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Foreword

The International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC) is a research and training institution focusing on capacity building at the strategic, operational and tactical levels within the framework of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) and has developed into the regional center of excellence for the African Standby Force (ASF) in Eastern Africa. It addresses the complexities of contemporary UN/AU integrated Peace Support Operations (PSO) by describing the actors and multi-dimensional nature of these operations. The research conducted covers a broad spectrum ranging from conflict prevention through management to post-conflict reconstruction. The Center has made considerable contributions in training and research on peace support issues in Somalia through design of training curriculum, field research and publication of Occasional Papers and Issue Briefs; the Occasional Papers are produced annually, while the Issues Briefs are produced quarterly. The issue briefs are an important contribution to the vision and mission of IPSTC.

The Peace and Security Research Department (PSRD) of the IPSTC presents the Fourth Quarter Issue Brief No. 7 (2013) on two titles on peace and conflict in Somalia; *Role of the Military in Disaster Management: The case of Bududa Landslide in Eastern Uganda and Role of International Negotiations in Ending Conflicts in Burundi and Sudan.* The Issue Brief provides insights into pertinent peace and security issues in the Great Lakes region that are useful to policy makers and aims at contributing to the security debate and praxis in Eastern Africa. The articles in the Issue Brief are also expected to inform the design of the training modules at IPSTC.

The research and publication of this Issue Brief has been made possible by the support of the Government of Japan through UNDP.

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Director, IPSTC

Acronyms

BDLG	Bududa District Local Government
CBO	Community Based Organizations
CDRSS	Committee on Disaster Research in the Social Sciences
CNDD-FDD	Conseil Nationa pour la Défense de la Démocration – Force de Defense de la
CPA	Comprehensive Peace Agreement
CRED	Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters
DDPMC	District Disaster Preparedness and Management Committee
DECOC	District Emergency Coordination and Operations Centre Démocratie
DFID	Department for International Development
DPA	Darfur Peace Agreements
DRDP	Department of Relief and Disaster Preparedness
ECB	Economic Capacity Building
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ESPA	Eastern Sudan Peace Agreements
FNL	Front National de Libération
FRODEBU	Front pour la Défense de la Démocratie au Burundi
GoS	Government of Sudan
JEM	Justice and Equity Movement
LG	Local Government

MCDAR	Military and Civil Defence Assets in Disaster Relief
NCP	National Congress Party
NDPMC	National Disaster Preparedness Management Committee
NEMA	National Environmental Management Authority
NGO	Non Government Organization
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister
PAR	Pressure and Release Model
PEAP	Poverty Eradication Action Plan
SAF	Sudanese Armed Forces
SLM/A	Sudan Liberation Army
SPLM	Sudan People Liberation Army
UN	United Nations
UN-ISDR	United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
UNRA	Uganda National Road Authority
UPDF	Uganda Peoples Defence Forces
UPRONA	Union pour le Progrès National
URC	Uganda Red Cross
USGS	United States Geological Survey

Introduction to the Issue Briefs

The topics presented in this Fourth Quarter Issue Brief No.8 of 2013 addresses diverse issues of conflict and disaster management in Eastern Africa. The first topic in the Issue Brief examines the role of military in disaster management using the case of Bududa landslides in Uganda while the second paper examines international negotiations in ending conflicts in Sudan and Burundi.

In the first paper, *The Role of the Military in Disaster Management: the Case of Bududa Landslide in Eastern Uganda*, the author examines the role of the military in disaster management focusing on a case study in Uganda. In March 2010, Uganda was struck by a devastating landslide and floods that killed more than 300 people, left over 1000 people homeless. The Bududa landslide affected north eastern Uganda. The Uganda military played a significant operational and co-ordination role in the humanitarian response that followed. Today, government's agencies in Eastern Africa are gearing up for a greater military role in disaster response and civil-military involvement. The military can play a significant role in supporting humanitarian relief efforts, therefore civil authorities have a responsibility to engage more strategically with the military and maximize the potential benefits from their experience in Disaster Management.

In the second paper, *The Role of International Negotiations in Ending Conflicts in Burundi and Sudan*, the author presents International negotiations and mediation as a way of resolving contentious issues through dialogue in which different positions and interests are harmonized for sustainable solutions of conflicts. This study puts emphasis on the importance of the third parties in ending conflicts in Burundi and Sudan. The study also shows that the signature of a cease-

fire agreement is not an end to the causes of conflict. Different actors especially the third parties have to help parties in conflict to address all unfinished problems identified during the process of negotiations.

The Role of the Military in Disaster Management:

The Case of Bududa Landslide in Eastern Uganda

Martin Okwir

Introduction

Uganda is one of the most beautiful countries in Africa with a rich physical landscape comprising of mountains, hills, valleys and flat plains spanning across the country. Situated in Eastern Africa, Uganda is mostly a plateau with agriculture as the main economic activity in Uganda has witnessed a number of natural and human-induced disasters that have culminated into loss of life, property and displacements.[1] Owing to meager resources, the administrative and technical measures necessary for disaster preparedness and management in the country are scanty and hampered by poor equipment. The country lacks a depository and repository of vital data on the incidence of disasters and their effects on the communities. Enforcement of legislation on risk avoidance is weak such that disruptions arising from disasters have continued to grow without corresponding lessons-learnt measures.[2]

Over the years, Uganda has been exposed to a variety of disasters which include fires, droughts, floods, landslides, human conflicts, drug abuse, HIV/AIDS, traffic accidents, oil spills, industrial accidents

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1   UNDP, *Northern Uganda Internally Displaced Persons Profiling Study* (2005).
2   Available at: http://www.unisdr.org/eng/country-inform/reports/Uganda-report.pdf.

and terrorism, among others. These disasters which have increased in diversity, intensity and frequency over the past two decades continue to affect an increasing number of people, damage property and lead to rising economic losses.[3] Bududa Landslide in Eastern Uganda, which occurred on 1st March 2010, is a case in point. It is considered to be one of the worst landslides recorded in Uganda in the last 100 years. It affected thousands of people in Eastern Uganda and Karamoja region. The Landslide is estimated to have cost the government and other stakeholders more than 20 million USD, equivalent to 10 Billion Uganda Shillings, an amount that would not have been used had there been an effective disaster management system in place.[4]

Recent disaster response studies in Uganda have shown that prompt and appropriate response to disaster can significantly reduce the damage and loss of lives in times of crisis. This was evident in the case of Bududa where the swift response of Uganda People's Defence Forces (UPDF) averted loss of lives and damage of property. Following the successful management of disaster in Bududa, the government of Uganda continues to use UPDF in other similar circumstances. However, this has been done on ad hoc basis, hence need for a structured response. This paper proposes a framework for the military engagement in disaster management based on the experience of Bududa.

