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## PRESS RELEASE

### ***Lagos plays host to Capacity building for prosecutors to address the most serious and complex crimes under Nigerian criminal law***

The Wayamo Foundation, the International Nuremberg Principles Academy and the Africa Group for Justice and Accountability in collaboration with the Nigerian Federal Ministry of Justice will hold the second of a series of capacity building workshops on **'STRENGTHENING JUSTICE AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN NIGERIA'** from the **13 – 15 March 2017, at the Southern Sun Hotel Ikoyi in Lagos.**

The event aims at building the capacity of state prosecutors from the Complex Case Work Unit in the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions of the Federation and the National Prosecution Co-ordination Committee, to enable them to tackle the most serious and complex crimes under Nigerian Criminal Law. The trainers are national and international experts in International Criminal Justice, including; Claus Molitor, Office of the Prosecutor, International Criminal Court, Professor Alex Whiting, Harvard Law School, Adejoké Babington Ashaye, International Law Specialist and former investigator at the International Criminal Court and Chino Obiagwu, Chairman of the Nigeria Coalition for the International Criminal Court (NCICC) and National Coordinator of Legal Defence & Assistance Project (LEDAP). The training will include many practical exercises using case scenarios based on concluded real cases.

Some of the areas that will be covered by this initiative will include amongst others; The ICC in Nigeria – Status of the activities of the Office of the Prosecutor and admissibility requirements, Crimes against Humanity and War Crimes, Synergies between offences under the Nigerian Criminal/Penal Code/Military Law and those under the Rome Statute, Terrorism and International Crimes, trial advocacy and fundamental principles of a fair trial and respecting human rights.

After a highly successful first event held in Abuja at the **Sheraton Hotel, from 7 – 9 December 2016**, this event continues the progress made in strengthening justice and accountability in Nigeria and is organised in close collaboration with the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions for the Federation in Abuja. It aims to set the standard for prosecutions of these crimes in the future, with joint funding from the Ford Foundation, the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland.



***Background Information:***

The Wayamo Foundation is an independent, non-profit organisation established to strengthen the rule of law and promote international criminal justice, acts as co-ordinator and Secretariat for the Africa Group for Justice and Accountability, an independent group of senior African experts on international criminal law and human rights, whose main goal is to strengthen justice and accountability measures in Africa through domestic and regional capacity building, advice and outreach, and enhancing co-operation between Africa and the International Criminal Court.

The International Nuremberg Principles Academy located in Nuremberg, Germany, the birthplace of modern international criminal law, is devoted to the promotion of international criminal justice and human rights, and supports world-wide enforcement of international criminal law, furthering knowledge, and building capacities at the national level to investigate and prosecute international core crimes, i.e., genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and the crime of aggression.

For further information kindly contact:

**Bettina Ambach**, Director, Wayamo Foundation, [Bettina@bettinaambach.de](mailto:Bettina@bettinaambach.de)

**Farah Mahmood**, International Nuremberg Principles Academy, [farah.mahmood@stadt.nuernberg.de](mailto:farah.mahmood@stadt.nuernberg.de)