



## The heroin coast: a political economy along the eastern African seaboard

Cardoso Hotel, Maputo, Wednesday 13 March 2019 | 10:30-12:30

East Africa plays an increasing role in the global illicit drug trade, particularly as a corridor for the trafficking of heroin and cocaine. This seminar will mark the Mozambican launch of a research paper authored by Simone Haysom, Peter Gastrow and Mark Shaw titled *The heroin coast: A political economy along the eastern African seaboard*, and the Portuguese translation of its policy recommendations, *Combater o tráfico de heroína na costa da África Oriental*.

In recent years, the volume of heroin shipped from Afghanistan along a network of maritime routes in East and Southern Africa appears to have increased considerably. Most of this heroin is destined for Western markets, but there is a spin-off trade for local consumption. An integrated regional criminal market has developed; both shaping and shaped by political developments in the region. Africa is now experiencing the sharpest increase in heroin use worldwide and a spectrum of criminal networks and political elites in East and southern Africa are substantially enmeshed in the trade.

Speakers will focus on the characteristics of the heroin trade in the region and how it has become embedded in the societies along this route. It will also highlight the features of the criminal governance systems that facilitate drug trafficking along this coastal route.

An English version of the complete report is available here: <https://globalinitiative.net/the-heroin-coast-a-political-economy-along-the-eastern-african-seaboard/>

The Policy Brief that accompanies this report is available in English here: <https://enactafrica.org/research/policy-briefs/combater-o-trafico-de-heroína-na-costa-da-africa-oriental>

### Format

The researchers will have 25 minutes to present their paper, followed by responses from the ISS and civil society. The panel will be followed by a 45 minute discussion with the audience.

### Audience

The audience for the event will be a mix of individuals from government and policy institutes, universities, the media, other civil society organisations, and the general public. This will be an open event.

Please RSVP to Monique de Graaff at [mdegraaff@issafrica.org](mailto:mdegraaff@issafrica.org)



## Draft agenda

10:15 – 10:30 Refreshments and arrival

10:30-11:00 Welcome and introductions

**Chair: Dr Abdul Carimo Mahomed Issa**

Opening remarks

**Martin Ewi**, Regional Organised Crime Observatory Coordinator for Southern Africa, *Institute for Security Studies*

Introduction to regional trends in organised crime

11:00 – 11:45 Presentation of the report and response

*The heroin coast: A political economy along the eastern African seaboard*, presentation of findings by Peter Gastrow, Senior Advisor, and Simone Haysom, Senior Analyst, **Global Initiative against Transnational Organised Crime**

Response by **Ericino de Salema**, Investigative Journalist

11:45 – 12:30 Q & A

Floor open to audience members to ask questions of the panel.

12:30 Lunch to be served at hotel

## SPEAKER BIOS:

**Dr Abdul Carimo Mahomed Issa** served as Attorney General and Judge from 1977 – 1990 in Mozambique, and has also served as a judge and jurist in international systems. He has worked as special assistant to various organs of government, including the Minister of Justice and has lectured law at several universities. Dr Issa drafted Mozambique's current legislation concerning drug use and trafficking and for almost two decades was Mozambique's correspondent for regional meetings concerning organised crime in preparation for UN meetings, as well as a national envoy to the UN in regard to crime prevention and treatment of offenders. Dr Issa formed part of the International Observer Missions of SADCC, UN, EU and Carter Center, for the elections in South Africa, Zimbabwe and Indonesia. Mr Issa is currently is the Chairman of the [Legal Reform Commission](#), Chairman of the Arbitration, Conciliation and Mediation Centre, Chairman of the National Council of Electricity, Member of the Board of the [Foundation for Community Development](#) (FDC) headed by Mrs [Graça Machel](#) and Chairman of [Ética Moçambique](#) (an NGO fighting against corruption).



**Mr Martin Ewi** is currently the Technical Coordinator and Regional Observatory Coordinator for Southern Africa, of the ENACT (Enhancing Africa's Response to Transnational Organised Crime) Project at the Institute for Security Studies (ISS). Until April 2017, he was Senior Researcher on terrorism, radicalization, and violent extremism within the Transnational Threats and International Crime Division at the ISS, a position he held from July 2010 to April 2017. Prior to joining the ISS, he served as a Political Affairs Officer at the headquarters of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) based in The Hague, the Netherlands. Mr Ewi was in charge of the African Union Commission's counter-terrorism programme in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, where he was concurrently Head of the Strategic Security Issues Unit from 2002 to 2005. Mr Ewi holds a MA degree in International Peace Studies from the University of Notre Dame, at Southbend, Indiana, United States of America. He also holds a BA (with Distinction) in Peace Studies and International Politics from Juniata College in Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, United States of America. His research focus is in the area of counterterrorism, violent extremism, transnational organized crimes and the competences of regional organisations in Africa on strategic security issues.

**Mr Peter Gastrow** is Senior Advisor to the Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crimes ([www.globalinitiative.net](http://www.globalinitiative.net)). He studied economics and law in South Africa and worked as a prosecutor before establishing his own legal practice as an advocate of the Supreme Court. He was a member of the South African parliament, served on the National Peace Committee, and chaired the transitional government structure responsible for providing safety and stability during the first democratic elections in South Africa in 1994. After the 1994 elections, he became special adviser to the Minister for Safety and Security. Thereafter he was the Cape Town director of the [Institute for Security Studies](http://www.institute-for-security-studies.org) (ISS) before joining the [International Peace Institute](http://www.ipi.org) (IPI) in New York in 2009 as a Senior Fellow, focusing on transnational organized crime. He has served on a number of UN Expert Groups, on the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on Organized Crime, and was appointed by the Kenyan government as vice chairman of their National Task Force on Police Reform. He is based in Cape Town and has published widely on issues relating to organized crime, peace and conflict, transition, governance, and policing.

**Ms Simone Haysom** is a Senior Analyst with the Global Initiative with expertise in corruption and organised crime, and almost a decade of experience conducting qualitative fieldwork in challenging environments. Between 2010 and 2013, she worked for the Overseas Development Institute in London, researching urban displacement in the Middle East, Central Asia, and Africa, and humanitarian policy in conflict zones. Before joining the GI, she worked as a freelance consultant, researching issues related to conflict, development and organised crime for organisations including Médecins Sans Frontières, the Institute for Security Studies, and the University of Cape Town. She is the author of *The Last Words of Rowan du Preez: Murder and Conspiracy on the Cape Flats*, published by Jonathan Ball, a non-fiction account of a murder case, conspiracy allegation and Commission of Inquiry into policing in a poor and marginalised neighbourhood in Cape Town. She has a Mphil in Geography (Environment and Development) from the University of Cambridge, where she was a Gates Scholar and last year was a Visiting Academic at the School of African Studies, at the University of Oxford.

**Mr Ericino de Salema** is a Mozambican journalist and human rights lawyer. He is professionally interested in the fields of access to information, democratic governance, elections and political participation, media development, and constitutional law. Salema is a PhD candidate in the field of Public Law (Catholic University of Mozambique- Catholic University of Portugal).