The study has analyzed military contribution in disaster management in Uganda with reference to Bududa landslide and has provided the following findings and a number of recommendations; key amongst them, a coordinated response and well-defined role for the armed forces, the humanitarian agencies and community in disaster management.

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3   Wendy, B., 2003. Influence of soil properties, land use and deforestation on the occurrence of landslides in Manjiya county, Mount Elgon area, East Uganda, Master of Science thesis (Unpublished) Catholic University of Leuven.
4   Birkmann, J. 2006. Measuring vulnerability to natural hazards: Towards disaster resilient societies. UNU press, [Online] Available: http://i.unu.eduf [26 June 2010].

Focus of the Study

This study aims to identify the role of the East African military involvement in disaster management and assess the guide-lines on civil-military relations in disaster management situations. The case study will focus on the Bududa landslide in Eastern Uganda.

Statement of the problem

The East African countries need to develop an efficient response mechanism for disaster management and make available all necessary actors and resources. There are hardly any studies assessing military contribution in disaster management in the region. Interventions in this area will aim to build capacity as recent events have highlighted the need for disaster planning by leaders in all types of organizations, civilian and military.

The East African Community member states have to develop capacity of their armed forces since they can provide critical resources and expertise in disaster situations. The findings of this research will inform the relevant actors on better methods of disaster management. The Disaster Risk Reduction approach for guiding emergency interventions will be used to assess the Bududa case.

The populations in some areas within East Africa are highly vulnerable to natural disasters. Disasters and emergencies often affect the most vulnerable people and threaten to reverse development gains. There is a need for more effective disaster management practices and strategies in the East African Community. This study aims to provide more insights in that regard.

Objectives

- To assess the capacity of the armed forces within the EAC to provide quick response to natural disaster situations.

- To create awareness of the preparedness of the regional armed forces in disaster management.

- To assess the level of civil-military relations in natural disaster management.

- To identify opportunities for effective participation of armed forces in disaster management issues.

Natural Disasters in Uganda

Uganda has experienced a wide range of disasters that have affected the country such as displacement of persons as a result of civil strife, famine as a result of drought, earthquakes, disease epidemics, livestock and crop disease, flooding, technological accidents as a result of inadequate safety procedures and landslides resulting from heavy rains and mismanagement of environment).[5]

In Uganda, Landslides, however, have become common phenomena especially on the mountainous areas of the Southwest and Eastern sides where they have caused extensive damage to property, environment and loss of lives[6]. According to the Committee on Disaster Research in the Social Sciences (CDRSS) (2004:33), a landslide hazard is described as the potential for occurrence of a damaging landslide within a given area. Such damage could include loss of life or injury, property damage, social and economic disruption, or environmental degradation. [7]

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5   Office of the Prime Minister, Republic of Uganda, From *Bududa* Tragedy to a Promising Future in *Kiryandongo*, Kampala: Government of the Republic of Uganda, 2010
6   Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), Republic of Uganda, 2005)
7   Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), Republic of Uganda, Uganda National Report and Information on Disaster Risk Reduction Efforts for the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, Kobe, Hyoga, Japan, 2005.

The African continent was not much affected by landslides or mudslides in the early days until recently when they have become common.[8] It is observe that in 2002, landslides in Bududa killed three people and injured six. In 2007 they struck Wanale in Mbale district destroying homes and crops of ten families. Over 133 people previously lost their lives due to landslides, the highest number being in 1970 when 60 people were killed in Bulucheke Sub County and Bushenyi district in south western Uganda. Between 1997 and 1999, 48 people were killed as a result of landslides with over 15,000 left in displacement after their homes had been destroyed ,increased in occurrences has been attributed to the global warming phenomena resulting in high precipitation, and poor environmental management practices.[9]

Classification of Disasters

Disasters can be classified in two broad categories; natural and manmade. Examples of natural disasters include floods, landslides, earthquakes, storms and epidemics; while man-made disasters include terrorism, Industrial accidents, fires, transport accidents, collapsed infrastructure, and environmental degradation, among others. While natural disasters are difficult to prevent, measures such as good planning and effective disaster management can help reduce or avoid losses. On the other hand, deterrence, surveillance and policing are invaluable in avoiding and lessening losses from man-made disasters. Disasters that have occurred in Uganda in recent years have been of both types, though the natural have occurred more frequently. Therefore a review of the natural disasters will be emphasised in this paper.

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8   Kitutu, M.G., Muwanga, A., Poesen, J., and Deckers, A.J., (2004), Influence of Soil Properties on Landslide Occurrences in Bududa District, Eastern Uganda

9   Muwanga, A., Schuman, A., Biryabarema, M., Landslides in Uganda: Documentation of a Natural Hazard, 2001 136: 111-115.

Landslide Hazards in Uganda

A hazard, natural or human can be defined as an event, phenomenon, human activity or agency which has the potential to cause harm, property damage, social and economic disruption or environmental degradation (NEMA 2010).[10] It may include latent conditions that may represent future threats and have different origins. Hazards are characterized by their different locations, intensity and probability; and their potential may be because of their unexpected arrival, extreme nature in terms of their intensity or duration. Where communities have evolved, they are able to handle changes in hazardous events, which fall within the expected range and accommodate them; this is called the coping range of a society or community. Landslides become hazards when they have a potential impact on the society or environment because of their extreme nature in timing and scale which may fall beyond the coping range of the affected community rendering it vulnerable. Because of population explosion, urban expansion and changes in the climate patterns, the economic and social costs of landslide hazards will continue to rise, implying increased demand for improved protection against landslides. Landslides have been very frequent in Uganda with the following being recorded over the years:-

- **The landslide of 1989:** In 1989, Bubiita Sub County faced a major landslide. However this landslide was not as disastrous as some of the others since fewer lives, livelihoods and property were destroyed. Scholars argue that this is because, by then, the population was smaller, the slopes were forested and the mountain slopes where the landslide occurred were not inhabited. According to a Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) official, this landslide caused flooding which also resulted in diseases like malaria and cholera attracting the attention of the URCS. In this landslide, 11 people lost their lives.

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10 National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA), Landslides in Bududa district their Causes and Consequences, 2010. [Online] available: www.nemaug.org/reports/Current_reports/Bududa_report.pdf.

- **The 1997 to 1999 landslides:** This two year period witnessed various landslides in different parts of Manjiya County which is the present day Bududa District. The landslides were accelerated by the El Nino rains. In the process, 48 people lost their lives and 10,000 others were displaced. Out of the 48 people who died, 43 were from Bubiita Sub County.

