

Conflict Early Warning & Response Mechanism (CEWARN)

In the



**Intergovernmental Authority of Development
(IGAD) Region**

**REPORT OF THE MEETING OF
2ND COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT SECRETARIES
OF CEWARN**

Khartoum, Sudan, March 8th, 2003

DISCUSSIONS OF THE MEETING

The meeting started at 9:00 AM at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Khartoum, Sudan, on 18th March 2003.

a) Opening Statements

i) Official Opening Statement by His Excellency Dr. Mustafa Osman Ismail, Foreign Affairs Minister of the Republic of The Sudan.

In his opening speech, the Minister welcomed the Committee of Permanent Secretaries of IGAD/CEWARN to Khartoum, Sudan. He noted that Sudan was honoured and proud to host the second meeting of the Committee of Permanent Secretaries. He further highlighted that:

- The meeting was taking place at an important time when major and hopeful steps were being made towards resolving the Sudan and Somalia conflicts through the respective peace processes taking place in Kenya. In addition, the Ethiopia-Eritrea conflict had been resolved and the border demarcation process was being implemented by the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE);
- CEWARN's initial area of focus will involve the cross-border pastoral conflicts comprising the Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan, and Uganda area on one hand, and the Kenya, Somalia, and Ethiopia areas on the other. He reiterated the importance of addressing, managing and resolving these conflicts, and reaffirmed the Government of Sudan's commitment and involvement in that regard;
- For the CEWARN Unit to succeed as an IGAD conflict management, prevention and resolution mechanism, he noted that the Unit will succeed depending more on the political empowerment and commitment that member states will accord the new institution. Additionally, the success of CEWARN will depend on the capacity of its personnel and other institutions who will play an important role of information gathering, analysis and dissemination;
- Finally, he wished the meeting fruitful discussions and deliberations and the delegates a pleasant stay in Khartoum (*Full statement is attached in Annex II*).

ii) ***Statement by Dr. Attalla Hamad Bashir, Executive Secretary of IGAD***

Dr. Attalla expressed his optimism that the 2nd Committee of Permanent Secretaries of CEWARN meeting in Khartoum was a demonstration by IGAD member states' continued efforts to furthering peace and prosperity in the sub-region.

He highlighted the various processes member states have undertaken in deliberating, conceptualizing, and establishment of the CEWARN Unit. He lauded the complementary role regional civil society groups, regional and international organizations played in that process as well.

He noted the commitment member states had demonstrated in accepting to have the CEWARN Unit located in Addis Ababa, and commended the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia for offering to host CEWARN and providing office premises.

Dr. Attalla underlined that a number of key issues to be discussed in the course of the meeting would include the methodology that CEWARN would apply in tracking and monitoring pastoral conflicts, review of activities since the Entebbe inauguration, and approval of proposed activities for the upcoming six months.

Dr. Attalla noted that additional donors will be sought to support CEWARN's work, and appreciated the financial support that USAID and GTZ had accorded the Unit during its implementation process.

Finally he pointed out that whilst the CEWARN Protocol stipulated that the Committee would meet twice a year, the Committee would be convened anytime whenever the need for consultations arose (***Full statement is attached in Annex III***).

iii) Statement by His Excellency Mr. Murtif Saddiq, Chairman of Committee of Permanent Secretaries and Under Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of The Sudan.

The Chairman began his speech by noting that one of the key purposes of the meeting was to evaluate and assess the progress CEWARN had made in its establishment and institutionalization process. He further noted that:

- Violent conflicts continued to impact negatively on the Horn region peoples' livelihoods – disrupting development, contributing to the breakdown of law and order, and heightening humanitarian crises amongst other effects;
- By beginning to focus on cross-border pastoral conflicts in the two Clusters of Karamoja and Somali, the CEWARN Mechanism was an important initiative as it led to the addressing of conflict and other challenges that confront communities in these areas, the majority of whom are pastoralists;
- The conflict early warning information collected and analysed by national research institutes and CEWERUs will provide IGAD with an opportunity to adopt viable and realistic response options to impending violent situations;
- Since the June 2002 Entebbe meeting to inaugurate the Committee of Permanent Secretaries for CEWARN, the institutionalization, operational modalities and location of the CEWARN Unit was discussed. He thus pointed out that the purpose of the Khartoum meeting was to assess the progress the Unit had so far achieved in terms of implementation, and discuss further on how to strengthen that process;
- The Committee of Permanent Secretaries had an important role to play in ensuring that CEWARN succeeded in achieving full implementation and institutionalization. In addition, the Committee was expected to ensure that the conflict early warning reports produced were effectively utilized towards resolving impending violent conflicts;
- CEWARN's effective functioning and success lay with the support that the Committee accorded the Unit. He thus called on the Committee members to come up with realistic and innovative ideas to further strengthen CEWARN's activities;

- Ratification of the CEWARN Protocol by member states would legally enable CEWARN undertake its activities – including that of setting up national conflict early and response unit (CEWERUs). He noted that a number of member states had ratified the protocol, while others were in the process of finalizing ratification. He therefore expected those member states that had not completed ratification to update the meeting on the progress they had made in that regard.

Lastly, he expressed his hope that the meeting's deliberations would boost and further strengthen CEWARN's work (*Full statement is attached in Annex IV*).

b) Adoption of Agenda and Organization of Work

The meeting adopted the agenda.

c) Election of the Bureau

The delegates unanimously agreed that the existing bureau of Sudan as the chair and Uganda as the rapporteur continue serving the Committee until another bureau is elected in the future.

d) Adoption of the Report of the 1st Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Secretaries June 6-7, 2002 in Entebbe, Uganda.

