

## Establishing the Nexus between Globalization and Transnational Crimes in Africa: Challenges and Policy Intervention

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### Abstract

This paper examines the nexus between globalization and transnational crimes with respect to African countries. It conceives globalization to be the arrival of the world into post modern traits of industrialization, urbanization, mass communication, and mobilization of society where computers, virtual communities, interactive communication and fluidity or movement in and out become increasingly dominant. On the other hand, transnational crime are those crimes that incorporates all forms of illicit activity that crosses border, including both international and organized terrorist groups. In addition, it encapsulates the internationalization of crimes as precipitated by globalization with respect to movements of goods or services, to financial system where criminals exploit the weak porous border system, and aided by both regional and international free trade policies to commit criminal activities. Some of which include smuggling, money laundering, narcotics trade, waste disposal hazards, human rights abuses and other crimes that support terrorist activities. Further, it identifies the pervasive nature of the nexus as evidenced in violence, personal security, reduced life expectancy, fostering of addiction, traffic in persons, and pornography. Three theoretical explanations of modernization, world system and ecological have been reviewed and adopts the world system as a theoretical framework because it addressed how historically Africa found itself into such system created by globalization through capitalism thus producing crime across nations due to polarization of classes and inequalities. Conclusively, some responses of African countries to the menace have been highlighted which include challenges posed by both internal and external actors. It recommends the enforcement of existing laws, both national and international, or regional, as well as enactment of additional ones to mend some leakages, and suggests further concerted collaboration by African countries via political will of leaders in order to curve transnational crimes pose by the global changes.

**Keywords:** *Globalization, Transnational crimes, Policy Intervention, Modernization, World system, Ecological.*

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### **Background to the Study**

The integration of Africa into the world global system has important ramifications in the political, social, and economic life of the people of the continent. The interaction has led to the full incorporation of the continent into the world system through what is known as globalization. This paper conceives globalization as a process of world transformation into modern traits of industrialism, urbanization, mass communication, as well as interactive communication through computers via the internet. In addition, it treats transnational crimes as those crimes that incorporate all forms of illicit activity that crosses border, including both international and organized terrorist groups. Further to this, it encapsulates the internationalization of crimes as precipitated by globalization with respect to movements of goods or services, to financial system where criminals exploit the weak porous border system, and aided by both regional and international free trade policies to commit criminal activities. Some of which include smuggling, money laundering, narcotics trade, waste disposal hazards, human rights abuses and other crimes that support terrorist activities. Further, it identifies the pervasive nature of the nexus as evidenced in violence, personal security, reduced life expectancy, fostering of addiction, traffic in persons, and pornography. Three theoretical explanations of modernization, world system and ecological have been reviewed and adopts the world system as a theoretical framework because it addressed how historically Africa found itself into such system created by globalization through capitalism thus producing crime across nations due to polarization of classes and inequalities. Conclusively, some responses of African countries to the menace have been highlighted which include challenges posed by both internal and external actors. It recommends the enforcement of existing laws, both national and international, or regional, as well as enactment of additional ones to mend some leakages, and suggests further concerted collaboration by African countries via political will of leaders in order to limit the tide of transnational crimes posed by the global changes.

### **Globalization: Definition and Context**

It is difficult to have a precise and universally acceptable definition of globalization; it is a complex process and has a multi-disciplinary orientation. However, what is certain about it is that it has affected the entire gamut of the social lives of all. For instance, whether one live in developed or developed world is affected by the effects of globalization through the rapid transformation of political, cultural, scientific, economic and technological advancements that were so stupendous and unavoidable. Interestingly, these changes have never been witnessed before in the preceding decades of historical development of the world in general and Africa in particular.