- **The March 2010 landslide:** This landslide took place in Nametsi and Ulukusi Parishes of Bukalasi and Bumayoka Sub Counties respectively. It was a major landslide that had some of the most devastating consequences ever recorded in the history of the districts around the Mt. Elgon region. The slides mingled with rock and vegetative debris, swept down slopes and houses, people, household property and livestock burying a church and three villages of Nametsi Parish Nametsi, Kubewo and Namangasa), and causing loss of six lives in Ulukusi Parish (OCHA, 2010). The three villages in Nametsi Parish were highly populated with about 3,000 people located high on the mountain, as revealed by the OPM (2010).

Other Hazards in Uganda

The following are other common hazards that continue to affect Uganda:-

- **Droughts and Famine:** Parts of Uganda are affected by famine due to prolonged periods of drought occurring in a cyclic pattern every 3 to 5 years. The North Eastern part of the country is always affected with significant food insecurity, often necessitating humanitarian assistance. Drought has also contributed to insecurity in the region, with cattle rustling still common in Karamoja region and attacks on neighboring populations and the proliferation of

small arms. Other parts of the country are also hit by sporadic drought, especially along the 'cattle corridor' of the mid-western parts of Ankole.

- **Floods:** Floods in Uganda are exacerbated by heavy rains known as El Niño, which swell the many rivers and inundate the relatively low-lying flat areas of the country. The regions which are most prone to floods in Uganda are Kampala in central Uganda, the Lake Victoria basin, and the eastern and northern parts of the country. Most recently, in November 2007, heavy rains led to flooding in the Teso region particularly affecting Katakwi and Amuria Districts in eastern Uganda.

- **Hail Storms:** Parts of Uganda have frequent hail storms characterized by heavy rains and violent winds. Hailstorms and thunderstorms result in destruction of crops, animals, public infrastructure and human settlements. They are also associated with flooding.

- **Epidemics:** They are the single most important public health emergency in the country. In 2007 alone, there were 5 outbreaks over a period of 8 months. There are repeated propagated epidemics of cholera especially around the rift valley areas of western Uganda, and parts of Kampala City, where human settlement in wetlands has disrupted storm water flow and has led to extensive contamination of underground aquifers.

- **Earth Quakes and Volcanic Activity**: Uganda is located in the middle of both the Eastern and Western Rift Valleys. Many parts of Western Uganda are prone to volcanic seismic activity. In 1994, an earthquake hit districts in Rwenzori region affecting over 50,000 people. There were also numerous tremors in 2007.

Bududa Landslides

The Elgon sub-region of Uganda is susceptible to landslides and floods, besides widespread poverty, poor infrastructure and limited access to basic social services. Heavy rains in many parts of Uganda have resulted in flooding, water logging and landslides resulting in death, displacement and destruction of property and crops. At least 21 people died in mudslides and thousands were displaced by floods across eastern Uganda during the months of August and September 2010 (NEMA), 2010 following torrential rains that submerged homes and devastated villages.[11]

According to Uganda Red Cross Society, over 15,619 households with a population of over 80,000 people were affected by the floods, mostly in eastern Ugandan. Bulambuli District was the most affected, losing at least 31 people. In many districts, local governments are unable to cope with the impact of torrential rains and require assistance from the Central Government and humanitarian agencies of which the army are the called for assistance. Currently, the Government of Uganda is looking at establishing a Disaster Preparedness and Response Coordination Office in Mbale District to oversee disaster preparedness and response in eastern Uganda.

It is now becoming clear that Landslide disasters are on the increase as the population increases. Landslides in the Mount Elgon areas and mostly in Bududa, seem to have occurred in the past with little intervention and study. According to Chenery (1960), in the major soil surveys done in the country the soils of Bududa, in the areas around Mount Elgon, are under risk of soil slips. Bududa District has been affected by landslides, some of which are reported and others not; people mostly report landslides where there is loss of life.[12]

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11 National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA), Landslides in Bududa district their causes and consequences, 2010. [Online] available: www.nemaug.org/reports/Current_reports/Bududa_report.pdf. [Accessed on 14 April 2013]
12 NEMA, 2010. [Online] available: www.nemaug.org/reports/Current_reports/Bududa_report.pdf

It has been observed that Bududa has increasingly experienced catastrophic landslides over the past few decades. In 2002, landslides in Bududa killed three people and injured six. In 2007 they struck Wanale in Mbale district, destroying homes and crops of ten families. On 1 March 2010, another landslide disaster triggered by intense precipitation, occurred in Bududa. The landslides swept through the three villages of Nametsi, Kubehwo and Namangasa in Nametsi parish of Bukalasi sub-county destroying homes, markets, schools and a health clinic killing about 350 people. Many people were reported as missing and were suspected to have been buried under the rubble. This was arguably one of the worst landslide disasters to have hit the region and the country as a whole in recent times, prompting the government to declare a state of emergency.[13]

Causes of Landslides in Bududa

The activity of land sliding in Bududa is generally influenced by heavy rainfall, steep slopes, slope shape and high clay content in the soil (Knapen, et al., 2006).[14] Other factors that play a role in triggering landslides in this area according to (Knapen) are the swelling properties of clay and the rate at which water infiltrates into the clay at depth. According to the report by NEMA (2010)[15] it is observed that during intense rains in Bududa, the roads, small footpaths, plot boundaries and runoff ditches concentrate large volumes of runoff water, and direct this to restricted infiltration zones or hollows. In the Bududa/Bushika zone, these linear features are numerous and cracks develop upon drying in the swell–shrink soils. As these cracks form a by-pass mechanism for rapid infiltration, over-saturation of the zone above the shear plane may occur with subsequent slope failure. It can be seen that the landslides in Bududa are bound to be as frequents as the rains. This calls for the government of Uganda to

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13   National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (2010:1) on the Uganda's current legal and policy frameworks for addressing the common issue areas related to receiving international disaster assistance.
14   (Knapen, et al., 2006:151).
15   NEMA (2010:13),

set up response mechanisms to deal with these disasters; which may be unavoidable, by the fact that they are triggered by natural phenomenon.

Uganda Peoples Defense Forces (UPDF) Involvement in Bududa landslide

The Ugandan military has set up a rapid response brigade for civil and military emergency operations for any disasters occurrence in Uganda. The UPDF brigade consists of personnel drawn from various military units; medical teams, engineers, specialized search, rescue and evacuation and logistics teams. The brigade is always ready to handle disasters in any part of the country. The brigade formation follows various deadly landslides in mountainous areas in eastern and south western Uganda, where rescue efforts were hampered by lack of well prepared and equipped personnel to handle such situations on many occasions.

The Role of (UPDF) in Disaster Management

The 1995 Constitution of the Republic of Uganda makes effective disaster management one of the key "social and economic" objectives of the state. It provides that: "the State shall institute effective machinery for dealing with any hazard or disaster arising out of natural calamities or any situation resulting in general displacement of people or serious disruption of their normal life. In Uganda, there has been increased involvement of the UPDF in disaster management activities. Article 208 of the Constitution of the republic of Uganda gives the UPDF the mandate to be productive and assist in times of catastrophes like floods and landslides. UPDF has always responded in coordinated manner in times of such needs.