The report of the first meeting of the Committee of Permanent Secretaries of CEWARN of June 6-7 2002, Entebbe, Uganda, was adopted and approved by the delegates.

e) Presentation and Consideration of CEWARN Activity Report

Mr. Daniel Yifru, Director of Political Affairs and Humanitarian Division at the IGAD Secretariat, highlighted the various activities that the CEWARN Unit had undertaken, since July 2003, towards being fully operational and established. These activities are further illustrated in the attached *Annex V*. The activities are:

- Setting up of the office (purchase of furniture, recruitment of subordinate staff, and installation of telephone, fax, computers and internet services);
- Training of the three CEWARN professional staff by the Swiss Peace Foundation of Bern, Switzerland, on conflict monitoring, early warning and response methodology;

- CEWARN indicator workshop in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on November 21-23, 2003. The workshop's agenda was to deliberate on and develop specific indicators for tracking and monitoring pastoral conflicts in the cross-border areas of Kenya-Ethiopia-Sudan-Uganda and Kenya-Ethiopia-Somalia;
- Workshop on Engendering CEWARN, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, November 25-26, 2003; the main objective of this workshop was to incorporate gender aspects within CEWARN's work of conflict prevention, management and resolution;
- IGAD-Civil Society Second Consultative Meeting on November 28-29 2002, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The workshop's main objective was for IGAD and civil society organizations to deliberate on modalities of establishing an IGAD-Civil Society forum to discuss on regular basis issues pertaining to security and development;
- Invitation and participation of CEWARN in workshops and conferences; the three CEWARN professional staff were invited to attend various conferences and workshops on conflict, peace and security in Africa and the Horn in particular. The workshops and conferences provided an opportunity for sharing of ideas and experiences, and networking as well;
- Identification and selection of national research institutions; in January 2003 CEWARN and the IGAD secretariat undertook the process of identifying and selecting research institutions to assist CEWARN in the monitoring and conduct of regular assessments of pastoral conflicts in the targeted cross-border areas of the Karamoja and Somali Clusters. Proposed research institutions for consideration are contained in the annexed activity report;
- In February 2003 the CEWARN visited the Karamoja Cluster side in Uganda. The districts included Moroto, Kotido, and Nakapiripirit. The purpose of the visit was to assess security and conflict work civil societies were undertaking, and challenges to peace building work and information collection and dissemination amongst others;
- The rest of the presentation on the Activity Report focused on the activities to be conducted in the near future by CEWARN. These activities include consultations with member states' governments on the setting up of national conflict early warning and response units (CEWERUs) when the ratification of the CEWARN Protocol is completed. A number of activities for the remainder of 2003 will also be undertaken to fully implement the CEWARN Unit.

Comments by Member States

- **Eritrea:** Eritrea stated that it had not been contacted and consulted during the identification and selection process of the national research institutions. The answer provided was that since Eritrea does not constitute part of the pilot areas under study – that is the Karamoja and Somali Clusters. However, in the near future the Eritrean government will be contacted and consulted for purposes of establishing its CEWERU.
- **Kenya:** the Kenyan delegation sought a clarification on an issue touching on the CEWARN Protocol, its ratification, and participation of member states in CEWARN's activities. The concern was that apart from Eritrea and Kenya, other member states had not completed ratifying the Protocol, and could not therefore participate in CEWARN's activities as stipulated by Article 2 (3) of the Protocol.

Responding to this concern, the Chairman of the Committee of Permanent Secretaries, H.E. Mr. Murtif Saddiq stressed that other member states were committed to finalizing the ratification process and delays in completing ratification had been caused by unavoidable constitutional and parliamentary processes in member states' parliamentary systems. In addition, he clarified, time had been allocated in the meeting's agenda for member states to report on the progress they had made in ratifying the Protocol.

All member states requested that they be granted more time to consult and present their views regarding the proposed research institutions for selection.

f) Review of Activities for 2003 CEWARN Calendar

The CEWARN Coordinator, Mr. Charles N. Mwaura, presented the CEWARN 2003 Calendar of activities (*attached in Annex VI*).

Comments by member states

Kenya: Kenya stated that it could not complete establishing its CEWERU by March 2003 as indicated in the calendar. Responding to Kenya's concern, the Chairman explained that the process of establishing CEWERUs by member states would be conducted with flexibility and convenience. However, he requested member states not to delay the process as this would affect the implementation of CEWARN.

g) Reporting on the Ratification of CEWARN Protocol by Member States

Eritrea and Kenya had already finalized ratification of the CEWARN Protocol, and were therefore not required to make any reporting.

Djibouti: Parliamentary elections held in January 2003 had delayed completion of the ratification process by Djibouti. However, the newly elected parliament was expected to complete the ratification process in the near future.

Uganda: Uganda stated that the process of ratifying the Protocol was ongoing and will be completed before the IGAD Summit of Heads of States takes place in Kampala in April 2003.

Somalia: Somalia stated that the Transitional National Government (TNG) had submitted the Protocol for ratification to the TNG Parliament. However, due to the fact that most TNG parliamentary members have been involved in the Somali Reconciliation and Reconstruction talks taking place in Kenya, the ratification process had experienced delays. Somalia however expressed commitment towards finalizing ratification.

Ethiopia: Ethiopia disclosed that it had completed ratifying the Protocol and had deposited the instruments of ratification in Djibouti.

Sudan: Sudan reported that it had experienced a delay in finalizing ratification as its parliament had gone on recess in February 2003. However, the process would resume and be completed once the parliament reconvened.

h) Progress on the establishment of CEWERUs by Member States

Mr. Charles N. Mwaura, Coordinator of CEWARN, provided a brief overview on how member states were expected to form and constitute CEWERUs. In his presentation, Mr. Mwaura talked on modalities of establishment, structure, and functions of CEWERUs by referring to the guidelines and stipulates of Articles 11 and 12 of the CEWARN Protocol.