There many conceptions of globalization for instance, Oyede (1998) approached it from an economic perspective where it was conceived to be the accelerated expansion of economic activities across nations through trade liberalization, this process leads to the integration of the world economy. However, globalization due its attendant consequences extends beyond economic aspects alone. The process has overriding implications on other aspects such as technology and scientific developments across the global society. This was raised by Akpuru-Aja and Emeribe (2000) that the revolution in scientific and technological innovations have resulted in turning the world into a small village where everything is immediately transmitted everywhere. In another context, it also affects social relations, where the world is brought nearer to everyone and becomes borderless in the process of interaction (Scholte, 1997).

### **Types of Globalization**

According to Arora (2010) globalization has its numerous forms; they are economic, political, social and cultural and are examined below.

**Economic Globalization** is the process of increasing economic integration and the nations which process, essentially leads to the emergence of a global market place as a single world market. It helps the flow of goods and products, trade and commerce, information's and technologies, import and export, capital and people with least states regulations. While economic globalization is occurring for the last several centuries through trade it has begin to occur at an increased rate over the last 20-30years. This recent boom has been largely accounted for as developed economies integrate with less developed economies, by means of foreign direct investment, through the reduction of trade barriers, and the modernization of these developing cultures. It is the stretching of economic activities across frontiers; it is the intensification of economic interconnectedness- it is the acceleration of economic interdependence through trade and communication.

**Political Globalization** is the stretching of economic activities in such a way that people belonging to different communities come closer to each other. Politics is effectively stretched across frontiers as developments or decisions in one locality come to have significant consequence to the people of distant communities. Globalization is the strengthening of the infrastructures of worldwide political interaction. Since the nineteenth century, nations of the world are coming together whether in war or in the formation of the international organizations. Globalization is the speeding up of the dynamics of politics of numerous communities. A change of political nature occurring in one nation influences the politics of another nation, howsoever distant it may be. The great depression in the 1920s, an event occurring in the USA, had political impact on the countries of different regions. Globalization is the deepening up of political processes as well. To answer what effects global warning would have, we require the cooperation of numerous political communities.

**Social Globalization** is the socialization of the people of different communities into the people of the world. The Marxists Marx in particular, wants the workers of the world to unite so as to make a society of the working class. Social globalization is the stretching of the world to unite so as to make society of the working class. Social globalization is the stretching of the local into regional, regional into national, and national into the global people. It is the intensification of the interconnectedness of the people of different communities into one whole. It is the acceleration of social interdependence and it is the creation of universal brotherhood/sisterhood. Social globalization is the deepening up of people's relationship into a single whole.

**Cultural Globalization** is the rapid traversing of ideas, attitudes and values across national borders. This is the stretching of the local/regional/national into the global culture. Globalization is not merely a physical linking of the world. If interconnectedness has to continue apace, there has to be a set of shared culture that transcends diverse economic, ethnic political, racial, religious background. Such a global culture has to be built on Asian, African of European identity and each such identity has to go beyond the national identities as national identities have to leave behind local/regional identities. Cultural globalization makes it possible to exchange knowledge, information and festivities. It is not the domination of one culture over the other; it is the bringing of the numerous cultures together.

Another important aspect of globalization has been the relaxed barriers to international trade since the World War II. In initiatives such as GATT and WTO for which specific provisions as enshrined in GATT as the foundations for such liberalizations of trade emphasized on the following: Promotion of free trade; elimination of tariffs, creation of free trade zones with small or no tariffs; reduced transportation costs, especially resulting from development of containerization for ocean shipping; reduction or elimination of capital controls; reduction, elimination, or harmonization of subsidies for local businesses; creation of subsidies for global corporations; harmonization of intellectual property laws across the majority of states with no restrictions; supranational recognition of intellectual property restrictions eg. Patents recognized in one country would be recognized in another (Wonders, 2007:32).

### **Definition of Transnational Crimes**

As defined by the United Nations, transnational crime refers to “offences whose inception, prevention, and/or direct or indirect effects involved more than one country” (Liddick, 2004 cited in Wonders, 2007). There two forms of transnational crimes as explicated by Wonders (2006), they are: (1) transnational crimes of global accommodation, committed by individuals and groups in their struggle to exercise economic, political, and social autonomy in an increasingly globalized world, and (2) transnational crimes of global accumulation, committed by transnational corporations, profiteers, and nation-states in their struggle to gain control over global processes, labor, resources, and markets to facilitate capital accumulation.

