

Intergovernmental Authority on
Development

IGAD



Conflict Early Warning and
Response Mechanism

CEWARN

draft

Summary Report of the Proceedings of the 7th Meeting of the Committee of
Permanent Secretaries (CPS) of CEWARN
Khartoum, Sudan

31 October, 2007

1. INTRODUCTION

The meeting of the 7th Committee of Permanent Secretaries (CPS) was held on 31 October 2007 in Khartoum, Sudan. Its objective was to receive the report of the 5th meeting of the TCEW and discuss future operations of the Mechanism.

1.1 OPENING STATEMENTS

Welcoming Remarks by the Executive Secretary of IGAD, Dr. Attalla Bashir.

Key highlights of his address included the following:-

- The efforts made by CEWARN to expand its donor base and the response from donor community to support CEWARN initiatives;
- Efforts made to implement the strategy to achieve its six objectives;
- Need for Uganda to ratify the Protocol;
- Salutations to governments of Member States and partners for continued support to the program;

He concluded by expressing his gratitude to the Government of Sudan's continued support and for hosting the workshop.

[See Annex 2 for the full statement]

Opening Statement by the Guest of Honor, Hon. Ali Karti, Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Sudan

In his opening address, the Guest of Honor recognized that scarce resources were a source of conflicts, threatening peace and stability on the region. He reiterated his Governments support to CEWARN and its activities.

Other areas highlighted include:-

- Activities that Government of Sudan has undertaken to ensure implementation of Mechanism in the country;
- Applauding CEWARN on development of a Strategic Plan and assurance of support from the Government of Sudan in implementing objectives.

He thereafter declared the meeting open.

[See Annex 3 for full statement]

1.2 ELECTION OF THE BUREAU

As per the regulations of IGAD, Amb. B. Ogotu of Kenya, representing the Permanent Secretary , Ministry of Foreign Affairs Kenya assumed chairmanship while Amb. M.S Katende, representing the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uganda, the Rapporteur.

1.3 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The Chairman invited members to review the Agenda and forward their amendments, if any. Upon receiving no objections, it was adopted as presented.

[See Annex 1 for adopted agenda]

2. ADOPTION OF CPS REPORT OF 30 NOVEMBER 2006

The CEWARN Director, Ambassador Abdelrahim A. Khalil introduced the report which had been earlier prepared and sent to Member States, reviewed and authenticated by the Rapporteur, Uganda.

Ethiopia acknowledged that the report was a faithful representation of the meeting and proposed that it be adopted as true record of proceedings of the 6th CPS Meeting. Sudan seconded the proposal.

The report was therefore adopted.

3. STATUS REPORT ON RATIFICATION OF PROTOCOL BY UGANDA

The Uganda delegation reaffirmed its support to CEWARN and other activities aimed at attaining peace and security in the region. The meeting was informed that due to the ongoing Constitutional review process in the country, a number of laws enabling the Protocol were still awaiting Parliament's approval. It was expected that this will soon be done as Uganda continues the implementation process.

The meeting appreciated the efforts being made by Uganda to ratify the Protocol and encouraged to continue with the same.

4. DYNAMICS OF PASTORALIST CONFLICTS IN THE IGAD REGION

A presentation derived from country reports on outcomes and factors influencing dynamics of pastoral conflicts in the region was made by CEWARN .

In the Karamoja Cluster it was noted, *inter alia*, that:-

- The Toposa/ Nyangatom of South Sudan are also involved in the violence in Ethiopia side of the cluster;
- Uganda leads in incidences of violence;
- Drought and environmental factors contribute to livestock losses in the region;
- Availability of arms was still an issue despite the efforts by governments to address this by disarmament processes;
- There were a number of initiative made to mitigate conflicts within the region e.g. Border Commission meetings, development activities to address the structural causes etc.

In the Somali Cluster it was noted that:-

- The ouster of United Islamic Courts in Somalia had repercussions on the Kenyan side;
- The outbreak of Rift Valley Fever contributed to heavy loss of livestock in the region;
- Peace building activities include impressive initiatives by government and civil society such as the Constituency Development Fund(CDF) in Kenya
- The Moslem clergy continue to play an influencing role in advocating for peace in the cluster

The presentation concluded the following:-

- There was an increase in proliferation and availability of small arms within the region.
- Some of the factors include entrenched cultural practices among pastoral communities
- Despite the diversity of communities, there are communal alliances formed for strategic interests and at times even across borders
- There still exists impunity hence the need to enhance support to security and legal systems.