Uganda's National Policy Instruments

Disaster risk management involves the systematic development and application of policies, strategies and practices to minimize vulnerabilities and disaster risks in order to avoid or limit the adverse impacts of hazards on people's lives, economic and social developments in a country. Uganda has experienced disasters which have threatened to negate development gains made over the last decade. National and international organizations are overwhelmed by the magnitude and numbers of calamities. Non-governmental Organizations are equally unable to meet demands for assistance. It is worth noting that, in recent disasters, not all planned relief operations could be completed. In multi-disaster events, for example where armed conflicts and natural disasters occur simultaneously, these weaknesses have become very apparent. Hence, the strategies that had earlier been used to cope with disaster and relief mechanisms have proved insufficient. This necessitated the development of Uganda National Policy for Disaster Preparedness and Management. The Policy goal is to promote national vulnerability assessment, risk mitigation, disaster prevention, preparedness, effective response and recovery in a manner that integrates disaster risk management with development planning and programming. This approach will ensure people of Uganda build capacities that would enable minimize serious social and economic disruptions as a result of disasters.

The implementation of the National Disaster Preparedness and Management Policy is a multi-sectorial and multidisciplinary process. The process involves all government ministries in collaboration with humanitarian and development partners, the private sector, local governments and the community. Disaster preparedness and management is the responsibility of both the state and all citizens. At the Local government's level, each shall develop by-laws to operationalize

the implementation of the policy, but in most cases they lack funding to make these laws active. A lead agency in co-coordinating all stakeholders on disaster preparedness and management in the country is normally designated.

The National Emergency Coordination and Operations Mechanisms

The National Emergency Coordination and Operations Centre (NECOC) in Uganda is responsible for effective coordination and networking of the various departments of the Government, such as the Fire Brigade, Police Rapid Response Units, UPDF Emergency Support Units, Uganda Red Cross, hospital emergency units and the private emergency firms. The NECOC command is linked to the UPDF command and other security organs of government. NECOC provides liaison and coordination of the military to support the response of the Government, NGOs and INGOs to a complex humanitarian emergency. The Incident Commander is normally a member of the UPDF. Such arrangement allows coordinated access to critical military equipment and personnel.

After the Bududa landslides of 2012, it emerged that UPDF was better prepared and coordinated in handling disaster. This created the tendency of over reliance on them for any disaster. However, the role of UPDF in disaster management should primarily remain focused towards search, rescue and restore operations. In theory, UPDF should be called to the aid of civil authorities only when the situations are beyond the capability of the civil administration. In practice, however, the UPDF forms the core of the government response capacity in all high intensity disaster situations. In this regard, UPDF has earmarked lead formations in each command and put up plans to set up mobile field commands,

hospitals and relief teams. Besides, UPDF have provided training in disaster management to the affected communities. Therefore, it can be seen that the role of UPDF (military) in emergencies is very important.

Although UPDF responded effectively, it experienced challenges in its operation due to lack of proper data, inadequate training in disaster management and appropriate equipment. Therefore, there is need for the UPDF units earmarked for disaster response to be equipped, resourced and trained appropriately.

Challenges of Disaster Management in Bududa

The following are some of the challenges that were experienced in Bududa and which could form a basis for better future preparedness to deal with disasters:

- **Inaccessibility:** Due to its location, the area is difficult to reach using surface transport.

- **Limited Resources:** The local administration lacked adequate resources to cope with the disaster; updated maps, skilled manpower, equipment and finance.

- **Poor weather:** Poor weather slowed down the operations and also induced fear of a possibility of another similar disaster occurring.

- **False registrations:** Many people who were not affected falsely registered to benefit from the relief aid. This put undue strain on the assistance offered.

- **Misappropriation of aid:** Some of the aid provided did not reach the intended recipients, but instead was diverted to other uses.

- **Resistance:** In spite of the real dangers of continued stay in such places, many resisted government attempts to relocate them.

Towards Effective Disaster Management in Uganda

Factors to consider in effective Disaster Management

For effective disaster management, the Government of Uganda needs to factor in the following:

- **Risk Assessment:** Effective disaster preparedness and management still depend on the accurate information, reliable projections and forecasts. The Government Uganda need procure appropriate systems for effective monitoring and response.

- **Effective Use of Media and Communication Mechanisms:** Effective communication is a key pillar in successful disaster preparedness and management operations. The media plays a crucial role in providing key information to the public and assist in disaster warning. This is a factor that must be considered by the Government of Uganda.

- **Integration of Disaster Preparedness and Management in Training and School Curricula**: Education is a critical factor in disaster preparedness and management. It increases awareness, appreciation and preparedness to response in case of a disaster.

- **Regional Co-operation:** The Eastern Uganda Landslide disasters have a cross border dimension, it affects both Uganda and Kenya, and therefore the existing and ongoing initiatives under the African Union, IGAD and EAC should factor. The

various governments should establish joint mechanisms of dealing with disasters.

- **Early Warning:** Early warning is a prerequisite for a successful Disaster Preparedness and Management and Interventions. The government and other stakeholders need to ensure that relevant, reliable, up to date and timely information is provided to the community that is affected by the disaster.

- **Gazetting Disaster Prone Areas:** The Uganda Government should come up with national risk, hazard and disaster profiles and maps of the country and gazette them accordingly. Government should make appropriate arrangements to ensure safety of people leaving in these areas.

- **Gender:** Women and children are the most affected when disaster occurs; this was witnessed during the Bududa disaster. It is, therefore, necessary to analyze and understand the relevancy and implications of gender roles in disaster preparedness and management. This will enable the government prioritize its response to such groups during disasters.

- **Appropriate Disaster Management Framework:** From the experience of Bududa, the disaster management framework developed should be informed by Government of Uganda underlying humanitarian principles of neutrality, humanity and impartiality.

Actions to Strengthen and Maintain Disaster Preparedness Capabilities

African Union Framework

Disaster risk reduction policies and institutional mechanisms do exist at various degrees of completeness in African countries. However, their effectiveness is limited, hence the need for improving and enhancing their effectiveness and efficiency by emphasizing disaster risk reduction.

To address the issue of Disasters Management, the African Union (AU)- New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), African Development Bank (ADB) and the United Nations International Disaster Reduction (UN/ISDR), have been working together to seek ways to provide strategic guidance and direction to mainstream disaster risk reduction into sustainable development planning and process. The specific objectives are:

- To increase political commitment to disaster risk reduction.

- To improve identification and assessment of disaster risks.

- To enhance knowledge management for disaster risk reduction.

- To increase public awareness of disaster risk reduction.

- To improve governance of disaster risk reduction institutions.

- To integrate disaster risk reduction in emergency response management.

