

“Study Half Day” conference series, 9 March 2016

**Counter-piracy and maritime security: addressing
Security challenges in the Gulf of Guinea**

Speakers



Rear Admiral Nick Lambert is a master mariner and a committed proponent of the maritime users’ perspective. He concluded a long naval operational career as the UK National Hydrographer in December 2012 and now advises inter alia on the growing potential of the blue economy concept, the importance of spatial data infrastructures and hydrography for maritime economies.



Dr. Christian Bueger is a reader in International Relations in the Department of Politics and International Relations, Cardiff University. His research on maritime security/piracy studies has been published in leading journals. He is currently the principal investigator of a research project funded by the UK’s Economic and Social Research Council titled “Counter-Piracy Governance – A Praxiographic Analysis”.



Peter Cook is the CEO and co-founder of the Security Association for the Maritime (SAMI), an international independent non-governmental organization that acts as a focal point for global maritime security matters. A former Royal Marines Officer, he spent a significant part of his 24-year career involved in aspects of maritime security from maritime counter terrorism to formulating counter piracy policy and procedures for the UK Ministry of Defence.



Dr. Karen Sumser-Lupson is Commissioner for the African Maritime Safety and Security Agency (AMSSA), a strategic African-led venture aiming at accelerating maritime advances and protecting the Africa maritime legacy for future generations. She is a recognized expert for maritime safety and security bringing with her a wealth of experience and knowledge spanning over 27 years.



Dr. Yackoley Kokou JOHNSON has been Ambassador of the Republic of Togo to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland since November 2014. He holds a PhD in Public Law. Prior to his appointment to London he was a member of the Togolese mission at the UN Security Council from 2012 to 2013 as an expert for peacekeeping, peace building, transnational organised crime including piracy and armed robbery in the Gulf of Guinea.

Programme

The West Africa region is beset by numerous security challenges. Some of the most pressing security issues in the region take place in and around the maritime environment of the Gulf of Guinea, a vital space for the economic development of a vast region. Unless adequately addressed, at-sea security challenges such as piracy and other criminal activities will remain obstacles to the future prosperity of millions in the West Africa region. The conference will explore some of these issues as part of the [West Africa Peace and Security Network \(WAPSN\) project](#).

Venue: **University of Portsmouth**, Park Building, Room 2.01

Time: 14.00 to 17.30

14.00: Introduction by [Professor Tony Chafer](#), director of the Centre for European and International Studies Research (CEISR).

14.15: Introductory words on maritime security challenges by the Chair, **Rear Admiral Nick Lambert** (Catapult Project's Maritime Domain Expert)

Panel 1

14.30: **Dr. Christian Bueger** (University of Cardiff): **Maritime Security and the Blue Economy – understanding the link.**

14.55: **Peter Cook** (Security Association for the Maritime Industry, SAMI): **Will a private maritime security model work in the Gulf of Guinea?**

15.20: **Q&A**

15.40: Break, Coffee (20 min).

Panel 2

16.00: **Dr. Karen Sumser-Lumpson** (African Maritime Safety and Security Agency, AMSSA): **Africa's maritime future and the centrality of seaborne transport.**

16.25: **HE. Ambassador Johnson** (Embassy of the Republic of Togo): **The objectives of the 2016 African Union [Lomé Conference](#) on maritime security, safety and development in Africa.**

16.50: **Q&A**

17.10: Conclusion: Rear Admiral Nick Lambert and Professor Tony Chafer.

For more details please contact [Sophie Quintin Adali](#), CEISR PhD researcher and [Maritime Security Cluster](#) Coordinator for the West Africa Peace and Security Network.
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