### **The Nexus between Globalization and Transnational Crimes**

The relationship between globalization and transnational crimes cannot be overemphasized. It has resulted or continues to create avenues of criminal activities across nations. However, despite widespread claims about the porosity of borders and the diminished power of nation-states under globalization, borders remain critically important. Global cross-border flows are not only endured, but are also facilitated, by states in order to facilitate their interests. Further, under globalization, state capacities have been “questioned” in ways that have required states to (re)act in order to reassert authority ; “borders represent an act of authority, real or symbolic, which serves to consolidate the state's power in domains where its capacities are questioned, but where they can be re-actualized” (Pellerin, 2005: 53 cited in Wonders,2007). Thus, border politics today reflect the conflicts and contradictions faced by the nation-state under globalization.

**Hazardous Wastes** .Dambazau, Jumare, and Yakubu (1996) have noted that one of the effects of globalization has been the trans-border movement of wastes that pose considerable health hazards to the final destination. The associated health risks may be in the form of loss of life, personal injury or loss/ damage to the property or environment. African countries were considered to be vulnerable to this international criminal activity due to the effects of industrialization precipitated by globalization.

**Trafficking:** This has been defined as the international movement of goods or persons that originate from either the illegal sector of the exporting country and/or move to the illegal sector of the importing country (World Bank, 2015).With globalization came better communications, improved transportation, and access to new markets not only opened Africa countries to the world but also exposed it to changes and turnarounds in illegal markets through smuggling. It was argued that by establishing rules that allow only those with property or money in the bank to obtain visas, successful border crossing for the poor depends upon a

willingness to risk personal danger and, typically, a reliance on traffickers who organize to provide the border access that the state restricts. The United Nations estimates that human smuggling is a \$10-billion-a-year global enterprise (Wonders, 2007).

Smuggling has been facilitated by physical border enforcement, as explicated in the following: Dandurand and Chin (2000: 4):

*An unabated demand, in the face of stricter entry controls and requirements, has provided criminal entrepreneurs with new opportunities for profits.... Traffickers exploit the phenomenon of illegal migration and supply a variety of services to illegal migrants, such as smuggling, the provision of fraudulent travel documents, transportation, accommodation, job brokering, and even training in how to claim asylum or deceive border officials (Dandurand & Chin, 2000: 4).*

For instance, in West Africa cross-country smuggling networks have been used for trafficking, while powerful criminal networks have taken advantage of institutional weaknesses and the integration of the region into the world economy to develop a global trafficking industry. This industry revolves around three hubs: the Gulf of Guinea, the Atlantic coastline, and the Sahel-Saharan region (World Bank, 2015).

Smuggling is one of the outcomes of globalization because banned materials and products are often smuggled through border communities by local residents and assumed an international dimension. In most situations the circumstances that leads to smuggling are tighter border controls. In Nigeria, petrol is smuggled through the activities of oil bunkering to some border countries. The borders of other neighboring are used to smuggle firearms, drugs, and other banned items into the country ( recent apprehended arms through Lagos Ports and Airport as well as other Airports in Nigeria is a case for illustration).

**Human Rights Abuses** .With globalization certain nations adopt policies that creates and also increased the social harm associated with civil and human rights violations, at the border and far from it. Both legal and illegal border crossers are subject to increased surveillance, searches, and risk of arrest and detention due to heightened border enforcement. Nations effectively constructed the border so that “mobility” particularly by the poor or those from “suspect” racial or ethnic categories provides occasion for a suspension of rights. Transit itself becomes a-national space, without legal protection. Illegal border crossers are typically exempt from the laws of the land; this absence of legal protection effectively constructs illegal migrants as non-persons. For those held in detention awaiting deportation, the evidence is mounting that their treatment by officials includes verbal harassment and the use of excessive force and numerous deportees did not have adequate food or water (Phillips, Hagan, and Rodriguez, 2006, cited in Wonders, 2007).