Comments by member states

Kenya: The Kenyan delegation requested that a workshop be convened by CEWARN to deliberate on the processes of constituting and establishing CEWERUs by member states. Responding to this concern, Mr. Mwaura clarified that the CEWARN Unit is required and mandated by the CEWARN Protocol (Article 7) to provide logistical and other necessary support to CEWERUs. In addition, he stated, modalities on establishing CEWERUs would be discussed further when the CEWARN Unit visits and consults with member states' governments in the coming months.

Ethiopia: Ethiopia disclosed that it had identified a person in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to coordinate and liaise activities related to CEWARN, and setting up of CEWERUs amongst other issues. In addition, it was stated, consultations were being conducted with grassroot/local committees in border areas with Kenya and Djibouti on implementing CEWARN's work on conflict early warning and response, information gathering and dissemination.

Sudan: Sudan stated that it was in the process of identifying and selecting a person to liaise and work with CEWARN for purposes of establishing its CEWERU.

Djibouti: Djibouti reported that the process of establishing and identifying institutions to constitute its CEWERU was ongoing and would be finalized soon. One of the delegates announced that she would act as the Coordinator of activities relating to CEWARN's work in Djibouti.

i) ***The CEWARN Reporting System by Doug Bond of Virtual Research Associates (VRA), Harvard University, United States) and Hannelore Wallner (Swiss Peace Foundation, Berne, Switzerland).***

Dr. Doug Bond of Virtual Research Associates (VRA) and Ms. Hannelore Wallner of the Swiss Peace Foundation presented the CEWARN reporting system. The CEWARN system had been developed with conflict sensitive indicators generated in a workshop organized by CEWARN in November 2002 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Dr. Bond (the consultant in charge of developing the System at VRA) and Ms. Wallner highlighted on the functions of the System and particularly how CEWARN and civil society organizations will utilize it to monitor pastoral conflicts, and their escalation and de-escalation trends. Key features of the presentation were that:

- The key function of the CEWARN reporting System will, as a conflict early warning methodology, identify early developments of violent conflicts in pastoral areas;
- The end-user of the System was IGAD member states, and specifically the CEWARN Unit, CEWERUs, and civil society institutions;
- The System would provide information that will inform the development of key components of conflict early warning and response, and which are information collection and analysis, formulation of best/worst/most likely case scenarios, and response options. Secondly, the System provides tension barometers that highlight conflict and/or peace developments that can be anticipated;
- The System, through the regular monitoring and tracking of the specific conflict indicators, would inform the formulation viable and realistic policy response options that would address pastoral conflicts in the short, medium, and long term periods;

Comments/questions raised

- A question was raised on how the information gathering was to be conducted for early warning purposes. The answer provided was that information gathering, as a key component of the System, would require compiling regular information on pastoral conflicts and analysis so that scenarios can be generated on the response side.
- Clarification was sought on whether CEWERUs and national research institutions would be trained on the CEWARN Reporter. The answer was in the affirmative.
- A question was raised on how production of reports will be carried out by CEWARN and the research institutions. It was clarified that each country within the two clusters will produce a quarterly national report via the research institutions. The national reports will be compiled by CEWARN into an annual regional report – providing the nature of conflicts within the two clusters.
- Dissemination of information: clarification on how information collected will be disseminated was sought. The answer provided was that the CEWARN Protocol clearly stipulates how information dissemination will be conducted between the various structures that constitute the CEWARN early warning and response mechanism.

j) Dates and Venue of the next CPS Meeting

Ethiopia expressed its willingness to host the next CPS Meeting in Addis Ababa in September 2003 and the offer was unanimously accepted.

k) Closing of Meeting

The Chairman thanked member states for ensuring that the meeting was a success and wished all delegates and participants a happy stay in Khartoum and safe journey back home. He further wished the CEWARN Unit success in its work.

Agenda

*March 18th, 2003, Khartoum, Sudan
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Khartoum*

8:30 Registration

9:00 Meeting

1. Opening Statements:

- Welcome statement
Dr. Attalla Bashir, The Executive Secretary, IGAD Secretariat
- Opening Statement
H.E. Mr. Murtif Saddiq, Chairman of Committee of Permanent Secretaries and Under Secretary Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of The Sudan
- Report on activities of CEWARN from July 2002 – March 2003
Mr. Daniel Yifru, Director of Political & Humanitarian Affairs

2. Adoption of Agenda

3. Organization of work

4. Election of the Bureau

5. Adoption of Report of the 1st meeting of the Committee of Permanent Secretaries June 6-7, 2002 in Entebbe, Uganda.

6. Presentation and Consideration of CEWARN Activity Report and Review of 2003 Activities.

7. Ratification of the CEWARN Protocol (Report by member states)

**8. Progress on the establishment of CEWERUs by Member States.
(Brief Introduction by Coordinator of CEWARN)**

**9. Presentation of CEWARN reporting system
By Mr. Doug Bond from Virtual Research Associates, Harvard University (Boston)**

10. Dates and Venue of the next CPS meeting

11. Closing of Meeting

- a. Closing Statement
Chairman of The Committee Permanent Secretaries

Annex II.

**Opening Statement of His Excellency Dr. Mustafa Osman Ismail, Foreign Minister
of The Republic of Sudan**

Your Excellencies the Permanent Secretaries and Heads of Delegation,

Your Excellency Dr. Attalla Hamed Bashir,

The Executive Secretary of IGAD

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

It is indeed a great pleasure for me to welcome you in Khartoum on behalf of the Government and people of Sudan and on my behalf. We are honored and proud to host the second meeting of the Committee of Permanent Secretaries, one of the top policy organs of the Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism (CEWARN).