Regional Mechanisms should provide technical support to individual member states in developing disaster risk reduction strategies. They should also participate in development strategy so that regional and cross-border issues are considered in the development of plans and their implementation.

Conclusion

The mandate of Uganda People's Defence Forces in disaster management is to provide security to affected population and relief providers. UPDF achieved the broad mandate of maintaining law and order and performed well in providing assistance to the affected people during the Bududa landslide, these includes;

The Operational capabilities of UPDF were demonstrated in the delivery of supplies such as food and medicine, rebuilding community and distribution system to the affected Bududa community:

UPDF provided a safe, secure environment. UPDF had the ability to provide sufficient security in order to allow the conduct of large-scale civilian led re-location and reconstruction and other activities within the country.

Coordination with other International agencies in delivering humanitarian assistance/disaster relief is needed. UPDF had the ability to provide the immediate provision of basic necessities (e.g., water, food, sanitation, public health, medical care) in order to relieve human suffering and find better and safer pace for relocation.

UPDF should continue to engage in joint support for economic development such as Northern Uganda Recovery and Reconstruction Project and Karamoja Disarmament Programme. UPDF's ability to assist in the early recovery of community and national economic activity is highly required to support sustainable growth within the county.

The success of UPDF in disaster management during crisis in aid of civil and humanitarian crisis depends upon the cooperation between the civil and military authorities. Successful cooperation is only achieved when there is mutual confidence and understanding. It is important that in peace time, officers of the civil service and officers of the army should collaborate in disaster management training and preparedness.

The military has unique competencies which cannot easily be duplicated by civilian administration and humanitarian organizations. Nevertheless, the success of UPDF in carrying out disaster operations in Bududa provides insights and indications of the possible use of military in disaster response. The lessons learnt here provide a framework for East African leaders and humanitarian agencies to consider when encountering disaster risks. The experience of the 2010 Bududa floods and landslide demonstrated that civil-military coordination and participation is critical for effective response to disaster.

Recommendations

In view of the fact that the disaster management system and collaboration of the civilian and military administration is yet to become fully operational, Uganda Government should continue to depend on the military for disaster response until it builds such a capacity to respond to disaster within the civil institutions. Hence, a well defined role for the armed forces, the humanitarian aid and community in disaster management is required and the following recommendations may be considered.

Efforts ought to be undertaken to utilize the expertise of the military to bolster the capacity of the civil authorities, including the disaster response forces. This would enable civilians to achieve self-reliance and thus reduce their dependence on the armed forces.

In order to strengthen disaster preparedness capabilities in Uganda and elsewhere within the Eastern Africa region, the following should be action plans to be considered:

- **Community participation:** The involvement of communities in the design and implementation of activities helps ensure that they are well tailored to the actual vulnerabilities and helps avoid problems and secondary effects when a disaster occurs. This approach capitalizes on existing indigenous capacities and is usually more sensitive to gender, cultural and other context-specific issues that can undermine or empower particular groups and individuals to take locally based action. The incorporation of local perspectives into decision and activities also helps to ensure that changes in vulnerability and perception of risk are recognized and factored into institutional processes, risk assessments, and other programmes and policies.

- **Government to implement measures to reduce disaster risk:** Disaster risk reduction needs to be an essential part of Uganda's investment in sustainable development. The responsibility to protect Uganda citizens and their national assets by reducing the losses from disasters lies on its Government.

- **Integrating disaster risk reduction into development activities:** Disasters undermine hard won development gains, destroying lives and livelihoods and trapping many people in poverty. The government must factor this in its development plans.

- **Include capacity development as strategy for reducing risk:** Capacity development is needed to build and maintain the ability of people, organizations and societies to manage their risks successfully themselves. This requires not only training and specialized technical assistance, but also the strengthening of capacities of communities and individuals to recognize and reduce risks in their localities.

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Role of International Negotiations in Ending Conflicts in Burundi and Sudan

Lt Col Nduwimana Donatien

Introduction

International negotiations and mediations to end conflicts are ways of resolving disputes between the parties which require a third party's direct involvement. The goal is to encourage the parties to make concessions. However, Mediation and negotiation have some differences. Negotiation aims for an agreement that both satisfy the parties in conflict. These agreements may be reached either through barter or through real negotiation. A real negotiation implies a 'win-win' situation in which all parties are satisfied.[16]

Mediation attempts to minimize the harm that can come from disagreement, maximize on areas of agreement and finds way of preventing the areas of disagreement from interfering with the process of seeking a compromise or mutually agreed outcome.[17] Both Negotiation and mediation aims to deal with conflict in a creative and positive way, find a solution to a problem and enable protagonists to appreciate the differences between their perspectives. With negotiation and mediation, contentious issues can be discussed and agreements found in which differing opinions are considered and included. This study will use the

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16 Luban, D, Bargaining and Compromise: Recent Work on Negotiation and Informal Justice,14 Philosophy &Public Affairs 397 ,1985 .

17 www.creative-interventions.org: Creative Interventions : A Practical Guide to Stop Interpersonal Violence

International Negotiations to emphasize the importance of a third party in ending conflicts in Burundi and Sudan. The two countries Burundi and Sudan went into international negotiations to end their respective conflicts. The procedures were different and the countries were not facing the same problem.

Nature of the problem

Brian S. Mandell identifies two key factors that have impact on the success of international mediation; contextual factors and procedural factors. Contextual factors consider the nature of the conflict, the characteristics and relations between the parties to the conflict, the characteristics of the third party and its relations to the parties in conflict. Procedural factors refer to the strategies employed by the mediating party and consider the various outcomes of such strategies.

Peace negotiations have advanced the course of peace and security in Eastern Africa. The long road to peace in Sudan and Burundi has been informed by a number of peace negotiations. To assess the effectiveness of the peace negotiations held in the two countries there is need to understand the process, strategies and skills used for advancing the course of peace in the region.

Objectives of the study

The main objectives of the study are to;

- Examine the success of previous and current negotiations to end conflicts in Burundi and Sudan,

- Identify the challenges faced during the preparatory stage, the negotiation stage and during the implementation of the agreement and,

- Identify opportunities to enhance effectiveness of international negotiations.

Theoretical framework

Available literature reveals three main strategies that have commonly been used in international negotiations. Bercovitch (1986) argues that the level of intervention has prime impact on the respective effectiveness of the conflict resolution. He ranks effectiveness of strategies according to their level of intervention, in ascending order, as follows: communication facilitation strategy, procedural strategy, and directive strategy.

The communication facilitation and procedural strategies do not factor the interests of parties to the conflict but attempts to change their views on the conflict. This takes an inordinate amount of time and interaction. The communication facilitation strategy is associated with the lowest level of intervention and lowest probability of success.