[Copy of presentation available at CEWARN Unit]

Discussions Arising:

- a) Uganda expressed concern about the rising flow of arms into the cluster and the urgent need to start monitoring the Sudan side of the Cluster. The meeting was informed that steps have now been taken to operationalize the Sudan side which is expected to be fully operational by early next year.
- b) Sudan enquired about the low number of cross border incidents in the Somali Cluster despite the upheavals in the Cluster. In response, it was suggested that this may be due to the disarmament process ongoing in Kenya and Uganda, and increasing collaborations between governments, including Border Commission meetings between

Ethiopia and Sudan, and Kenya and Uganda. On the other hand, the collapse of the UIC has destabilized the cluster but this is mostly confined to the border area of Eastern Kenya.

- c) Ethiopia clarified that the Oromo Liberation Front (OLF) rebels are mostly active in the border areas with Kenya and not the whole Oromia region.

5. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CEWARN STRATEGY 2007-2011

CEWARN gave a detailed presentation of its strategy under the 6 objectives. Highlights are:-

Objective 1: Expansion of Areas Of Reporting (AOR)

- New areas have been identified in Sudan and Djibouti, and are in the process of being operationalised
- Criteria for selecting new AORs is still open;
- Other countries have expressed interest in expanding their areas of reporting e.g. Ethiopia and Kenya.

Objective 2: Strengthening Early Response (ER) side of the Mechanism

- Strengthening of CEWERUs is ongoing , especially new heads in Sudan and Djibouti
- Development of Framework of Response is in the process of being prepared and awaiting recruitment of a consultant to prepare the study;
- The establishment of Local Peace Committees is ongoing;
- The Rapid Response Fund has been established.

Objective 3: Widening Sources of Information

- New sources of information are being identified, a new template is in the process of being developed.

Objective 4: Establishing a Communications and Public Relations Strategy

- The building up database of stakeholders, media contacts in Member States is ongoing;
- Several public awareness initiatives have been introduced including introduction of an e-bulletin, the development of an updated leaflet, and public lectures series have been launched.

Objective 5: Strengthening Institutional and Structural Capacity

- Capacity building activities for all stakeholders continues to be held;
- Training manuals and guidelines are being developed;
- Engendering of the CEWARN process is underway;
- Enhanced relationships with others including academia.

Objective 6: Implement a sustainable long-term funding

- A donor meeting was held in Dec 2006 to raise awareness on CEWARN's activities and widen donor base;
- There has been increased interest from other donors such as Sweden, Austria, Italy, Denmark, and the EU;
- Increased commitment from Member States to raise their contribution to 30% by end of 2011.

Some of the constraints identified were:-

- The decision by the Government of Eritrea to suspend its membership in IGAD;
- Funding challenges;
- Isolated and limited office space.

As a way forward, CEWARN proposed :-

- Experience sharing between members states;
- Enhancing response options of the mechanism;
- Developing monitoring and evaluation systems in its programmes;
- More trainings for National Research Institutions (NRIs) and other stakeholders;
- Relocation of office to more suitable location and premises;
- Building of more networks in Somali side of Cluster especially civil society organizations.

Discussions Arising

The meeting observed and noted the following:-

- a) That the efforts being made to implement the Strategy were commendable. Members encouraged CEWARN to rationalize its activities with other regional organizations in the region to economize on resources;
- b) With the exception of ECOWARN, a project of ECOWAS, CEWARN is a pioneering effort in conflict prevention and resolution. All other recognized initiatives are still in the process of developed.
- c) AU efforts have been recognized and will seek to harmonize/ link the various areas of specialization of the RECs involved in early warning and response. In order to prevent and mitigate pastoralist conflicts, there needs to be a focus in making the life of pastoralists viable through addressing the underlying structural issues with due consideration to addressing environmental and climatic issues.

6. THE RAPID RESPONSE FUND

A presentation on the Rapid Response Fund was made by CEWARN.