I would also like to express our thanks and gratitude to H.E Dr. Attalla, and his staff for the tremendous efforts in organizing this timely meeting.

This meeting is indeed held at an auspicious time in view of hopeful and encouraging signs especially regarding the peace processes in the region.

Peace processes for Somalia and Sudan are at cross-roads. There are several reasons to believe that the chances for peaceful solutions in the two countries are better now than they have ever been. Luckily enough the war between the neighboring Ethiopia and Eritrea is over.

Nevertheless the UN peacekeeping mission still remains in place to prevent the renewed flare up of the conflict before the process of demarcation of boundaries is finalized.

Excellencies,

Your presence here today is an indication of the importance your sisterly countries attaché to the issues of peace and security region which is known for its intra and interstate conflicts that have resulted in a massive loss of lives. Displacement of millions of people, either internally or as refugees in the neighboring countries. This situation prompted our organization to become involved in political affairs and to undertake attempts at direct conflict management.

Excellencies,

I am very happy to note that the first phase of the project of CEWARN will focus on the development of proposal for cross border conflict management systems particularly the areas bordering Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia on one hand and Kenya, Uganda and Sudan on the other hand. Their entry points are quite pertinent. I would like to reaffirm the commitment of the Government of the Sudan to take the necessary measures to strengthen the existing local and national institutions in the area and cooperate with respective governments to that effect.

Excellencies,

For CEWARN to succeed no one state or organization can do it alone. The chances of the mechanism's success depend almost entirely on the political empowerment by IGAD member States, involvement of state and non-state actors, well trained personnel and experts to collect and analyze relevant information as well as to strengthen human and institutional capacity of the sub-region institution sectors at member States level.

Finally I wish you success in your discussions and deliberations and to those of you who have come from the Member State a pleasant stay here in Khartoum. I now declare this second meeting of the Committee of Permanent Secretaries of CEWARN officially opened.

Annex III.

Opening Statement of Dr. Attalla Hamad Bashir, IGAD Executive Secretary

Honorable Minister,

Your Excellencies the Permanent Secretaries,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the 2nd meeting of the Committee of Permanent Secretaries of CEWARN here in Khartoum. I am confident that your stay in Khartoum will be pleasant and the deliberations enriching and mutually rewarding for peace and prosperity in the IGAD Sub-region.

As you will recall the concept of establishing a Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism (CEWARN) in the sub-region, began with a resolution at the IGAD summit in November 2000 here in Khartoum. Subsequently, after two years of deliberations and consultations, CEWARN was officially inaugurated at the 1st meeting of the Committee of Permanent Secretaries on June 6-7, 2002 in Entebbe, Uganda. CEWARN is a result of a consultative process among IGAD member states, civil society, international and regional organizations as well as resource persons both from our sub-region and other parts of the world. It is like a house built brick by brick on a very strong foundation. In the implementation phase of CEWARN we intend to follow the same approach.

Excellencies, Distinguished Participants and Guests

The IGAD sub-region has experienced both intra and inter-state conflicts, some of which have lasted for more than four decades. These conflicts have resulted in deaths and massive displacement of peoples in the region with all the humanitarian consequences. However, the major strength of IGAD is the political commitment of the leadership of the member states towards the idea of cooperation. Despite prevailing bilateral differences between some member states, there generally is a positive commitment towards IGAD as an institution.

This commitment by member states resulted in the acceptance and establishment of CEWARN in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. I wish to thank the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia for its generous offer to host CEWARN in Addis Ababa and to provide office premises.

CEWARN has for the time being a mandate to address pastoral conflicts with cross-border effects in two clusters. The first and largest is the “Karamoja Cluster” which includes the border areas of Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda. The second cluster is the “Somali Cluster” in the borders of Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia.

To address these pastoral conflicts CEWARN is the structural link between the Committee of Permanent Secretaries (CPS), Technical Committee on Early Warning (TCEW) and the National Early Warning & Response Units (CEWERUs) of member states. Additionally, CEWARN serves as an institutional link between governments, institutions of civil society, and regional and international organizations in both conflict early warning and response initiatives.

This second meeting of CEWARNs highest policy organ is intended to introduce you to: the methodology that CEWARN will use to track pastoral conflicts in the sub-region; review the activities of CEWARN since its inauguration last June and to approve its proposed activities for the next six (6) months. I am confident that we will find more partners who will be willing to assist us financially and otherwise once CEWARN is fully operational and starts delivering results. This I am sure will be attained before your next meeting, that is within a period of six months.

Excellencies, Distinguished Participants and Guests,

The implementation of the CEWARN Protocol would not have been possible without the support of our development partners. Allow me at this point to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to USAID and GTZ, who have played a crucial and critical role in the development and establishment of CEWARN.

CEWARN is about information gathering, analysis and the sharing of information by member states, so as to imitate responses that will save lives and prevent the escalation and proliferation of tensions in the sub-region. The success of CEWARN lies in the free flow of information among member states and their commitment to respond to it through preventive actions.

Whereas, CEWARN Protocol stipulates that this Committee will meet twice a year, I believe we can call upon you anytime for your wise council and advice. I wish you fruitful discussions and interactions.

I thank you.

Annex IV.

Opening Statement of His Excellency Mr. Murtif Saddiq, Chairman of Committee of Permanent Secretaries and Undersecretary Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of The Sudan

Honorable Minister,

Fellow Ambassadors,

The IGAD Executive Secretary, Dr. Attala Hamad Bashir,

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Government and people The Republic of Sudan, it is my pleasure to take this opportunity to warmly welcome our sisters and brothers from IGAD member states and wish you all happy stay in Khartoum.

