

## Q and A

### Q1: WHAT IS THE COMMON AFRICAN POSITION ON ASSET RECOVERY (CAPAR)?

Common African Position on Assets Recovery (CAPAR) is a strategic framework adopted by the African Union to address the longstanding challenge of illicit financial flows and the recovery of stolen assets from African countries. It represents a united position by African nations to combat corruption, recover lost assets, and ensure that these assets are reinvested into Africa's development.

### Q2: WHY IS CAPAR IMPORTANT FOR AFRICA?

CAPAR is crucial because Africa has lost trillions of dollars to illicit financial flows over the past decades, undermining its development goals. By recovering these assets, CAPAR seeks to reduce corruption, strengthen governance, and direct financial resources back into vital areas like infrastructure, healthcare, and education.

### Q3: WHAT ARE THE FOUR PILLARS OF CAPAR?

The four pillars of CAPAR are:

- 1. Detection and Identification of Assets:** Focuses on tracing and identifying stolen African assets.
- 2. Recovery and Return of Assets:** Streamlines the processes of recovering and repatriating assets from foreign jurisdictions.
- 3. Management of Recovered Assets:** Ensures that recovered assets are managed transparently and used for the common good.
- 4. Cooperation and Partnerships:** Emphasizes the need for collaboration among various actors, both within Africa and internationally, for successful asset recovery.

### Q4: HOW DOES CAPAR ADDRESS THE PROBLEM OF ILLICIT FINANCIAL FLOWS?

CAPAR addresses illicit financial flows by promoting stronger legal frameworks, enhancing transparency, and fostering cooperation among African nations and international partners. It provides a structured approach to detect, recover, and manage stolen assets, ensuring that they are returned to Africa and used for its development.

### Q5: WHAT ROLE DOES THE AFRICAN UNION ADVISORY BOARD AGAINST CORRUPTION (AUABC) PLAY IN CAPAR?

The AUABC is central to the implementation of CAPAR, serving as the host of the CAPAR with the political support of the African Union Commission through Department of Political Affairs, Peace and Security. It plays a crucial role in enhancing the visibility and engagement of CAPAR across Africa. The Board actively promotes the adoption and implementation of CAPAR principles among African Union Member States through advocacy, provides technical assistance and expertise to support asset recovery efforts, monitors and evaluates progress in implementing CAPAR, and collaborates with other institutions and stakeholders to strengthen Africa's asset recovery agenda. The AUABC and AUC are mandated to report to the Executive Council of African Union on the progress being made on implementation of CAPAR.

### Q6: HOW DOES CAPAR ENSURE TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN ASSET RECOVERY?

CAPAR promotes transparency and accountability by advocating for the creation of public asset registers, the establishment of dedicated agencies to manage recovered assets, and the implementation of policies that govern the use of these assets. It also encourages stakeholder oversight and public participation in the recovery process.

### Q7: WHAT ARE THE KEY CHALLENGES IN ASSET RECOVERY, AND HOW DOES CAPAR ADDRESS THEM?

Key challenges include the technical complexities of tracing assets, political barriers to recovery, and the lack of cooperation between countries. CAPAR addresses these by enhancing legal frameworks, promoting international cooperation, utilizing technology for asset detection, and advocating for the simplification of recovery processes.



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### Q8: HOW DOES CAPAR ENGAGE WITH INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS?

CAPAR emphasizes the importance of global partnerships and seeks to engage international partners through joint initiatives, knowledge sharing, and cooperative efforts. It works closely with organizations like the United Nations, World Bank, and regional bodies to enhance asset recovery processes and overcome barriers.

### Q9: WHAT ARE SOME OF THE STRATEGIES USED TO RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT CAPAR?

Strategies include hosting African Annual Dialogues on Asset Recovery, engaging media through investigative journalism, utilizing social media for campaigns, and organizing events like Africa Anti-Corruption Day to mobilize support and reinforce political will for asset recovery.

### Q10: HOW DOES CAPAR INVOLVE CIVIL SOCIETY IN ITS INITIATIVES?

CAPAR actively involves civil society organizations (CSOs) by encouraging their participation in advocacy, monitoring government actions, and engaging communities in asset recovery efforts. CSOs play a crucial role in raising public awareness, mobilizing grassroots support, and advocating for transparency and accountability.

### Q11: HOW DOES CAPAR ENSURE THAT RECOVERED ASSETS ARE USED EFFECTIVELY?

CAPAR ensures effective use of recovered assets by advocating for their management through transparent and accountable mechanisms. This includes the establishment of central returned assets accounts, the development of policies for asset use in national development, and stakeholder oversight to monitor the allocation and utilization of these funds.

### Q12: WHAT MEASURES ARE IN PLACE TO ENHANCE THE DETECTION AND IDENTIFICATION OF STOLEN ASSETS?

CAPAR promotes the strengthening of legal and financial systems, the protection of whistleblowers, and the use of technology like data analytics and blockchain tracking to improve the detection and identification of stolen assets. It also encourages transparency in asset records and the involvement of civil society in monitoring and reporting suspicious activities.

### Q13: WHAT IMPACT DOES CAPAR AIM TO ACHIEVE IN THE LONG TERM?

In the long term, CAPAR aims to significantly reduce illicit financial flows from Africa, recover stolen assets, and reinvest them into the continent's development. This will contribute to sustainable development, strengthen African economies, and improve the living conditions of its citizens.

### Q14: HOW CAN STAKEHOLDERS SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CAPAR?

Stakeholders can support CAPAR by advocating for the adoption and implementation of its recommendations, participating in asset recovery initiatives, sharing knowledge and expertise, and engaging in partnerships that align with CAPAR's objectives. Active participation from governments, international partners, civil society, and the private sector is crucial for CAPAR's success.

### Q15: WHAT RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE FOR STAKEHOLDERS TO LEARN MORE ABOUT CAPAR?

Stakeholders can access various resources, including AUABC official website, newsletters, webinars, policy briefs, and published papers. Additionally, CAPAR organizes events and workshops to provide more in-depth information and facilitate knowledge sharing among stakeholders.