

Public Law 103-381  
103d Congress

An Act

To authorize assistance to promote the peaceful resolution of conflicts in Africa.

Oct. 19, 1994  
[S. 2475]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

African Conflict  
Resolution Act.  
22 USC 2151  
note.

**SECTION. 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the "African Conflict Resolution Act".

**SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

22 USC 2151  
note.

(a) **FINDINGS.**—The Congress makes the following findings:

(1) It is in the national interest of the United States to help build African capability in conflict resolution. A relatively small investment of assistance in promoting African conflict resolution—

(A) would reduce the enormous human suffering which is caused by wars in Africa;

(B) would help the United States avoid huge future expenditures necessitated by Somalia-like humanitarian disasters; and

(C) would reduce the need for United Nations intervention as African institutions develop the ability to resolve African conflicts.

(2) Africa, to a greater extent than any other continent, is afflicted by war. Africa has been marred by more than 20 major civil wars since 1960. Rwanda, Somalia, Angola, Sudan, Liberia, and Burundi are among those countries that have recently suffered serious armed conflict.

(3) In the last decade alone, between 2,000,000 and 4,000,000 Africans have died because of war. There were 5,200,000 refugees and 13,100,000 displaced people in Africa in 1993.

(4) Millions more Africans are currently at risk of war-related death. Looming or ongoing conflicts in Zaire, Angola, Sudan, Rwanda, and other countries threaten Africa's future.

(5) War has caused untold economic and social damage to the countries of Africa. Food production is impossible in conflict areas, and famine often results. Widespread conflict has condemned many of Africa's children to lives of misery and, in certain cases, has threatened the existence of traditional African cultures.

(6) Conflict and instability in Africa, particularly in large, potentially rich countries such as Angola, Sudan, and Zaire, deprive the global economy of resources and opportunities for trade and investment. Peace in these countries could make

a significant contribution to global economic growth, while creating new opportunities for United States businesses.

(7) Excessive military expenditures threaten political and economic stability in Africa while diverting scarce resources from development needs. Demobilization and other measures to reduce the size of African armies, and civilian control of the military under the rule of law are in the interest of international security and economic development.

(8) Conflict prevention, mediation, and demobilization are prerequisites to the success of development assistance programs. Nutrition and education programs, for example, cannot succeed in a nation at war. Billions of dollars of development assistance have been virtually wasted in war-ravaged countries such as Liberia, Somalia, and Sudan.

(9) Africans have a long tradition of informal mediation. This tradition should be built upon to create effective institutions through which Africans can resolve African conflicts.

(10) The effectiveness of U.S. support for conflict resolution programs requires coordination and collaboration with multilateral institutions and other bilateral donors.

(11) African institutions are playing an active role in conflict resolution and mediation utilizing the experience of elder statesmen. Groups such as the All African Council of Churches have assisted in defusing conflicts. The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) has sought to address the conflict in Liberia by deploying an African peacekeeping force. The Southern African states have been working to prevent a crisis in Lesotho. The Intergovernmental Authority on Desertification and Drought (IGADD) has been engaged in attempting to resolve the conflict in Sudan.

(12) The Organization of African Unity, under the leadership of Secretary General Salim Salim, has established a conflict resolution mechanism and has been active in mediation and conflict resolution in several African countries.

(b) UNITED STATES POLICY.—The Congress declares, therefore, that a key goal for United States foreign policy should be to help institutionalize conflict resolution capability in Africa.

22 USC 2151  
note.

**SEC. 3. IMPROVING THE CONFLICT RESOLUTION CAPABILITIES OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY.**

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF ASSISTANCE.—The President is authorized to provide assistance to strengthen the conflict resolution capability of the Organization of African Unity, as follows:

(1) Funds may be provided to the Organization of African Unity for use in supporting its conflict resolution capability, including providing technical assistance.

(2) Funds may be used for expenses of sending individuals with expertise in conflict resolution to work with the Organization of African Unity.

(b) FUNDING.—Of the foreign assistance funds that are allocated for sub-Saharan Africa, not less than \$1,500,000 for each of the fiscal years 1995 through 1998 should be used to carry out subsection (a).