Our gathering here in Khartoum today is to further discuss and deliberate on the progress we have made so far in strengthening and institutionalizing the CEWARN Mechanism for purposes of addressing and mitigating the many violent conflicts that afflict our region. As you all are aware, violent conflict continues to impact negatively on our peoples' livelihoods: it has overtime disrupted development and socio-economic activities, led to the breakdown of law and order, heightened humanitarian crises including drought and famine, and deterred sustained investment efforts. Conflicts have also led to increased banditry and lawlessness, and the proliferation of small arms and weapons to settle intra and inter-communal differences over access to, sharing and distribution of resources.

As you are all aware, the pilot entry points for the CEWARN Mechanism are the cross-border pastoral areas of the Karamoja Cluster (Kenya/Uganda/Sudan and Ethiopia border areas) and Somali Cluster (Kenya/Somali/Ethiopia border areas). This is an initiative in the right direction as it addresses the challenges, conflict included, that face pastoral communities who constitute a substantial percentage of the population of the IGAD Sub-region. These border areas are some of the most underdeveloped and ungovernable in the Horn Region. By focusing on pastoral conflicts, IGAD is undertaking an important initiative towards addressing, improving and developing the livelihoods of pastoral communities in these areas.

Thus CEWARN as a conflict early warning and response mechanism provides us with a unique opportunity to improve our understanding of the IGAD region's nature, causes, and consequences of conflict particularly pastoral ones. Particularly the information collected and analysis conducted by national research institutes and CEWERUs will provide us with an opportunity to deliberate on possible and viable measures to apply in addressing pastoral conflicts and particularly the factors that generate these conflicts.

Distinguished Delegates,

In a meeting in June last year in Entebbe, Uganda, to inaugurate this Committee of Permanent Secretaries for CEWARN, we discussed at length the institutionalization and operational modalities of the CEWARN Unit. We further agreed on the location of the Unit, as well as the framework on information collection, sharing, and adoption of response mechanisms. The overall purpose of this meeting is therefore to assess the progress that the CEWARN Unit has so far made in terms of implementation, and adopt ways in which it is to be further strengthened and institutionalized.

The Committee of Permanent Secretaries has an important role to play in ensuring that CEWARN performs and succeeds in its tasks of conflict early warning and response. This Committee is therefore expected to study the early warning reports produced and other relevant information produced by CEWARN Unit and the Technical Committee on Early Warning and adopt appropriate responses to address and resolve impending conflict crisis. It is thus our calling to oversee the Unit's effective functioning and ensure that it succeeds. I, therefore, call on the Committee members to dedicate this time and generate realistic ideas on how we can further strengthen and enhance CEWARN's activities.

Your Excellencies

The ratification of the CEWARN Protocol by member states is important for it will enable the Unit to undertake the various functions relating to information sharing and decision-making in regards to conflict prevention, management, and resolution. In addition, it will enable CEWARN accomplish fully the setting of national Conflict Early Warning and Response Units (CEWERUs). I understand that the process of ratification has been going on well and a number of member states' governments have completed the process. I am glad to note that in the course of the meeting member governments will give an update on the progress they have made with ratification and setting up of CEWERUs.

Distinguished Participants and Guests,

It is my sincere hope that this meeting will add more impetus towards strengthening the work of CEWARN. I once again welcome you to Sudan, and wish you a happy stay and fruitful deliberations.

Thank You.

Annex V.

**Opening Statement of Director of Political and Humanitarian Affairs Division
of IGAD Secretariat**

Honorable Minister,

Your Excellencies the Permanent Secretaries,

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure and honor to welcome you all to the second meeting of the Committee of Permanent Secretaries of CEWARN in Khartoum, Sudan. I wish to take this opportunity and express my deepest gratitude and appreciation to the Government and people of Sudan for the warm and brotherly hospitality that they have accorded us.

Your Excellencies,

As you all remember, the first meeting of the Committee of Permanent Secretaries of CEWARN took place during the inaugural meeting in Entebbe, Kampala, from 6-7 June 2002. Pursuant to the decisions made at the Entebbe meeting a number of activities were to be initiated to realize the implementation and operationalization of the CEWARN Unit. Today I am pleased to outline the various activities that have been undertaken in the past ten months towards making the CEWARN Unit fully operational. These activities are:

1. Setting up of the office (recruitment of subordinate staff and installation of office equipment)

Recruitment of subordinate staff such as the secretary, accountant, and messenger were completed just after the three professional staff reported to work in August 2002. The CEWARN staff and the IGAD Secretariat jointly undertook the task of selecting and recruiting the subordinate staff - a process that was based on merit.

Office equipment including computers, telephone and fax lines, photocopying machine and office furniture have also been purchased. Later on the office managed to acquire Internet and email services too. Soon, the office will acquire a vehicle to meet its transportation needs.

2. Training of the CEWARN Unit's Professional Staff

The three professional staff went for training in Berne/Switzerland in early September 2002 on the methodology (called the FAST/VRA System) to apply in analyzing conflicts and report writing. The Swiss Peace Foundation hosted and trained the CEWARN professional staff. This methodology, developed in cooperation with the Harvard University, is used for identifying the escalation and de-escalation of conflicts using specific and appropriate indicators. It is the same methodology that civil society entities and national research institutions from the IGAD sub-region, who will collaborate and work with the CEWARN Unit in the conflict early warning and response activities, will also apply and utilize.

We have a plan to provide similar training to the selected National Research Institutions and CEWERUs of the member states.