The following are the highlights of the presentation:-

- The Rapid Response Fund (RRF) is a facility to mitigate conflicts in short term;
- Activities conducted to operationalize the Fund include a donor meeting held in December 2006, further bilateral discussions with donor countries, and a follow-up meeting in July 2006.. A Consultant is expected to finalize the framework by early next year for implementation
- Countries that have made commitments include Austria, Germany, Sweden and the EU. The EU has also indicated that it will provide technical support. Many others have also shown an interest in the Fund and discussions are currently ongoing.
- Project Proposals will be received from the Local Committees and CEWERUs and reviewed by the Steering Committee to be established and made up of representatives from Member States, Donor countries, IGAD and CEWARN.
- Consultations with local peace committees in member states are being initiated. The first will be held in Awassa, Ethiopia on 21/22 November.

(Documents on RRF available at the CEWARN Unit)

Discussions Arising:

- a) Djibouti thanked CEWARN for their preparation of the meetings, including reports and presentations and reaffirmed support to implementation efforts; It was however proposed that extensive awareness raising on RRF be made to CEWERUs and Local Peace Committees in MS;
- b) Ethiopia noted that the RRF clearly provided that it will not substitute Government responsibility and looked forward to operationalizing the fund;
- c) Sudan encouraged CEWARN to explore possibilities of widening their donor base from non-traditional donors as part of strategy of sustaining the fund.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ENTEBBE DISARMAMENT WORKSHOP

As a follow-up to the recommendations of the Entebbe disarmament workshop, one of which included the establishment of a regional steering committee to develop a plan of action and coordinate activities, CEWARN provided a short presentation on the recommendations and way forward.

[copy of note included in kit provided to members]

Discussions Arising

- a) Uganda observed that it is important to make disarmament programme as part and parcel of development programmes. The Karamoja Integrated Disarmament Development Programme (KIDDP) clearly illustrated this. There are also other regional efforts being made along these lines e.g. cooperation with Kenya.
- b) The meeting recommended that CEWARN continues its efforts to follow up on recommendations made, and to include regional partners in the exercise.

8. REVIEW OF THE TCEW REPORT

The report on recommendations made at the TCEW meeting held on 29-30 October, 2007 was presented to the CPS. The recommendations were mainly intended to support the work of CEWARN. They include, *inter alia*, the change of name of the Committee to Technical Committee Early Warning and Response (TCEWR) to include the response side of the Mechanism.

[Full report of recommendations annexed]

Discussions Arising:

- a) The meeting noted the initiatives being taken at the continental and regional level to build up early warning systems.
- b) After extensive deliberations, there was consensus that all the Member States agree in principle that ICT adds value to CEWARN's conflict early warning and early response activities and expressed their support to CEWARN to proceed with this initiative, in conformity with respective laws, policies and regulations in respective member countries.
- c) The CPS adopted the recommendations of the TCEW.

9. DATES AND VENUE OF THE NEXT CPS MEETING

Uganda proposed to host the next meetings of the CPS in Kampala, Uganda; which offer was welcomed by the meeting.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) Ethiopia noted that CEWARN had increased in size and capacity and that its present premises were no longer adequate. CEWARN was assured that the government will give due attention to finding more convenient premises for the Unit.

- b) The meeting proposed that the Unit include a presentation on its financial status at the next session.

Closing Remarks

The Chair thanked the government of Sudan for hosting the meeting, the Executive Secretariat at IGAD and CEWARN for its dedication to ensuring the Mechanism is a success. He noted that all delegations provided constructive inputs in the meeting and thanked them for the support to the Chair. In closing he made the following observations:-

- There is need to support the initiatives being proposed by CEWARN e.g. on ICT and Rapid Response Fund to ensure successful implementation;
- Capacity of CEWARN has impressively increased. Interest from donors also shows the importance of initiative in addressing conflicts in the region;
- Regional coordination efforts on disarmament will enhance effectiveness in reducing cross border conflicts;
- Experience sharing between member states should be encouraged.

ANNEXTURES

Annex 1



7th Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Secretaries of CEWARN/IGAD Khartoum, Sudan 31st October 2007

Adopted Agenda

Opening Statements:

- Welcoming Remarks

Dr. Attalla H. Bashir, Executive Secretary, IGAD Secretariat.

- Opening statement by the Guest of Honour

H.E., the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Republic of Sudan.

