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# PRESS RELEASE

## FUND TO ADVANCE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE IN AFRICA SEEKS GREATER COLLABORATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

DAKAR - TrustAfrica is pleased to announce a new project, "The Fund to Advance International Criminal Justice in Africa." The project is a follow-up to a series of meetings on International Criminal Justice, the most recent of which took place in Nairobi, Kenya at the end of 2011. The \$1.5 million, multi-donor effort seeks to ensure greater collaboration and accountability among African states to transform the field of international criminal justice in Africa.

The fund has three main goals, namely:

- Strengthen African capacity to advance international criminal justice (including domestication of the Rome Statute) as well as consolidate the gains already made.
- Improve relations between the African Union (AU) and the International Criminal Court (ICC); and
- Enable different donors to collaborate in funding work on anti-impunity and international justice in Africa.

"TrustAfrica hopes to work closely with all the stakeholders engaged in pursuing justice on the continent and through its grantmaking to serve as a bridge to advocate for those seeking an end to impunity in Africa. We are excited to dedicate our energy to strengthening the capacity of civil society organizations so that they may seek greater accountability and transparency," said Dr. Akwasi Aidoo, Executive Director of TrustAfrica.

In particular, through a series of activities, the fund seeks to mobilize civil society around international criminal justice in the following manner:

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- Develop a knowledge hub that enables stakeholders to access and share information, strategies, and best practices in the field of international criminal justice in Africa;
- Conduct agenda-setting and peer-learning convenings that bring together experts, institutions and State officials across the continent; and
- Provide grants to support advocacy work against impunity and in pursuit of international criminal justice in Africa.

The three-year project will be based at the TrustAfrica headquarters in Dakar, Senegal, with a pan-African focus. TrustAfrica will kick-off the project with a one-on-one meeting with leaders from the African Union and the International Criminal Court, both of whom have newly appointed leadership from Africa.

TrustAfrica is a public foundation that seeks to secure conditions for democratic governance, equitable development and African philanthropy across the African continent. Led by Africans, TrustAfrica organizes meetings, catalyzes ideas, and provides grants and technical assistance to organizations working to advance these goals.

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