**Cyber Crimes:** Another area which globalization is related to transnational crimes is that of the development of information communications technology, in specific terms it aids and abates cyber crimes. Thomas and Loader (cited in Sharma, 2015:12) have attempted a definition of cyber crime in its broadest contours by observing that “cybercrime can be regarded as computer-mediated activities which are either illegal or considered illicit by certain parties and which can be conducted through global electronic networks. The global connectivity of the internet, for example, makes it much easier for criminals to act beyond national boundaries to conduct their illegal affairs. It also makes it possible for existing organized crimes to use more

sophisticated techniques to support and develop networks for drugs trafficking, money laundering, illegal arms trafficking, smuggling and the like. For hackers with the requisite computer skills, a large market exists for security and trade secrets which can be accessed and transmitted electronically.

**Child Labour:** The effect of globalization also increases exploitation of child-labour. For example, a country which is experiencing increase in labour demand because of globalization can increase the demand for goods produced by children. This in turn will consequently produce greater demand for child labour. This can be “hazardous” or “exploitive”, e.g. quarrying, salvage, cash cropping but also includes the trafficking of children, children in bondage or forced labour, prostitution, pornography and other illicit activities. Globalization is not at all an admirable phenomenon because as it has made drug cartels and terrorist operate in the world; all in the name of deregulations, openness, and free flow of information (Arora, 2010).

### **Theoretical Framework**

Three theories have been identified to explain transnational crimes facilitated by globalization; they are modernization, the world system and the ecological.

#### **Modernization Theory**

In modernization theory the nation state or society is the unit of analysis and all nations evolve through similar developmental stages. Third world nations acquire the characteristics of advanced industrial nations through an evolutionary process and can be ranked cross-sectionally on a traditional-modern continuum. Modernization theorists stress normative patterns, belief systems, and modern values (e.g., individualism, universalism, achievement orientation) in the evolutionary change process (Neuman and Berger, 1988).

For modernization theorists crime is caused by a disruption or breakdown of a prior, stable normative order. The transition from traditional to modern society creates a temporary disequilibrium when modern values and norms come into contact with and disrupt older cultural patterns, weakening informal social controls and traditional normative restraints on criminal impulses. Unless new social controls and norms develop, modern individualism and the social conflict associated with growing cultural heterogeneity increase crime. Urbanization and rural-urban migration have a significant impact on normative patterns and criminal behavior. In urban areas, modern values are strongest and traditional norms, socializing agents, and social control mechanisms are less effective. Consequently, anomie, social disorganization, cultural heterogeneity, criminal subcultures, and juvenile delinquency are more likely to develop (Archer and Gartner 1984).

#### **The World System Theory**

The main causal variables in the World System theory are the global economy and uneven expansion of the capitalist mode of production, the international system of states, class structure and conflict, economic inequality, the class nature of the state, and the spread of new ideologies.

They argue that the past three centuries of socio-economic change in terms of historical events spread the capitalist mode of production and social relations unevenly across the globe. The world system is the unit of analysis, and the interrelations or inequalities among social formations are used to analyze structures and processes within and between nations .In

addition, social change is shaped by a semi-autonomous international system of states and internal political factors (Amin 1974; Smith 1984; Bergesen 1980; Timberlake 1985; Wallerstein 1974 & 1980; Crane 1982; Evans et al. 1985; Thompson 1983 cited in Neuman and Berger, 1988).