The procedural strategy involves a slightly higher level of involvement, which make its probability of success correspondingly greater. The directive strategy has a direct impact on the parties' interests; it has the highest level of intervention and, therefore, the highest probability of success. Bercovitch argues that directive strategy is most effective in resolving disputes, although he notes that communication facilitation is the most frequently used but least effective strategy.

As the directive strategy directly influences the interests of the parties to the conflict, they are quicker to respond. The strategy, therefore, has a relatively direct and rapid outcome. The procedural strategy and communication facilitation strategy, on the other hand, are merely forums wherein the parties to a conflict resolve their disputes. The

mechanism at work here is that of the parties to the dispute reaching the understanding that making amends is more to their advantage than continuing the conflict.[18]

The effectiveness of the procedural strategy and communication facilitation strategy is affected by three variables: the context, the intensity, and the duration of the conflict. These two strategies are relatively effective in shorter conflicts where the parties are not strongly at odds with one another. When attempting to resolve prolonged and intense conflicts, on the other hand, the directive strategy proves the most effective of the three.

In Burundi consensus on the definition of cause of the conflict was crucial for devising a common mediation strategy. The two-track conflict management efforts had both political and military elements. The political track aimed at bringing together all political players to hammer out a political compromise, and the military track involved protection of key political players and demobilization sites.

In south Sudan, the question was the independence and secession that would divide North and South. A Referendum was conducted on the 9th January 2011 following the 2005 Naivasha Agreement (Comprehensive Peace Agreement) between the National Congress Party (NCP) and Soudan People Liberation Movement (SPLM).

The Nature of the Conflict

Burundi was a German colony until World War I. It then fell under the Belgian mandate, until independence in 1962. By colonial politics of divide and rule, the Belgian succeeded to make ethnicity a political problem. After assassination of the then Burundian Premier in

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18   Yalem, R, 'Controlled Communication and Conflict Resolution', Journal of Peace Research,1971

1961, ethnic clashes became common in the country. From 1988 the international community began to be involved in solutions of the Burundi conflict.

Burundi has sometimes been called *a laboratory for conflict resolution approaches*. External responses to the conflict in Burundi have reflected dominant trends in intervention, but have not always been appropriate. International pressure to hold elections in Burundi in 1993 reflected the enthusiasm of the international community at that time, but elections were set up too quickly, without establishing appropriate institutions or ensuring that the population was ready. Melchior Ndadaye, the candidate from the predominantly Hutu party Front pour la Defense de la Démocratie au Burundi (FRODEBU), won the 1993 elections. However, his assassination sparked inter-ethnic massacres across the country. By November 1993, out of a total population of 6 million, between 50,000 and 100,000 people were killed and over 800,000 people, mostly Hutus, went to neighboring countries as refugees. Another 400,000, mainly Tutsis, were internally displaced.[19]

Following the failure of elections in Burundi as well as the genocide in neighboring Rwanda, international attention shifted towards power-sharing as the appropriate response to conflict in Burundi. A first power-sharing agreement between the predominantly Tutsi Union pour le progress Nationale (UPRONA) party and FRODEBU party was brokered by the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Ahmed Ould-Abdallah, and signed in September 1994. The agreement temporarily restored calm, but did not address important issues such as the historical and structural causes of conflict between the Tutsi and Hutu communities; the problem of justice and impunity, the use of violence as a political strategy by elites, military reforms and long-term political structures, among others.

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19   Devon Curtis: The Peace Process in Burundi: Successful African Intervention? September 2003

The Case of Burundi (Arusha) Peace Process

The Arusha process has been the most comprehensive attempt to bring about peace in Burundi, and represents an improvement on previous conflict resolution strategies. Although there was significant international support for Arusha, including financial support from the EU and other western countries, the process was primarily led by Africans. Unlike the 1994 Convention of Government, the Arusha discussions did not only address political issues but also was all inclusive in its approach. Five committees were established to look at various aspects of the conflict, including security arrangements, international and regional guarantees of the agreement. After two years of negotiations, the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement for Burundi was finally signed on August 28, 2000. An Implementation and Monitoring Commission (IMC) was established to monitor, supervise and coordinate its implementation.

The Arusha process has served as an example of leadership and cooperation among several African countries to reach an inclusive agreement based on local solutions and having international support. The Heads of State of at least seven African countries were involved, twenty regional summits focusing on Burundi were held and consultation between the regional actors and international donors was ensured in this peace process. The Arusha process had strong regional and international legitimacy, and the brokers had an interest in making it work. The agreement recognized the fundamental problem of ethnicity in Burundi; the legacy of ethnic identification and ethnic exclusion.

After the Arusha peace agreement, Burundi has run two elections and now preparing a third one, expected in 2015. However, there are challenges related to the Arusha Agreement which may need to be resolved. The Arusha Agreement was not negotiated nor signed by the Hutu rebel

movements. Power sharing as agreed in the agreement has not been practiced in spirit and letter and peace and stability as envisaged has not been witnessed thirteen years after the agreement. Compounding the lack of success of the agreement, most of the former rebel movements today have transformed into political parties and frequently reject the Arusha Agreement because they did not negotiate it, but are quick to refer to it when it serves their interests.

One of the key lessons learnt in the Arusha peace process is that, fragmented international response could contribute to the weakening of the negotiation process. In the case of Burundi, the Partnership for Peace in Burundi comprised representatives of the regional initiative, the mediating country- South Africa, the United Nations, the African Union, the European Union, France, Belgium, Norway, and the United States of America. Caroline Sculier (May 2008), defined the international attention on Burundi as "reinforced". She argues that the main reason behind that was a general concern that something needed to be done in order to avoid "another Rwanda" genocide. Thus, the international intervention was motivated by what Glynne Evans (1998) calls "alibi building", that is, to protect a reputation from being blamed for not having done enough to prevent a potential genocide. The large number of international actors, each with a different agenda and motivation, produced a fragmented and inconsistent international response that nearly jeopardized the Burundi peace process.[20] It can thus be seen that a divided international community seeking quick antidotes to violence may end up aggravating it.

The most obvious omission in the Arusha peace process was the lack of a comprehensive cease-fire. Two active Hutu rebel groups did not sign the August accord, and have continued their armed struggle despite

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20   Masullo M: Why do some peace agreements fail in the implementation process? The Case of Burundi and the Arusha Process, 2011.

repeated efforts by African mediators to end the violence. Part of the problem has been the internal stability of the two main parties in Burundi; CNDD-FDD and Palipehutu-FNL. Both groups have internal splits and power struggles within, with the consequence of giving birth to rebel groups.

The other problem with the Arusha agreement was lack of grass root/local representation in the process. The Burundian peace process was perceived as a process of the elites; individual elites benefited from Arusha process, while the majority of Burundian population did not. The process guaranteed protection for political and military elites but did not provide adequate protection for ordinary civilians. Although Arusha peace process has achieved international and regional legitimacy, it has not been completely embraced domestically.

