA in criminal justice.



Rinaldo Depagne

Africa Deputy Director, International Crisis Group

Mr Depagne is Africa Deputy Director at International Crisis Group, where he coordinates and oversees the research and publications on West Africa, Central Africa and the Sahel. He was previously the organisation's Senior Analyst for Côte d'Ivoire and Burkina Faso and West Africa Project Director, covering Nigeria, Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea.

Before joining Crisis Group in 2008, Mr Depagne worked as a journalist, specialising for the past 30 years in Africa and, in particular, West Africa. He has worked for various French newspapers and international radio stations and TV channels, including the BBC, Deutsche Welle and Canal +. He spent 15 years in West Africa, living in Benin, Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal and travelling in most of the Ecowas countries.



Mustapha Abdallah

Senior Researcher, Faculty of Academic Affairs and Research, Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre

Mr Abdallah is a Senior Researcher, Faculty of Academic Affairs and Research (FAAR), at the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) in Accra, Ghana. With over 10 years' experience in research, teaching, capacity building, and policy analysis, Mr Abdallah consults on Islamic radicalization leading to violent extremism and terrorism, and transnational organized crimes in West Africa.

He has presented several papers at international conferences and his selected publications include Abdallah, M., & Aning, K. (2022) "Domestic peacekeeping practices in the Tamale Metropolis of Ghana", *Contemporary Journal of African Studies*, 9(1) and Kwesi Aning & Mustapha Abdallah (2013) "Islamic Radicalization and Violence in Ghana", *Conflict, Security & Development*, 13:2, 149-167. Mr Abdallah is currently a PhD candidate at the Institute of African Studies (IAS), University of Ghana, Legon.



Karana Olivier

Mediator and Conflict Analysis Expert

Mr Olivier is a mediator and conflict analysis expert with over 15 years' experience in the management of USAID and EU-funded stabilization projects in conflict zones in Central and West Africa. These include border security studies in the Mano River region and in the rural border towns of northern Burkina Faso, central Mali, and southwestern Niger – the Liptako Gourma region. He has also implemented programs designed to prevent and reduce violent extremism in Senegal, Sudan, Chad, Nigeria, and northern Côte d'Ivoire.

As chief of party for Equal Access International, Mr Olivier recently implemented a USAID-funded project called Accountability for Development that sought to reduce push factors along the Ghana, Guinea, Burkina, and Mali border where local socioeconomic and health factors expose rural communities to recruitment in the activities of violent extremist groups. He speaks several languages including French and Danish and holds Master of Arts degrees in Anthropology and International Peace Studies.

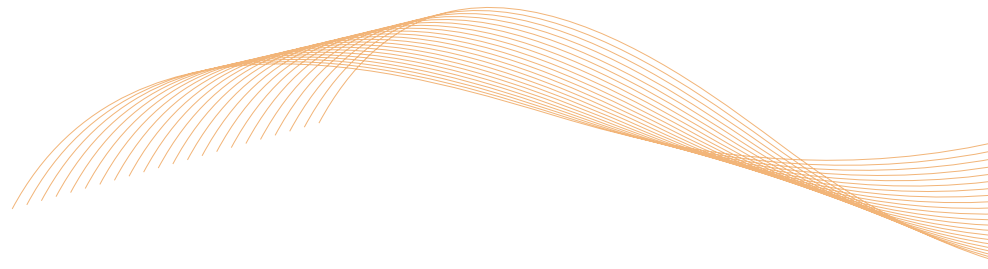


Dr Neveen Abdalla

Lecturer, Brunel University

Dr Abdalla holds a Doctorate and Masters degree in Intelligence and Security Studies from Brunel University, London, concentrating on the intelligence community ability to provide early warning of societal unrest. She worked as a threat analyst (Middle East and North Africa) for Global Maritime, where her duties included regular situational updates on maritime and on-shore activities in troubled market areas, weekly updates on key maritime port security and in-situ and remote security for election monitoring and other events.

Dr Abdalla is an Associate Lecturer at Brunel University, London where she teaches fundamentals of American politics including Political foundations of the establishment of the US, examination of three branches of government and the electoral process. In addition to her role as a lecturer, she is a senior intelligence analyst for MS Risk



Elizabeth Arnott

Consultant, TDi Sustainability

Ms Arnott is a consultant who works with government and private sector companies on mining related issues including extractive industry transparency, governance accountability, and the advancement of human rights. Passionate about creating ethical mineral supply chains from mine to market, Ms Arnott's work focuses on the integration of sustainability practices into everyday business. She has an array of experience working on strategies for the engagement of artisanal and small-scale mines (ASM), including conflict mitigation between ASM and large-scale mines (LSM).

Ms Arnott also specializes in supply chain mapping and risk management tools for the sourcing of natural resources. Currently a PhD candidate at the University of Manchester's School of Law, Ms Arnott's research focuses on ASM policy in Sub-Saharan Africa with a focus on Ghana. Her research explores different models of intervention for capacity development and general formalization of the sector.

Ms Arnott has experience working on mining related issues in Ghana, Kenya, Guatemala and Nicaragua. At the Danish Institute for Human Rights, her research was featured in a Sector Wide Impact Assessment on Mining and Human Rights in Myanmar. In Ghana, Ms Arnott worked as a Local Governance Advisor where she lived in a gold mining district and worked on strategies to enhance livelihood opportunities for the local community.

She also developed capacity assessment tools focusing on transparency, accountability and the inclusion of women in local governance processes. Ms Arnott currently works with TDi Sustainability, where she provides a variety of risk management services to companies across the mineral supply chain.



Dr Khalid Koser

*Executive Director, Global Community
Engagement and Resilience Fund*

Dr Koser is the founding Executive Director of the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF), the global fund for preventing violent extremism. An academic by training, Dr Koser is a Professor of Conflict, Peace, and Security at the University of Maastricht, as well as a non-resident fellow at the Lowy Institute.

As a global advocate for migrants and refugees, Dr Koser chaired the World Economic Forum Global Future Council on Migration for six years, edited the Journal of Refugee Studies, and was appointed MBE for services to asylum seekers and refugees. He chairs the Board of Trustees for the sustainable development charity Raleigh International.



Lt Col Liam Morrissey MBE CD FRGS
Chief Executive Officer, MS Risk Limited

Lt Col Morrissey is the CEO of the security and crisis response consultancy MS Risk Limited. With prior military service in the Canadian and British Armies he has delivered enterprise risk management to clients for over 20 years, with the last 13 years in the Sahel region.

His firm is retained by leading insurers as a crisis responder and serves clients across the natural resources and financial services sectors.



Herlé-Xavier Carn
Vice-President Security, International SOS

Mr Carn is Vice-President Security EMEA for International SOS, which he joined in 2006. After 15 years of experience as a senior executive in the Ministry of Defense, in France and abroad, he specialized in International Security and Crisis management.

He advises members of International SOS on the implementation of their international risk management strategies.



John Moller
Head of Security Crisis and Emergency Management, Perenti

Mr Moller has established his credentials over a 35-year period which includes 20 years in the Australian Army and 15 years working for a range of commercial enterprises, primarily in the oil and gas and mining sectors.

Complementing his experience, Mr Moller holds a Master's in Emergency Management, a Post Graduate Diploma in Operations Management and a Bachelor of Science in Security.



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