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News release

Afrobarometer and Institute for Security Studies renew commitment to promote accountable governance in Africa

Afrobarometer (AB) is pleased to announce the renewal of its memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Institute for Security Studies (ISS), reaffirming their joint commitment to promoting accountable governance in Africa.

The MoU, signed on 18 July 2023 by Afrobarometer CEO Joseph Asunka and ISS Executive Director Fonteh Akum, marks a milestone in their partnership, superseding the previous version signed in 2015. The signing took place on the sidelines of the Africa Drive for Democracy Conference in Arusha, Tanzania.

“We are delighted to renew the Afrobarometer and ISS Africa MOU. We remain committed to advancing inclusive democratic governance for a peaceful and prosperous Africa,” Akum said. ISS works with partners to build knowledge and skills that promote sustainable peace, development, and prosperity in Africa.

The renewed MoU serves as a guiding framework for collaboration between Afrobarometer and ISS, facilitating joint efforts to engage mutual stakeholders. The scope of collaboration spans various areas, including policy research and analysis, technical assistance to policy makers and civil society, capacity building, and policy dialogue. Leveraging Afrobarometer’s rich trove of public attitude data, the two organisations will collaborate on crucial issues such as African futures and innovation; gender equality; governance, peace, and security; climate change and adaptation; globalism; and Africa’s interests.

“I am excited about this MoU and looking forward to building on our respective comparative advantages to move the accountable and responsive governance agenda in Africa forward,” Asunka said.

Afrobarometer is an independent pan-African research network that provides data on African citizens’ values, evaluations, and experiences.

Under the previous MoU, ISS used Afrobarometer data to conduct analyses on security and election issues across the continent, leading to the publication of more than 30 policy briefs and the inclusion of data in various policy events. Under the Futures Project, spearheaded by Jakkie Cilliers, Afrobarometer data played a vital role in extensive governance analysis.

About Afrobarometer

Afrobarometer (AB) is a trusted source of high-quality data and analysis on what Africans are thinking. With an unmatched track record of 350,000+ interviews in 42 countries, representing the views of about 75% of the African population, AB is leading the charge to bridge the continent's data gap. AB data inform many global indices, such as the Ibrahim Index of African Governance, Transparency International's Global Corruption Barometer, and the World Bank's Worldwide Governance Indicators. The data are also used for country risk analyses and by credit rating and forecasting agencies such as the Economist Intelligence Unit. All AB data sets are publicly available on the [website](#) and may be analysed free of charge using AB's [online data analysis tool](#).

About ISS

The Institute for Security Studies is an African non-profit organisation with offices in South Africa, Kenya, Ethiopia, and Senegal. The organisation's work covers African futures; governance, peace and security; gender equality; transnational organised crime; crime prevention and criminal justice; migration; maritime security; and development. With the goal to enhance human security as a means to achieve sustainable peace and prosperity, the ISS partners with institutions to build knowledge and skills that secure Africa's future.

For more information, please contact:

Josephine Sanny
Telephone: +233243240933
Email: jappiah@afrobarometer.org

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