Election of the Bureau:

Adoption of an Agenda and Program:

1. Adoption of Report of the 6th Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Secretaries of 30th November 2006 in Djibouti.
2. Status report on Ratification of the CEWARN Protocol by Uganda
3. Presentation on the dynamics and outcome of the Pastoral Conflicts Monitoring in the Pilot Areas.
4. Report on the implementation of the CEWARN Strategy, 2007-2011
5. CEWARN Rapid Response Fund (RRF)
6. Recommendations of IGAD Disarmament Workshop
7. Review and adoption of the report and recommendations of the Technical Committee on Early Warning.
8. Dates and venue of the next CPS Meeting
9. AOB
10. Closing statement by the chairman of the Committee of Permanent Secretaries



The 7th Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Secretaries of CEWARN/IGAD

Khartoum, Sudan
31st October 2007

Draft Programme

8:30 – 9:00	Registration of participants
9:00 – 10.00	Opening Session <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcoming Remarks <i>(Dr. Attalla H. Bashir, Executive Secretary, IGAD Secretariat)</i>• Opening Statement by the Guest of Honour <i>(H.E., Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Sudan)</i>• Election of Bureau• Adoption of Agenda
10:00	End of the Opening Session
10:00 – 10:15	Adoption of Report of the 6 th Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Secretaries of November 30, 2006 in Djibouti
10:15 – 10:30	Status report on Ratification of the CEWARN Protocol by Uganda
10:30– 11:00	Presentation on the dynamics and outcome of Pastoral Conflict Monitoring
11:00 - 11.15	Coffee/Tea Break
11:15 – 11:45	Report on Implementation of the CEWARN Strategy, 2007-2011 <i>[Amb. Abdelrahim A. Khalil, Director of CEWARN]</i>
11:45 –12:15	CEWARN Rapid Response Fund (RRF) <i>[Amb. Abdelrahim A. Khalil, Director of CEWARN]</i>
12:15 – 13:00	Recommendations of IGAD Disarmament Workshop
13:00 – 13:30	Review and adoption of the report and recommendations of the Technical Committee on Early Warning. <i>[By the Chairman of the TCEW]</i>
13:30 – 13:45	Dates and venue of the next CPS Meeting
13:45 – 14:00	AOB
14:00 – 14:15	Closing statement by the chairman of the Committee of Permanent Secretaries
14:15	Lunch

Annex 2

WELCOMING STATEMENT BY DR. ATTALA BASHIR, IGAD EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, AT THE 7TH MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT SECRETARIES (CPS) OF CEWARN/IGAD IN KHARTOUM, SUDAN.

**KHARTOUM, SUDAN.
31 OCTOBER 2007**

**Your Excellency, The Guest of Honour,
Your Excellency, The Chairman of the Committee of Permanent Secretaries,
Your Excellencies, the Permanent Secretaries,
Esteemed Guests,
Distinguished Participants,
Ladies and Gentlemen.**

It is indeed my honor and pleasure to welcome you to Sudan for the 7th Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Secretaries (CPS) of CEWARN. It is my belief that you will have a pleasant stay and fruitful deliberations in Sudan and that your participation in this meeting will further strengthen the functioning of CEWARN as a conflict early warning and early response mechanism in the region.

As you are aware, the mandate of CEWARN is to receive and share information concerning particularly violent conflicts, their outbreak and escalation in the IGAD region, analyzing the information and formulating feasible options for response. This mandate remains critical to the peace and security agenda of the IGAD Member States in our pursuit of a regional socio-economic development strategy.

Your Excellencies,

As one of the coordinating structures of the Protocol establishing CEWARN, we are gathered here to receive briefs and updates on the functioning of CEWARN since our last meeting in Djibouti last year and more importantly, on the ongoing implementation of the CEWARN Strategy for the years 2007-2011.

I am happy to note that the CEWARN Strategic Plan has been developed, based on the achievements and challenges of the Mechanism since its inception years ago. This will provide a well-defined operational and programmatic framework to guide CEWARN. Further efforts are being made to fully operationalize the CEWARN Mechanism in the Eritrea, Djibouti and the Sudan.