It defines “crime” as a socio-political concept that reflects production and power relations. The state and law are analyzed in terms of class struggle and the re-composition of classes associated with the capitalist mode of production. Western criminal law replaces pre-capitalist methods of dispute resolution and “self-help” criminal justice and criminal behavior is reified and becomes “juridicially constituted as a distinct category of “reality” independent of class interests. The theory also contends that class relations condition officially recorded crime rates. Official statistics cannot be accepted as unbiased indicators of the level of criminal behavior and its distribution across classes. Their conception of crime includes human rights violations and social injuries which may not be regulated by the state or criminal law. It sees corporate and government crime as producing harms greater than traditional crime and as a necessary part of comparative crime studies (Reiman 1984).

### **Ecological Theory**

The ecological approach originated with the early Park-Burgess Chicago School's emphasis on the interrelations between environmental conditions and population units. It is a more sophisticated and macro-version of early neighborhood or slum ecological theories. Opportunity theory argues that crime occurs in spatially and temporally organized social contexts that provide favorable environmental conditions for the execution of criminal acts. In addition, it highlights on the variation in crime by identifying societies where there is a mix of growing material resources and environments which provide increased opportunities for unsanctioned criminal behavior.

In the “routine activity” version of the theory, attractive “suitable targets” become increasingly vulnerable through socio-economic activities that are dispersed away from the home, reducing protection from “capable guardians”(Cohen and Felson 1979; ). Thus, the theory predicts little crime in a society with active guardianship norms; a decentralized population, low youth mobility or independence, and a majority of females occupying homemaker roles rather than engaging in paid labor in the public domain. It therefore specifies the ecological conditions which result in increased opportunities for successful criminal acts, but it assumes, rather than explains, motivations for offender behavior, it relies on the utilitarian assumptions of classical criminology where people attempt to maximize opportunities and avoid punishments (Vold and Bernard 1986).

Further, the theory also lends itself to a policy-oriented strategy aimed at potential victims rather than offenders. It supports modifications in individual security (e.g., locks, alarms), environmental design (e.g., urban planning, building design), and life styles (e.g., leisure activities) to deter crime (Berger and Berger 1985; Messner and Tardiff 1985).

### **Challenges and Policy Intervention**

According to Hatchard (2006) African countries face fundamental challenges in relation to the problem of transnational crimes which were explicated in the following:

The first is how to deal with crimes that emanate from outside the jurisdiction. This is epitomized by the bribery of local public officials by corporations and individuals based abroad. It is, of course, important to prosecute those local public officials who allegedly receive the bribes. Yet those who offer the bribes are seemingly safely ensconced outside the jurisdiction.

The second challenge concerns investigating crimes with a transnational element. Under international law, enforcement jurisdiction is strictly territorial in nature and thus investigating and prosecuting a case with a transnational element will require the assistance of the authorities in that other country/ies, and their ability and/or willingness to provide the necessary assistance cannot be taken for granted.

The third challenge involves tracing and then recovering the proceeds of crime that have been moved out of the country where the crime occurred (or in some cases, were never in that country: a typical scenario being when a bribe is paid by a foreign corporation directly into the overseas bank account of a local public official). Bank secrecy laws and the like in other states can make this process a frustrating and onerous task (Hatchard, 2006).

There is also an additional challenge noted by (Hatchard, 2006) to transnational crimes especially in cases where the criminality reaches the highest echelons of government, the political will to launch any such prosecutions is questionable. In addition, the immunity enjoyed by serving heads of state/government and, in some countries, state governors, means that any prosecutions may have to wait until there is a change of government or lengthy impeachment proceedings. Even then, the new government may be reluctant to pursue criminal proceedings. In any event, the main protagonists may be dead or otherwise beyond the reach of the criminal law.

### **Policy Intervention**

By policy intervention it refers to the establishment of laws and their enforcement in various countries to tame the tide of crimes facilitated by the effects of globalization. In addition, the compliance to the various treaties, conventions, and agreements at regional, continental and international levels will also help African countries to address the problem in their quest to development. At other times it requires the domestication of such (which requires the political will) to the establishment of laws or legal frameworks to make them effective.

