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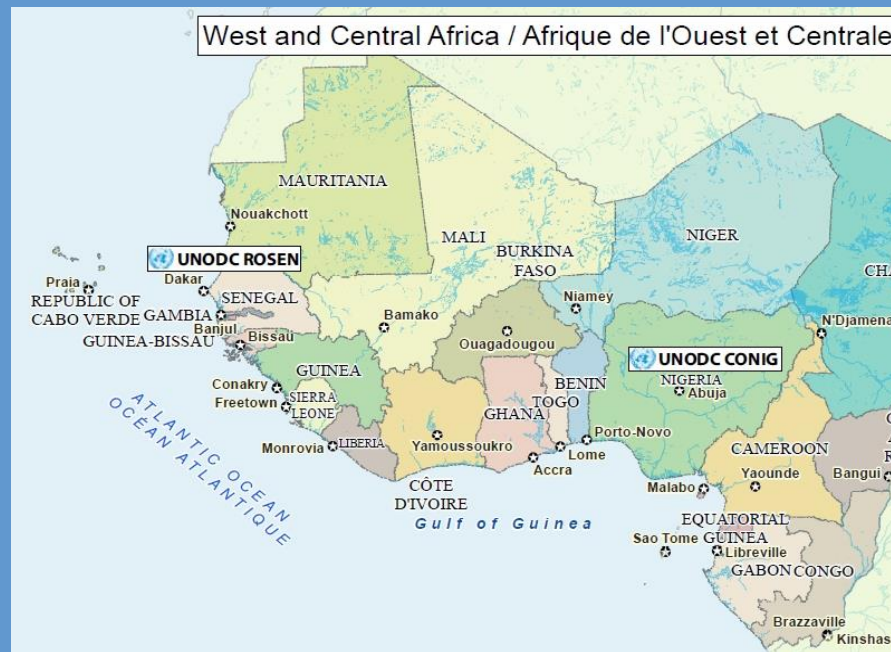
**Regional Judicial Platform of the Sahel countries**

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**Sahel Judicial Platform**

## UNODC ROSEN

- UNODC is the guardian of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC), the Protocols thereto and the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC)
- Based in Dakar, the Regional Office for West and Central Africa covers 22 countries (15 in West Africa and 7 in Central Africa)
- UNODC has been present in West and Central Africa for 20 years





## Mandate of the Regional Judicial Platform of the Sahel countries

### Threats in Sahelian countries:

- Terrorism
- Nexus between terrorism and transnational organized crime

### Response of the Sahel Judicial Platform:

- Facilitation of international judicial cooperation to prevent and fight terrorism;
- Support to the central and executing authorities on extradition and mutual legal assistance requests;
- Provision of technical assistance on international judicial cooperation authorities, if necessary.



## Challenge

- Heavy/slow procedure to manage international judicial cooperation cases
- Lack of communication between judicial cooperation authorities

## Opportunity

- Creation of an informal network on judicial cooperation between practitioners from Sahel countries in 2010
- Request of the focal points to formalize this network
- Official creation of the Sahel Judicial Platform by ministers in charge of Justice in 2012

# Composition

## Sahel Judicial Platform Member States:

- Burkina Faso
- Mali
- Mauritania
- Niger
- Senegal

## Sahel Judicial Platform observatory State:

- Chad (currently joining as Member State)

## Sahel Judicial Platform / focal points objectives

- Facilitate the transmission and execution of requests for mutual legal assistance and extradition from Member States
- Monitor the progress of launched procedures in response to judicial cooperation requests;
- Facilitate information, experience and best practices sharing;
- Sensitize relevant practitioners in the criminal chain on the role, relevance and work of the Sahel Platform;
- Aggregate and summarize every judicial cooperation requests formulated and / or received;
- Identify needs for capacity building and transmit them to the UNODC
- Report to the secretariat all challenges in judicial cooperation with another Member State.

## Sahel Judicial Platform structures

- A Secretariat (administrative body whose functions are performed in turn by the different Member States, with the support of UNODC).
- A Technical Committee (executive body composed of focal points and substitutes).
- A Council of Ministers (legislative body composed of the ministers in charge of justice).



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## Ministerial and focal points meetings

- Discuss issues on its functioning;
- Share best practices;
- Identify technical assistance needs.





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## Key achievements in 2015

- 85 mutual legal assistance
- 14 extraditions



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# Thank you !

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