Esteemed Ladies and Gentlemen,

While it is accepted that having an early warning mechanism is a useful tool in the peace and security framework, the effectiveness of the mechanism is hinged on the timely and effective response through policies and other intervening actions that contribute towards the de-escalation of conflicts in the Areas of Reporting covered by CEWARN. The Rapid Response Fund (RRF) is one such initiative being developed to strengthen the response side of the Mechanism and is one

of the items being discussed on today's agenda. We, at the IGAD Secretariat, are happy of the good demonstration of good will on the part of Member States through the establishment of relevant structures under the protocol. We shall continue to work together to devise effective preventive responses to the numerous early warning information that will require addressing and resolving at the local, national and cross-border or regional levels.

Your Excellencies, Distinguished Participants,

Following the IGAD Disarmament workshop held in May this year in Entebbe, Uganda, we hope that further steps will be identified to implement the recommendations made thereto as part of the process of promoting peace and stability in the Karamoja Cluster. This and other exercises will contribute to the efforts being made by CEWARN to address peace and security issues that adversely affect development and stability within the cluster. In addition, I request that you to critically examine, enrich and endorse the recommendations of the Technical Committee on Early Warning (TCEW) on issues critical to the successful functioning of the Mechanism.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Allow me to conclude by acknowledging the continued financial and technical support from our development partners, GTZ and USAID and the kind gesture of the Republic of Sudan to host this meeting.

I once again welcome you all and wish you fruitful deliberations.

I Thank You.

Annex 3

OPENING STATEMENT BY THE GUEST OF HONOUR, THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF SUDAN AT THE 7TH MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT SECRETARIES OF CEWARN/IGAD

KHARTOUM, SUDAN
OCTOBER 31 2007.

The Executive Secretary, IGAD, Dr Attala Bashir,
Permanent Secretaries,
Heads of Delegations,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen.

On behalf of the Government and People of the Republic of Sudan and on my own behalf, I welcome you all to Khartoum for the 7th Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Secretaries (CPS) of CEWARN. I believe that your participation and contributions will further strengthen CEWARN's efforts in addressing the numerous challenges facing the IGAD region such as violent conflicts, recurrent droughts, and HIV/AIDS.

The pastoralist arc of the Horn of Africa, which includes Member States of the IGAD sub-region, continues to be plagued by conflicts that largely stem from competition over scarce resources. Disputes over grazing land, access to water points and proliferation of small arms is not uncommon. This has led to enormous loss of lives and property, posing a great threat and danger to peace, stability and development in the sub-region.

Since the start of the process of establishing CEWARN by IGAD Member States in 2000, the Mechanism has provided a unique early warning tool for member states on cross-border pastoral and related conflicts by monitoring and providing warnings on a range of issues that may trigger and influence conflicts among communities such as environmental pressures, banditry, proliferation of small arms and others.

Distinguished Delegates,

To effectively address many of the conflicts experienced in our region, it is imperative to provide full support to CEWARN so that it may be able to efficiently and reliably provide and respond to emerging or existing violent situations in the Areas of Reporting. To this end, Sudan fully commends CEWARN in developing its five-year strategic plan for the year 2007-2011 and strongly supports appropriate initiatives being undertaken to implement the various strategic objectives in the CEWARN Strategic document.

I am also pleased to see further initiatives being undertaken by CEWARN in order to strengthen its early response mechanism. The development of the proposed Rapid Response Fund (RRF) is one such initiative that must be supported by the national early warning and response units as well as

those stakeholders at the local levels. I look forward to discussions on the feasibility of its implementation.

Esteemed Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would also wish to know how far the operationalisation of the CEWARN Mechanism has gone on the Sudanese side of the Karamoja Cluster. This would enable Sudan address jointly any issues with other Member States involved in the cluster i.e. Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda. I hope that this meeting would be able to deliberate on how to make it fully operational as we pledge to support all efforts being made to do so.

Currently, the IGAD region is emerging from severe flooding that has hit various parts of the Sudan, Kenya and Uganda. As we work together with the international community to provide humanitarian assistance to our people, we must concurrently search for lasting solutions to this calamity by actively engaging CEWARN and IGAD's other specialized Unit on climate predictions, ICPAC as their contribution to addressing peace and development in the region become extremely useful.

I now have the honor, to declare the 7th Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Secretaries of CEWARN officially open and wish you fruitful deliberations.

Thank You.

Annex 4
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