3. Workshop on CEWARN indicators.

A three-day CEWARN Indicator workshop was conducted in November 2002. The objective of the workshop was to bring together civil society representatives, researchers, and academicians to deliberate on the nature of pastoral conflicts in the IGAD sub-region and develop indicators relevant to CEWARN and its stakeholders for the purposes of tracking conflict escalation and de-escalation trends. And indeed, participants and resource persons drawn from the IGAD sub-region and outside played the important and commendable role of ensuring that the workshop was fruitful in terms of generating the required and relevant results. Thus the final outcome of the workshop was the production of conflict sensitive indicators that will help in tracking pastoral conflicts in the pilot areas of the Karamoja and Somali Clusters.

As you have noticed in the agenda, we have organized a presentation by our consultant Mr. Doug Bond to familiarize you with the conflict indicators and the consultative process that we have gone through to adopt the conflict indicators to the particular conditions of our own sub-region.

4. Engendering CEWARN

A workshop on engendering CEWARN was conducted by the IGAD Secretariat and CEWARN Unit in Addis Ababa on November 25th -26th 2002. The participants were drawn from sectors including parliament, government officials, IGAD desk officers, and key supporting organizations, UNIFEM, UNDP, AU, GTZ, and others.

The specific objective of the workshop was to identify and mainstream the active participation and involvement of women in the conflict analysis, early warning and response work of the CEWARN Unit. A number of recommendations highlighting how this goal could be achieved were generated at the completion of the workshop, and will be implemented as the activities of the CEWARN Unit are initiated.

5. Identification and Selection of National Research Institutions

In January 2003 a number of missions were made to Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda. The purpose of these missions was to assess and select suitable national research institutes that would work in partnership with the CEWARN Unit in collecting conflict event data information and provide analysis for early response.

The missions were constituted of the CEWARN staff and a contracted consultant from Leeds University, United Kingdom. A number of research institutions and development organizations were visited, interviewed, and assessed. In the coming few days we will finalize the selection of the national research institutions that will be our partners in the information collection and analysis. In addition, necessary steps will be taken soon to contract the selected suitable institutions so as to enable the work of information collection, analysis, and conflict monitoring begin within the pilot areas of the Karamoja Cluster (Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda border areas) and Somalia Cluster (Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia border areas).

6. Visit to the Uganda side of the Karamoja cluster

On 7th –19th February 2003, the Coordinator of CEWARN visited Uganda and some parts of the Karamoja Cluster. The objective of the visit was to familiarize CEWARN with the Cluster with regard to: the state of security and conflict; the strength and capacity of the civil society organizations operating in Karamoja; the relevant districts in the cluster and identify boundaries of the cluster in Uganda; the challenges to peace building activities in the area; and to contact government agencies working in the area, particularly those involved in the Border Commission of Kenya and Uganda.

Additionally, the visit provided a clear understanding of the existing telecommunication and transport links in the area and some of the related challenges that will impact on the collection and dissemination of information.

As you all well know, the ratification of the CEWARN Protocol is important in terms of enabling the Unit to fully operationalize and implement its conflict early warning and response mandate. I am glad to state that the ratification of the Protocol is in progress and that it will enter into force when four instruments of ratification are deposited. So far Eritrea, Kenya and Ethiopia have completed that process and deposited the instrument of ratification at IGAD Secretariat, and it is my understanding that Uganda has expressed its readiness to do so before the upcoming IGAD Heads of State and Government Summit. We would kindly request the other members to initiate and finalize the ratification process to enable the CEWARN Unit be fully operational.

Excellencies

I must state that considered from the above brief background the activities of CEWARN have so far been encouraging and promising, and it is my sincere conviction that today's meeting will avail an opportunity for us to review the next way forward towards strengthening CEWARN's work. Our deliberations in this meeting will therefore add more inspiration and dynamism to our efforts and commitments in realizing the success of the goals of CEWARN.

I thank you.

CEWARN Activity Report July 2002 – March 2003

Introduction

On 6-7 June 2002, in Entebbe, Uganda, IGAD's Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism (CEWARN), was inaugurated by the Committee of Permanent Secretaries. This was a culmination of nearly two years of conceptualizing and theorizing how the mechanism would act as a tool to achieving the goals of conflict prevention, management and resolution for the IGAD member states. CEWARN's operational and conceptual framework is contained in the legal protocol IGAD member states approved and signed in Khartoum, Sudan on January 9 2002. The protocol is currently under ratification by member states' governments.

Below is an outline highlighting the various activities that the CEWARN Unit has been undertaking to be fully established and operational. These activities commenced in July 2002 when the recruited staff of CEWARN began report for duty at the Unit's office in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

(A detailed calendar listing proposed activities to be implemented in 2003 is also provided in the **Annex**).

Activities and Achievements

To realize CEWARN's fully operational capacity and implementation, the following activities have been undertaken between August 2002 and March 2003.

i) Setting up of the office, recruitment of subordinate staff, and installation of office infrastructure

The recruitment of subordinate staff of: a secretary, an accountant, and messenger were initiated in July and August 2002. The process of recruiting subordinate staff involved placing adverts/announcements, selecting and identifying suitable candidates from the numerous applications received. This was followed by interviews and assessments conducted by the CEWARN staff and personnel from the IGAD Secretariat in Djibouti. The suitable candidates were accordingly selected and appointed.

The purchase of office equipment was initiated: eg. computers, printers and photocopier, telephone and fax lines have been acquired, as well as office furniture and related items. The telecommunication facilities have facilitated the access of the CEWARN Office via telephone, email, and fax connections. In addition, an office vehicle will be acquired in the next few months.

ii) Training of CEWARN Staff by Swiss Peace Foundation (SPF) on Conflict Early Warning and Response Methodology

On September 2-6 2002 the three CEWARN professional staff: The Coordinator, The Head of Information, and The Head of Conflict Analysis visited the Swiss Peace Foundation in Berne, Switzerland, to undergo training on conflict early warning and response. The one-week training course basically focused on conflict analysis, report writing, and familiarization with the methodology which CEWARN will apply to analyze, track and assess conflicts in the pastoral regions of the IGAD sub-region.

iii) CEWARN Indicator Workshop; Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, November 21-23, 2002.

