



**Mr. Daniel KRULL**  
**Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Ghana**  
**at the Kofi Annan Peacekeeping Training Centre**  
**Accra, 12 July 2022**

The Commandant KAIPTC, Major General Francis Ofori

The Director Training KAIPTC, Col Paul S Tanye-Kulono

The Course Directors, CSP Edem Agbitor, Mr. Norbert Wienold

Distinguished Course Facilitators and Participants

Ladies and Gentlemen

Friends of the Media



I am excited to be part of this morning's opening ceremony of the Collaborative Policing (CPoL) Course.

First, I would like to thank Major General Francis Ofori for his invitation and his brilliant service as Commandant of the KAIPTC. I would like to take the opportunity to reaffirm Germany's dedication to support the KAIPTC. Germany has been a staunch supporter of the KAIPTC ever since 2003. And take my word as the German Ambassador: We will continue to support the Centre's efforts of training military, police and civilian men and women for ever-more challenging peace support operations across the globe. It is with great relief that I know that we have managed to overcome previous misunderstandings. This is with great joy that we celebrate the opportunity of rekindling our long-standing cooperation with the launch of this new training course.

Development requires stability and stability requires peace. The German government favors a regional approach to crisis prevention and conflict management on the African continent and Sub-Saharan Africa in particular. We are committed to support the plans of our African partners in establishing an African peace and security architecture and shared responsibility in security matters. This sense of shared-responsibility for ensuring peace, security and stability beyond one's borders has been particularly reflected in United Nations peace operations.

We commend Ghana for its contributions to peacekeeping. Ghana is the seventh biggest contributor to UN peacekeeping operations worldwide regarding uniformed personnel, many of which have been trained at this facility. More than 400 female peacekeepers are currently deployed, making Ghana the third biggest contributor of female personnel. This underscores the country's role in strengthening a rules-based international order. With its contributions, Ghana has left a remarkable footprint in international peace operations, particularly regarding the support of the United Nations' five peacekeeping missions in Sub-Saharan Africa.

We may experience setbacks from time to time but collaborative action in security matters remains our best choice for creating conditions for lasting peace. After all, to quote former Secretary-General of the United Nations, Dag Hammarskjöld: "The United Nations was not created in order to bring us to heaven, but in order to save us from hell". And quite frankly, what we are currently experiencing on the international stage could not more closely resemble hell.

For the past 4 months, we are witnessing the daily horror of a politics of disregard for human rights, a disregard for state sovereignty and a disregard for international law. Entire cities have been reduced to rubble and ashes. Schools and kindergartens are being shelled. Mass graves across the country leave a trail of destruction. Russia's War in Ukraine has left many of us speechless but it cannot and should not silent us.



Against the backdrop of these atrocities, how can so many African countries justify to remain neutral? Let me be very clear about this: Being neutral is to stand with the aggressor. Being neutral is to accept a world in which the strong take whatever they want and get away unpunished. Being neutral is to accept a world in which you have no say, unless you impose your will. Do we want to live in such a world? Are we truly in favour of replacing the rules-based international order? Although thousands of miles apart, we can already feel the repercussions of Russia's act of aggression here in Ghana.

The actions of a single actor put into danger the livelihood of millions of people across the globe. With energy prices soaring and supply chains being disrupted, it is our human- *and* our food security that is being endangered. Is this the price we are willing to pay for being equidistant? There is no time for hesitation but a need for determined action. Germany strongly believes that it is not only a responsibility but also a duty to clearly name the aggressor and hold him accountable for his atrocities. It is in this way that we are commending Ghana's clear condemnation of the Russian invasion at the UN Security Council.

Today's seminar focuses on collaborative policing. Peace and security must be defended all across the globe but they begin at home, on the community level. Trusted and well-informed law enforcement agencies are needed. The Training Needs Assessment (TNA) conducted by the KAIPTC identified some gaps within the level of collaboration and coordination amongst the security services as well as border security agencies. The TNA concluded that this did not only apply to the Sahel Region but also to the entire West Africa Sub-Region. Hence, we welcome the roping in of other West African states as beneficiaries of this course.

Distinguished participants, the German Federal Foreign Ministry is pleased that you are willing to take part in this course with great commitment. It means that you have recognized the subject as important and want to get involved with the appropriate seriousness. We appreciate your commitment for prospectively serving the international order. I wish you fruitful deliberations.

I declare the CPoL Course duly open.