Another failure of the Arusha peace process was misrepresentation and misunderstanding of the conflict by regional and international actors. It had been portrayed as an ethnic conflict and the solutions sought in that regard were ethnic based; ethnic power sharing and balance. However it ignored other divisions in Burundi. At the moment, perhaps the biggest problem is between parties and movements that are predominantly Hutu. For instance, rivalry exists between FRODEBU party, the CNDD-FDD ruling party and the FNL party. This shows that the divisions in Burundi cannot be understood using the simple Hutu-Tutsi dichotomy.[21] Also The Burundi conflict is closely linked to politics and conflict elsewhere in the region. Small arms, refugees and combatants flow easily through the region's porous borders.

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21   Curtis D : The Peace Process in Burundi: Successful African Intervention?2003

The Case of South Sudan Peace Process

In 1955 just as the Sudan gained its independence from the United Kingdom and Egypt, a civil conflict erupted in the Southern part of the country which was temporarily settled in 1972 and resumed and escalated in 1983. The conflict lasted over two decades until the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A) signed the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) in January 2005. As a result of the 22 years of civil war an estimated 2 million people died and 4 million others displaced.[22]

One remarkable early success of the CPA implementation was that it withstood the sudden death of John Garang, who was killed in a helicopter crash weeks after being sworn in as the first Vice President of the Government of National Unity. The impact of his death was felt acutely throughout the country and raised concerns that the CPA could not hold without his strong leadership. The vision and public presence of Garang resonated both within Sudan and internationally. He represented the "New Sudan" vision of the SPLM to the people of the South and to the world, championing reform throughout the country rather than Southern independence. His charismatic strong personality and international experience, as well as his appeal throughout Sudan, led many to view him as essential to guaranteeing compliance with the terms of the agreement. The anxiety and the violent reactions that followed his death portended doom. However, this was not the case since the CPA process was visionary, inclusive and participatory. The visionary approach in the CPA process has seen new initiatives, which were not included in it, being successfully implemented. The formation of the mixed security institutions, the Joint Integrated Units and the Joint Defense Board which were not provided for in the original timetable of the CPA, have taken place and are largely moving forward.

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In spite of the successes noted in the CPA, there are still challenges and key issues that need to be sorted out in South Sudan; key among them is citizenship, the Abyei question, oil resources, Nile water sharing and borders among others.

The CPA did not clearly spell out the fate of Southerners living in the North after separation. There are southerners in the North and also there are Northerners in the South. According to some estimates there are over two million Southerners living in the North.[23] With the referendum on January 9, 2011 there was naturally the fear of the unknown of what would happen to Southerners in the North since the South boldly voted for independence. The proposed agreement affirmed that no person's nationality or citizenship would change during the CPA period, regardless of the referendum outcome. Citizens would remain entitled to live anywhere in the country, and their rights as such would remain intact. In the event of secession, a person's status would not be determined until a new state was established in the South after the end of the CPA interim period in July 2011.[24] In spite of this, the issue of citizenship still stands contentious. How the status of citizens will be settled and what mechanisms will be adopted to overcome some of these and other associated issues are questions that remain unanswered. Dual citizenship seems a good middle ground for those affected.

The question of Abyei is one of the most contentious issues between the Republic of South and Sudan. Located between Northern Bahr al Ghazal, Abyei is geographically, ethnically and politically divided between North and South. It is home to the Ngok Dinka, while Misseriya nomads migrate seasonally through the territory. The Misseriya belong to a group that is predominantly Arab Muslims while the Ngok Dinkas who are predominantly Christian belong ethnically and racially to the

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23   U. LEASSING, South Sudanese Find Their Way Home Slow Going , «Reuters», September 28, 2011
24   African Union Archives, The Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA)

South.[25] Abyei has long been, and remains a flash point, where land, nomadic grazing rights, security and oil contribute to volatility. By way of a protocol, the CPA granted the disputed territory special administrative status under the presidency and its own January 2011 referendum to decide whether to continue that status within the North or become part of the South. This referendum has now been postponed indefinitely.[26]

Just as Abyei threatened to spoil CPA negotiations in 2004, it became clear that the issue might prevent an agreement on post independence arrangements if left unresolved. Moreover, Misseriya feared that secession of the South possibly including Abyei could result in a loss of grazing rights, thereby threatening their way of life that was practiced for centuries. Some in Khartoum have stoked such concerns and encouraged the Misseriya to fight for participation in the Abyei referendum. The conflict involves the Dinka Ngok ethnic groups supported by the SPLM and the Misseriya ethnic groups supported by the government of Khartoum. The two groups compete over which has rights to the territory and essentially the right to grazing and water resources. In addition, patron client politics, weak natural resource management and development policies, and top down government institutions have encouraged ethnic polarization and social divisions. Moreover, the Abyei issue is considered the key point to a lasting peace between North and South Sudan. Abyei is a fertile region that has oil deposits between North and South Sudan. Currently, the situation in Abyei has the potential to degenerate into conventional armed confrontation.

The other issue that still remains unresolved is the border issue. Five major border areas are in dispute. The first, and perhaps most potentially explosive, is around the oil-producing region of South Kordofan, Blue

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25   M.A ABDALLA, Abyei Natural Resources Conflict Situation Report, Institute for Security Studies, 2010,
26   Crisis Group Briefing, Defining the North-South Border, September 2, 2010.

Nile and Abyei. The region has yet to decide in a separate referendum whether to join the South or the North. The borders were outlined in a July 2009 ruling by the Permanent Court of Arbitration at The Hague, but demarcation has stalled. At the same time, the northern Misseriya community, largely drawn out of Abyei under the new borders, has denounced the ruling. The four other areas in dispute are: the northern most border separating Upper Nile from the north's White Nile state, the borderline running north-south between the South's Unity State and the North's Southern Kordofan (which will determine who controls the Heglig oil field); the south's Bahr el-Ghazal and Darfur in the North border and the Western Bahr el-Ghazal and Southern Darfur border. These borders will determine those who possess the locations with oil fields. It is estimated that over 80 percent of the oil fields are in the South; depending on where the border is drawn.27 The sole export route for the landlocked South is a pipeline running through the North to Port Sudan on the Red Sea. Under the CPA, the two sides should divide proceeds from oil pumped in the South. Again, the Governments of Sudan and South Sudan signed in October 2011 an agreement over border security, stipulating the establishment of 10 border corridors to ease the movements of citizens between the two countries.

