

## **Capacity Building Session for Female Prison Personnel**

As part of the ongoing End of Year projects (EoY), Corrections Unit (CU) supported the national prison authorities to organize a two-week (29 September to 12 October, 2021) training session exclusively for 50 female prison personnel selected from the 11 PPs across the country. The training is aimed at equipping the participants with the needed professional competencies to improve their roles, representation, and inclusion in the management of the prison system.

During the closing ceremony held on 08 October 2021 at the Luzumu Prisons Training School (PTS), the Minister of Justice (MoJ), Madam Rose Mutombo lauded CU for the initiative which according to her is in line with the vision of the President of the Republic to empower women and to promote gender parity in institutions of the state.

She also underlined the relevance of the training within the framework of the ongoing Joint Justice Reform Support Program (JJRSP). She hinted that as part of the reforms, the government intends to build a new prison in Kinshasa exclusively for women prisoners.

The Minister advised the participants to endeavor to apply the knowledge and skills acquired in performance of their duties to justify the resource spent on them, enhance their promotion and selection into managerial positions.

In his welcome remarks, the Acting Director of the PTS appealed to the Minister to support in rehabilitation of the road leading to the school, allocation of a dedicated budget line to facilitate the management of the school and to grant accreditation to transform the school into a certificate awarding institution.

In recognition of their tireless efforts to transform the prison system and bringing the school to its status, a hall each was named after the MoJ and the Chief of Corrections Madam Patience Oboshie Sai. Similar training sessions are currently underway at Bunia and Kananga to train 100 personnel.

In a related development, the Minister handed-over a key of a 28-seater bus to the Secretary General (SG) of the Ministry of Justice to support in the management of the school.