The key objective of this workshop was to bring together civil society representatives, researchers and academicians from the Horn of Africa to deliberate on the nature of pastoral conflicts in the IGAD Sub-region and develop specific indicators that CEWARN and civil society organizations will utilize in tracking conflict escalation and de-escalation trends in the region. The tracking and regular monitoring of conflicts would then inform the undertaking of appropriate response options by both civil society and governments within the region.

It should be stated that the indicators developed during this workshop are to apply in monitoring the nature of pastoral conflicts in the two cross-border areas of the Karamoja Cluster (Kenya-Uganda-Sudan-Ethiopia) and the Somali Cluster (Kenya-Somalia-Ethiopia).

Virtual Research Associates (VRA) of Harvard University, United States of America, have been contracted by IGAD to process the workshop's indicators into a software program that will be utilized by CEWARN, CEWERUs and national research institutes to track and monitor conflict in the pastoral areas.

iv) Workshop on Engendering CEWARN; Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 25-26, 2002.

This workshop was a follow-up to an earlier one held in Khartoum, Sudan, on 14-15 October 2001, and whose objective is to mainstream and involve gender within the conflict prevention, early warning and response activities of the CEWARN mechanism. Specifically, the workshop sought to identify and promote the role of women in CEWARN's activities particularly in information collection, dissemination and adoption of conflict response options.

v) IGAD-Civil Society Second Consultative Meeting; Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 28-29 November 2002.

This workshop was a follow-up of the eighth Summit of the IGAD Heads of State and Governments in October 2001, Khartoum, Sudan, where member states authorized the

setting up of an effective mechanism between IGAD and civil society organizations in the IGAD region for purposes of furthering partnerships on development and security matters.

The November 28-29 Workshop's key objective was to work out the modalities for the preparation of a constituent assembly of the IGAD-Civil Society Forum to be held in the near future. The workshop brought together representatives of governments, nongovernmental and civil society organizations from the seven member countries of IGAD.

vi) Invitation and Participation of CEWARN in Workshops and Conferences

Since commencing its operations in July 2002, the CEWARN Unit has been invited and requested to participate in several conferences and workshops organized by various research institutions and nongovernmental organizations based in Addis Ababa and in the Eastern Africa region. These activities acted as important avenues for the newly-established unit and its staff to introduce itself to other institutions and to acquaint itself with their activities, share ideas and experiences, network, and in the formulation of platforms for cooperation and collaboration on peace, security and development work in the Horn region and Africa as a whole.

The conferences and workshops that CEWARN has been involved in include:

- Capacity Building and Sensitization Workshop for Senior Policymakers from Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and East African Community (EAC) Countries organized by the Development Policy Management Forum (DPMF) and Ethiopian International Institute of Peace and Development (EIIPD); Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, September 30th-October 4th, 2002.
- Education for Peace in Africa: Advisory meeting on the Africa Programme, organized by the University of Peace (Geneva) in Maputo, Mozambique, 23rd-25th October 2002.
- Conference on: Conflict, Security and Cooperation in the Horn of Africa Region organized by the Ethiopian International Institute of Peace and Development (EIIPD) and Friedrich Ebert Foundation (FES-Addis Ababa Office); Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, November 12-14, 2002.
- Seminar on Building Peace in Eastern Africa *organized by the International Peace Academy (IPA), New York, United States of America; Entebbe, Uganda, 16th-18th December 2002.*
- Training Workshop on Human Rights Mainstreaming for Central and Eastern Africa United Nations Country Teams *organized by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) Geneva Office; Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 29-31 January 2003.*
- Stakeholders' Feedback Workshop on the Karamoja Cluster *organized by the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET); Mbale, Uganda, 3rd-6th February 2003.*

v) **Identification and Selection of National Research Institutions**

In January 2003 CEWARN in collaboration with the Division of Political and Humanitarian Affairs (POHAD), IGAD Secretariat, initiated the process of identifying national research institutions to assist the CEWARN Unit in monitoring and undertaking periodic assessments of pastoral conflicts within the two pilot areas of the Karamoja Cluster (Ethiopia/Sudan/Kenya/Uganda border areas) and Somali Cluster (Somalia/Kenya/Ethiopia border areas). As defined by the two clusters, national research institutions to be assessed and selected were thus to be from the IGAD the member countries of Sudan, Ethiopia, Uganda and Kenya.

The criteria applied in assessing and selecting suitable institutions included ongoing research, advocacy, and general peacebuilding work in the stated two clusters, sound academic abilities to undertake research, monitor conflict or peace trends, and compile regular or periodic report events. In addition, the research institutes had to have well-established information telecommunication infrastructure as well as demonstrate the ability and willingness to appoint country coordinators and field monitors.

The proposed national research institutions for consideration are:

- **Uganda:**
 1. Centre for Basic Research (CBR)
 2. Agency for Cooperation and Research in Development (ACORD)
 3. Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST)

- **Kenya:**
 1. Africa Peace Forum (APFO)
 2. Security Research and Information Centre (SRIC)
 3. National Council of the Churches of Kenya (NCCCK)

- **Ethiopia:**
 1. InterAfrica Group (IAG)
 2. PANOS Ethiopia
 3. Pastoralist Communication Initiative (PCI)

- **Sudan:**
 1. Center for Peace and Development Studies, University of Juba, Sudan.
 2. Institute for Development Studies and Research, University of Khartoum.
 3. Disaster Management and Refugee Studies Institute, Khartoum.

