African countries continue to lose huge proportions of their resources through illicit consignment of financial and other assets to foreign jurisdictions, thus making the continent a net creditor to the rest of the world. These resources, if harnessed properly, could make huge differences in Africa’s development. However, the conversion of these assets for productive use in Africa would require definite and coordinated actions by African countries.

Return of assets is a fundamental principle under Chapter V of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC)

Facilitated by African Union Champion, President Muhammadu Buhari, the African Union (AU), the AU-Advisory Board on Corruption (AU-ABC), Consortium to Stem IFF from Africa, and the Coalition for Dialogue on Africa (CoDA), the Common African Position on Asset Recovery (CAPAR) was adopted by the African Union Executive Council at its 36th Ordinary Session on 7 February 2020 and adopted by the Assembly of African Union Heads of State and Government at its 33rd Session on 9 February 2020.

CAPAR is a political, policy, and advocacy instrument to assist in identifying, repatriating and effectively managing Africa’s assets for the common good of citizens, in accordance with Africa’s development agenda, domestic laws and other legitimate government purposes in a manner that respects the sovereignty of Member States. It has four pillars: asset detection and identification, asset recovery and return, asset management, and cooperation and partnerships.

Session on CAPAR

The International Anti-Corruption Conference provides an excellent platform for engagement, knowledge exchange and networking by stakeholders on different issues affecting the continent.

Consequently, on behalf of the Working Group on CAPAR, African Union Commission (AU), Coalition for Dialogue on Africa (CoDA) and the Government of Nigeria through the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related offences Commission Nigeria (ICPC) in partnership with Albany State University Graduate School are organizing a session during the 20th International Anti-Corruption Conference (IACC) in Washington DC.
The organizing partners see the conference as an excellent opportunity to disseminate, and provide visibility, increase understanding, and galvanize support for implementation of CAPAR at the country and continental levels. The event will be in Panel Format to discuss different aspects of CAPAR and is expected to generate useful dialogue needed to provide strategic insight on how best to move forward on the implementation of CAPAR and enlist international support for return of African assets consigned to foreign jurisdictions.

**Expected outcomes of the session**

1. Greater awareness about the existence of the CAPAR
2. Understanding of the pillars of the CAPAR and how to interpret them
3. Understanding of the interconnections between illicit financial flows (IFFs), domestic resource mobilization, and peace, security, good governance, sustainable development, and Agenda 2063
4. Recommendations and strategies to be submitted the United Nations, the African Union, the international community and relevant stakeholders on actions to stem the illicit financial flows from Africa and return of African assets.

**PANELISTS**

| 1. | H.E. Bankole Adeoye, Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security of the African Union Commission (Co-Chair of the CAPAR Working Group) |
| 2. | Senator Elizabeth Warren - Senior United States Senator from Massachusetts (TBC) |
| 3. | Barrister Akere T. Muna – African Union High Level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows (IFFs) from Africa (Co-Chair of the CAPAR Working Group) |
| 4. | Professor Bolaji Owasanoye - Chairman, Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), Nigeria (Member, CAPAR Working Group) |
| 5. | Mr. Stephen Karangizi - Former Director and CEO of the African Legal Support Facility (Member, CAPAR Working Group) |
| 6. | Ms. Souad Aden Osman - Coordinator of the Secretariat of the AU High Level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows from Africa Executive Director, Coalition for Dialogue on Africa (CoDA) |
| 7. | Professor Roger Claude Liwanga - Albany State University, Georgia, USA |

**Contact**

Souad Aden-Osman, Head of the Secretariat of the AU High Level Panel on IFFs from Africa
adin-osmans@africa-union.org