The sharing of resources, especially oil revenue still remains a contentious issue. Both the North and South Sudan depend heavily on oil revenues. Oil was not addressed in great detail in the CPA talks. There should have been some level of agreement before the referendum, not only because both economies need uninterrupted revenue, but also in order to sustain the confidence of oil companies in their existing investments. Norway has been providing support and advice and has engaged both countries to discuss models for cooperation and optimization of economic potential. While South Sudan enjoys a certain degree of autonomy, it has no infrastructure to export its oil and will have to rely on Sudan's until

27   Debay Tadesse: Post-Independence South Sudan: the challenges ahead, Addis Ababa, 2012

one is put up. On the other hand, if the increase in production of oil in South Sudan will result in lowering profits from oil exploration for the North (Sudan). The two parties may need to negotiate on how to deal with resource issues and revenue sharing, especially those associated with oil.[28]

The CPA did not adequately address the Nile water issue. It is estimated that the Nile River carries 84 billion cubic meters of water. With the birth of South Sudan, the Nile now has eleven riparian states: Burundi, Egypt, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and South Sudan. The following questions could be asked, *"How this new situation will affect the 1959 Nile Water Agreement between Egypt and the Sudan?" or "Would the independent South ask for a share of the 18.5 cubic meters of water allotted to Sudan in that agreement or as a new riparian country would it join other upper riparian states in their collective stand against the old treaties by signing the Cooperative Framework Agreement?."* About 14 percent of the Nile waters pass through Southern Sudan to the north and Egypt.[29] Despite the CPA's neglect of Nile waters, recent developments have led six of the upper riparian states including Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, Tanzania and Burundi to sign the new Nile water sharing agreement known as the Cooperative Framework Agreement in Entebbe, Uganda on May 14, 2010.[30]

Another area of concern for South Sudan, Sudan and Egypt alike will be the resumption of work on the Jonglei Canal. After the initial implementation on the 1978 project and after two-thirds of the canal had been dug, a series of SPLA attacks forced suspension of the work in 1984. The Nile is the only resource of water for the entire population in Egypt and if there is unregulated water pumping from the Nile at

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28 African Renaissance Institute (ARI): Military and Security Issues, and Internally Displaced Persons and Refugees in the Sudan, United Kingdom, 2012
29 Mary Ghobrial: River Nile, History, Present and Future Prosperity; National Institute of Oceanography & Oceanography & Fisheries, Alexandria Fisheries, Alexandria Egypt,2013
30 Debay Tadesse: Post-Independence South Sudan: the challenges ahead, 2012.

both individual household levels and commercial levels in South Sudan, Sudan and Egypt would suffer. Despite this concern there is no data available to measure the amount of water withdrawn from the Nile.[31] A water crisis may well develop between North and South once agricultural projects in the South are rehabilitated since they will need water. Water consumption would also increase with the return of displace people and refugees. Southern Sudan will not be able to change the facts of geography, nor the direction of the flow of the Nile River; nonetheless their position will have a tremendous impact on the politics of the Nile and the disputed sharing of Nile waters.

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31 Jacob Hoigilt & Oystein H. Rolandsen : Making Cooperation Attractive: Post-referendum Relations between Egypt and the Sudan,2010.

Conclusion

This section aims to highlight the importance of peace negotiations in ending conflicts and provides important recommendations for effective conflict resolution.

International actors have played very important roles to advance peace negotiations in both Burundi and Sudan. These international negotiations stopped cycles of violence and civil war that have plagued both countries since the independence. Commendable progress has been made in the way of achieving peace and embarking on development; political and socio-economic.

However, it is noted that even after the peace agreements in which the regional and international community were deeply involved, Burundi and Sudan still have challenges to be addressed and solved. The reason is that, most often, due to lack of adequate knowledge of the conflict, the urgency to stop violence and inadequate representation and involvement, the solutions and agreements reached at are normally short term, narrow, simple and does not adequately address the underlying/structural issues behind the (complex) conflicts. Flouting the imperative that the parties and their constituencies must own the settlement, they push hard for rapid results. This approach can be counter-productive.[32]

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Recommendations

The fundamental issues and their consequences must be addressed if a conflict is to be fully resolved, rather than managed. Delaying the resolution of issues till the conclusion of the negotiations could result in the escalation of conflict. Again, after concluding the negotiations, there is need to monitor the implementation since the focus may be away from the conflict and the ability to perpetuate the status quo is enhanced.

International actors need to commit long term support until sustainable peace is achieved. The absence of conflict does not mean peace. International actors could also aid parties to discuss remaining problems initiated during the negotiations phase.

Burundi and Sudan are post conflict countries where economic systems have been almost completely destroyed. They need financial support to rebuild their weak economies and to overcome poverty. Development and reconstruction should be key considerations in the negotiations.

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Highlights of Key Messages in the Issue Briefs

Role of the Military in Disaster Management: the Case of Bududa Landslide in Eastern Uganda

The Uganda military played a significant role in the humanitarian response during the Bududa landslide in March 2010 in which more than 10,000 people were affected and more than 300 died. UPDF has been equipped to handle any emergency disasters in Uganda or her neighbouring countries. The UPDF achieved in disaster response by providing timely and effective evacuation procedures which comprised of;

- Search and rescue teams, assessment teams, has well developed measures to activate special installations, such as emergency or mobile hospital facilities, accurate procedures for activating distribution systems in Bududa, accurate preparations for emergency reception centres and shelters

- Well laid procedures for activating emergency programs

- Preparations for storing or making arrangements for rapid acquisition of emergency

- Relief supplies and equipment

Owing to meager resources, the administrative and technical measures necessary for disaster preparedness and management in the country are scanty and hampered by poor equipment.

- UPDF is in a position to provide basic life support needs: drinking water and sanitation, adequate food, appropriate medical assistance and shelter (through housing and clothing).

- Help to protect disaster victims from physical violence and aggression, particularly in disasters involving internally displaced persons such as the case of Northern Uganda.

- UPDF are In position to address the psychological and social stress caused by the disaster, providing the victims with psychological and social support

- The country lacks a depository and repository of vital data on the incidence of disasters and their effects on the communities. Enforcement of legislation on risk avoidance is weak such that disruptions arising from disasters have continued to grow without corresponding measures that are informed by lessons learnt. Though the UPDF emergency response on data collection is not very effective, it assesses the emergency situation and weighs its options before implementing response activities.

- Prompt and appropriate response to disaster can significantly reduce the damage and loss of lives in times of crisis. This was evident in the case of Bududa where the swift response of UPDF averted loss of lives and damage of property.

Role of International Negotiations in Ending Conflicts in Burundi and Sudan

- International negotiations play a very important role in resolving peace. They stopped cycles of violence since independence in Burundi and South Sudan after independence and more than two decades of fighting.

- International actors are mostly interested in achieving a quick cease –fire agreement and do not take enough time to analyze and address the root causes of conflicts. There is also lack of

commitment of donors to discuss structural problems during the negotiations phase.

- Development and post reconstruction activities should be considered in the negotiations for sustainable peace in the affected countries.

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