The selected national research institutions will identify and appoint country coordinators and field monitors who will be trained by CEWARN on the application of the VRA Methodology on conflict analysis, and other related subjects including conflict early warning and response, and report writing.

vi) Visit to the Ugandan side of the Karamoja Cluster

On 7th –18^h February 2003, the Coordinator of CEWARN visited Uganda and the Karamoja Cluster. The three main districts of the cluster in Uganda are: Kotido, Moroto and Nakapiripirit. The objective of the visit was to familiarize CEWARN with the Cluster with regard to: the state of security and conflict; the strength and capacity of the civil society organizations operating in Karamoja; the relevant districts in the cluster and identify boundaries of the cluster in Uganda; the challenges to peace building activities in the area; and to contact government agencies working in the area, particularly those involved in the Border Commission of Kenya and Uganda.

The visit provided a clear understanding of the existing telecommunication and transport links in the area and some of the related challenges that will impact on the collection and dissemination of information of CEWARN's work in the Karamoja cluster. It was through contacts made with various institutions at the Mbale FEWS NET workshop that the Coordinator was able to visit Kotido and Moroto. Nakapiripirit could not be visited due to logistical and time constraints. There is need to consider Kapchorwa and Katakwi as parts of the cluster due to the nature and impact of Karamoja cluster on these two districts.

vii) Setting up of CEWERUs

Conflict Early Warning and Response Units (CEWERUs) are the National Early Warning and Response Units of IGAD member states. Once constituted and are functional, they will play the vital role of complementing and assisting the CEWARN Unit in information collection, analyses, and formulation of response strategies at the national and grassroots levels. The process of constituting CEWERUs, as stipulated by the CEWARN Protocol, will come into force once member states' governments finalize ratifying the Protocol and the instruments of ratification are deposited at the IGAD Secretariat in Djibouti. Already Eritrea and Kenya have ratified the protocol, while Djibouti, Ethiopia, Sudan, and Uganda are expected to finalize the ratification process soon.

Over the next few months, the CEWARN Unit will communicate and liaise with Member States for purposes of establishing CEWERUs.

viii) Additional Activities and the 2003 CEWARN Calendar

Several other activities are to be undertaken before the end of 2003 by the CEWARN Unit. A detailed outline of these activities is contained in the attached (see **Annex**) CEWARN calendar for 2003.

CEWARN Calendar of Activities for 2003

**PROPOSED ACTIVITIES FOR SIX MONTHS
MARCH-SEPTEMBER 2003**

2003	March	April	May	June	July	August	September
Establishment of CEWERUs	Links to Cross Border Commissions in Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia	Visit to Kenya, Southern Sudan and the “Somali Clusters”	Setting up of CEWERUs in Ethiopia and Sudan	Assessment of CEWERU capacity and needs	Setting up of CEWERUs in Djibouti and Eritrea	Review of CEWERUs in Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda	
	Setting up of CEWERUs in Kenya and Uganda		Links with Parliamentarian in Karamoja & Somalia Clusters				
Establishment of CEWARN		LAN installation		CEWARN Website ready for launch	Finalize acquisition of office equipment + inventory report		
Meetings	2 nd Permanent Secretaries Meeting in Khartoum	IGAD Summit, Kampala	Trainings for the Karamoja and Somalia cluster	1 st Meeting of TCEW	Parliamentarians of Karamoja & Somalia Clusters Forum convenes		CEWERUs and NRIs meeting
	SPF & CEWARN Finalize Training Manual and documents for NRIs & CEWERUs			NGO Platform			
Reporting	1 st CEWARN Activity Report (See Report March 2003)			Report on Cross Border Commissions		1 st Report from Karamoja and Somalia Clusters from NRIs	1 st CEWARN Regional Report on Karamoja and Somalia Clusters
				2 nd CEWARN Activity Report			
Technical Devet. (SPF-CEWARN-VRA Harvard)	New System presented (CPS meeting in Khartoum)		CCs begin coding in the Karamoja Cluster (SPF supervision off & online)			Final System presented at training workshop	System adaptation if needed
Skills Training (SPF/CEWARN)			Training of Karamoja Cluster FMs & CCs, Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia & Sudan	Training Somali Cluster FMs, Ethiopia, Kenya & Somalia		Technical Assistance for 1 st Report of NRIs in Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan & Uganda	
		Training of FMs in Djibouti & Eritrea					
		Training CCs Djibouti, Eritrea & Somalia					
<p>Key: CEWERU the National Conflict Early Warning & Response Units; NRIs – National Research Institutes; TCEW- Technical Committee on Early Warning; FMs- field monitors; CC- Country Coordinator; SPF- Swiss Peace Foundation; VRA - Virtual Research Associates</p>							



**The Second Committee of Permanent Secretaries Meeting
of CEWARN/IGAD**

Khartoum, Sudan 18th March 2002

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Table of Contents

Title	Page
Discussion of the Meeting	2
Annexes	
Annex I. Agenda	11
Annex II. Opening Statement by H. E. Dr. Mustafa Osman Ismail, Foreign Affairs Minister of the Republic of The Sudan	12
Annex III. Statement by Dr. Attalla Bashir, The Executive Secretary, IGAD Secretariat	14
Annex IV. Statement by H.E. Mr. Murtif Saddiq, Chairman of Committee of Permanent Secretaries and Under Secretary Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of The Sudan	16
Annex V. Statement by Mr. Daniel Yifru, Director of Political & Humanitarian Affairs	18
Annex VI. CEWARN Activity Report July 2002 – March 2003	22
Annex VII. CEWARN Calendar of activities for 2003	28
Annex VIII. Participants List	29