At international levels the United Nations (UN) as the umbrella organ of countries in the world has spearheaded the advancement of such policy frameworks against transnational crimes. Some of its efforts as highlighted by Hatchard (2006) and Dambazau, et al (1996) include:

1. The work of the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) is invaluable, for it facilitates cross-border police cooperation; even where diplomatic relations do not exist between the requested and requesting countries. Worldwide, Interpol has 184 member countries, including all sub-Saharan African states. Each Interpol member country maintains a national central bureau staffed by national law enforcement officers, which is the designated contact point for other member countries requiring assistance with overseas investigations and the location and apprehension of fugitives..
2. In South Africa Article 2(1) of the Southern African Development Community Protocol on Mutual Legal Assistance provides a good illustration of the operation of a mutual assistance system in case of enforcement such includes. : (a) locating and



identifying persons, property, objects and items; (b) serving documents, including documents seeking the attendance of persons and providing returns of such service; (c) providing information, documents and records; (d) providing objects and temporary transfer of exhibits; search and seizure; (f) taking evidence or obtaining statements or both; (g) authorizing the presence of persons from the Requesting State at the execution of requests; (h) ensuring the availability of detained persons to give evidence or to assist in investigations; (i) facilitating the appearance of witnesses or the assistance of persons in investigations; (j) taking possible measures for location, restraint, seizure, freezing or forfeiture of the proceeds of crime.”

3. In 1988 there was a United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (the Drugs Convention). This provides the basis upon which state parties can seek and obtain from each other a broad range of assistance in evidence gathering, but is limited to drugs offences. The vast majority of African states are party to the Convention.
4. Earlier within the Commonwealth, law ministers, at their meeting in Harare in 1986, adopted the "Scheme Relating to Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters within the Commonwealth" (the Harare Scheme).
5. In similar vein this led to the establishment of Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters, by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, and the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption (Hatchard, 2006).
6. In the case of money laundering the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) plays a major role in the worldwide effort to tackle such transnational crime. FATF is an inter-governmental body with 33 members. South Africa is the sole representative from Africa. Its purpose is the development and promotion of policies, both at the national and international levels, to combat money laundering and terrorist financing. It also monitors members' progress in implementing the required anti-money laundering measures, reviews money laundering and terrorist financing techniques and counter-measures, and promotes the adoption and implementation of appropriate measures globally.
7. Recognizing that the laundering of proceeds of crime is a worldwide issue, it has also established a number of regional FATF-style bodies to support the objectives of FATF. These include the Middle East & North Africa Financial Action Task Force (MENAFATF) and the Eastern and the Southern Africa Anti Money Laundering Group (ESAAMLG).
8. In Nigeria this led to the strengthening of anti-money laundering laws with the enactment of the Money Laundering (Amendment) Act, 2002, and the enactment of other legislation that culminated to the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (Establishment) Act, 2004.
9. On the crime of the trans-border movement of hazardous wastes the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) in 1989 requires countries to introduce national legislation to prevent illegal traffic, punish offences and take steps to stamp out illegal

waste traffic. This resulted into the Organization of African Unity (OAU now AU) Bamako Convention on the Ban of the Import and the Control of trans-boundary movement of Hazardous Wastes within Africa on January ,1991.Earlier the Cairo Guidelines and Principles for the Environmental Sound Management of Hazardous Wastes was adopted by UNEP in 1989.

10. About the same time the First All African Law Ministers Conference in Abuja 1989 resolved to go against all forms of crimes through cooperation, collaboration, coordination and mutual assistance. This was in addition to certain bilateral agreements with countries both in Africa and the rest of the world.

Along this line in most African countries, there are increasing concerns that one of the most effective way to deal with transnational crimes is to go after the proceeds of crime. This is especially significant for many African states whose assets have, so often, been looted and then moved out of the country. There was an increased awareness of finding and freezing of the assets looted out of such countries which many suspect are the basis for terrorist financing.

