

SAS/Talking Notes

Peace making in Africa: from the OAU to AU
Addis Ababa, Wednesday 4 March 2009

1. Tribute to Finland and Accord

*How is AFRICA
EQUIPPED TO ADDRESS
CURRENT AND FUTURE
CONFLICTS?
- AU + ...*

2. Evolution of the Peace making Architecture from 1963 to the present

- **OAU Commission on conciliation and arbitration.**
- **Ad Hoc arrangements involving some Heads of State to deal with specific eruptions.**
- **A major watershed was the creation of a mechanism in Cairo 1963 for conflict prevention, management and resolution.**
- **For ten years after the establishment of the mechanism, a more coherent architecture in the continent began to evolve at continental, regional and sub regional levels**
- **The creation of the Peace and Security Council with its elaborate protocols in terms of consolidating the structure**

[African Peace and Security Council; the African Commission, Panel of the Wise; Early Warning System, Standby Force]

- **The challenges lie in the operationalisation of these Organs.**
- **The Peace Security Council is a robust organ but to what extent has it been able to develop required capacities.**

3. The Nature of Conflict, Insecurity and Instability has also changed over the period.

- **From the Dominance of military coups to rebel movements, civil wars and even inter state wars.**

4. Prevention should be the preferred path and given priority

- **But more emphasis is given to conflict resolution why?**
- **More interest and support in putting off the fire**
- **Reluctance on part of states to accept that they have crises [the old issue of entry point]**

5. The challenges

- **Limitation of resources:**
 - **African States must be prepared to provide meaningful resources. We cannot simply excessively rely of external support**

- LIMITED CAPACITY
- FIRE BRIGADE
EXPERT

- **Enhancing capacity**
 - **Experts in mediation. Adequate backup facilities**

- **The misuse of the doctrine of non interference even though the Constitutive Act has made somewhat of a breakthrough [in stipulating the right of the AU to intervene in cases of Genocide, War crimes or crimes against humanity].**

INVOLVING THE AFRICA WOMEN REPORT

- COMMISSION - 50%
- PANEL OF WISE - 40%