Certain states display greater resilience in policy intervention than others in the face of crime. In West Africa, countries such as Senegal, Cape Verde, or Ghana have managed to keep their political processes relatively insulated from trafficking. Though little research has been conducted on the sources of this resilience, some parallels between the three states can provide some leads. First all have judicial systems that have allowed them to prosecute and convict high-profile targets rather than just petty criminals.

In Cape Verde this facilitated the dismantlement of a cocaine trafficking network through “Operation Speedboat,” where an in-depth investigation resulted in the conviction of the former president's stock exchange for money laundering. Similarly, Senegal's police chief was dismissed as he came under investigation for trafficking and retailing drugs . Second, the governments have shown more political will in tackling organized crime. For example, in Senegal and Ghana, the respective governments have been working with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to create joint task forces and training programs to bolster national plans against organized crime (US Department of State, 2013 cited in World Bank, 2015).

However, it should be recognized that there are a number of unexhausted policy interventions beyond the scope of this paper that cut across different African countries, but one thing generally recognized by scholars is that it has become difficult to prosecute. Few cases of high profile individuals have finally been addressed. Efforts by various African countries to ensure the prosecution of culprits has been confronted with the problem of lack of political will on the part of leaders and the magnitude of official corruption both from within and outside African countries.

## **Conclusion**

From the forgoing it can evidently be submitted that globalization as the spread of urbanization, industrialization, and the rise and advancement of information communications technology has without doubt created the possibility for transnational crimes. The spread of capitalism and modern cultural traits to Africa has created crises of accommodation and accumulation as contradictory elements in the process. Instead of allowing free movement of goods and services for the benefit of Africa certain border restrictions mainly to the poor further

aggravated transnational crimes of smuggling, trafficking, in drugs, persons, arms etc. Information technology has created new patterns of international crimes of advance fee fraud, money laundering, internet scam, credit card fraud, in addition to facilitation of terrorist activities who use such money to finance their activities as well as to perpetuate mayhem and insecurity in the lives of the people. Globalization instead of being a source of taking the countries of Africa out of the quagmire of dependency and exploitation due to free trade policies, Africans were only to wake up and realize that it was another cycle of the old trick of capitalism that started since they were incorporated into the world system (during the period of slavery). It is not late for African leaders to rise up against such tricks and be inward looking to the solutions of their problems through political will and commitment to solve these problems of corruption and establish or enact laws capable of solving the crimes of transnational character and move forward in their quest for development. There is no nation that will progress when the tide of crime is high especially that of drug abuse, smuggling, trafficking, arms trade, and other vices associated with globalization in the form of information technology because it perpetuates pornography, terrorist activities, cyber crimes and money laundering whose repercussions is quite enormous.

### **Recommendations**

1. All efforts should be made by African countries to ensure that criminals wherever they may be do not go beyond the reach of criminal law.
2. Along this line of thought African countries should continue to pursue all available legitimate means to establish and maintain an effective mutual legal assistance (from existing ones to creation of new ones).
3. They should also develop effective mechanisms for the recovery of the proceeds of crime, such as money laundered into other countries where legal protocols pose an obstacle to such recovery. Such recovery may serve as deterrence for potential criminals with the intention to steal.
4. Opening the borders so that ordinary people in search of a better way of life are able to cross more freely would reduce “illegal” immigration, human trafficking, and much corruption by officials. Border controls and restrictions do nothing other than facilitating transnational crimes, because of its discriminatory character.
5. Since crimes such as smuggling of arms, narcotics, trafficking, leads to other types facilitated by globalization, African countries should try to provide alternative economic opportunities for youth who reside in borders where such crimes have historically perpetuated and have become a norm. Otherwise a marriage of convenience between the criminals and ordinary law abiding citizens can cause problems for law enforcement agents.
6. African countries must identify how to develop a synergy between all the law enforcement agents within and outside, national, regional and international to halt crimes of transnational character because often countries are not aware they may be soft targets as transit to trans-national crimes.

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