22 USC 2151  
note.

**SEC. 4. IMPROVING CONFLICT RESOLUTION CAPABILITIES OF MULTILATERAL SUBREGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN AFRICA.**

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF ASSISTANCE.—The President is authorized to provide assistance to strengthen the conflict resolution

capabilities of subregional organizations established by countries in sub-Saharan Africa, as follows:

(1) Funds may be provided to such organizations for use in supporting their conflict resolution capability, including providing technical assistance.

(2) Funds may be used for the expenses of sending individuals with expertise in conflict resolution to work with such organizations.

(b) **FUNDING.**—Of the foreign assistance funds that are allocated for sub-Saharan Africa, such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 1995 through 1998 may be used to carry out subsection (a).

**SEC. 5. IMPROVING CONFLICT RESOLUTION CAPABILITIES OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS.**

22 USC 2151  
note.

(a) **AUTHORIZATION OF ASSISTANCE.**—The President is authorized to provide assistance to nongovernmental organizations that are engaged in mediation and reconciliation efforts in sub-Saharan Africa.

(b) **FUNDING.**—Of the foreign assistance funds that are allocated for sub-Saharan Africa, such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 1995 and 1996 should be used to carry out subsection (a).

**SEC. 6. AFRICAN DEMOBILIZATION AND RETRAINING PROGRAM.**

22 USC 2151  
note.

(a) **AUTHORIZATION OF ASSISTANCE.**—In order to facilitate reductions in the size of the armed forces of countries of sub-Saharan Africa, the President is authorized to—

(1) provide assistance for the encampment and related activities for the purpose of demobilization of such forces; and

(2) provide assistance for the reintegration of demobilized military personnel into civilian society through activities such as retraining for civilian occupations, creation of income-generating opportunities, their reintegration into agricultural activities, and the transportation to the home areas of such personnel.

(b) **FUNDING.**—Of the foreign assistance funds that are allocated for sub-Saharan Africa, \$25,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 1995 and 1996 should be used for the assistance described in subsection (a), if conditions permit.

(c) **CIVILIAN INVOLVEMENT.**—The President is also authorized to promote civilian involvement in the planning and organization of demobilization and reintegration activities.

**SEC. 7. TRAINING FOR AFRICANS IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND PEACEKEEPING.**

22 USC 2151  
note.

(a) **AUTHORIZATION.**—The President is authorized to establish a program to provide education and training in conflict resolution and peacekeeping for civilian and military personnel of countries in sub-Saharan Africa.

(b) **FUNDING.**—Of the funds made available under chapter 5 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 1995 and 1996 should be used for the purposes of subsection (a).

22 USC 2151  
note.

**SEC. 8. PLAN FOR UNITED STATES SUPPORT FOR CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND DEMOBILIZATION IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Pursuant to the provisions of sections 3 through 7, the President should develop an integrated long-term plan, which incorporates local perspectives, to provide support for the enhancement of conflict resolution capabilities and demobilization activities in sub-Saharan Africa.

(b) **CONTENTS OF PLAN.**—Such plan should include:

(1) The type, purpose, amount, and duration of assistance that is planned to be provided to conflict resolution units in sub-Saharan Africa.

(2) The type and amount of assistance that is planned to be provided for the demobilization of military personnel of countries of sub-Saharan Africa, including—

(A) a list of which countries will receive such assistance and an explanation of why such countries were chosen for such assistance; and

(B) a list of other countries and international organizations that are providing assistance for such demobilization.

(3) The type and amount of assistance that is planned to be provided to nongovernmental organizations that are engaged in mediation and reconciliation efforts in sub-Saharan Africa.

(4) A description of proposed training programs for Africans in conflict resolution and peacekeeping under section 7, including a list of prospective participants and plans to expand such programs.

(5) The mechanisms to be used to coordinate interagency efforts to administer the plan.

(6) Efforts to seek the participation of other countries and international organizations to achieve the objectives of the plan.

President.

(c) **REPORT.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report containing a description of the plan developed under this section.

President.  
22 USC 2151  
note.

**SEC. 9. REPORTING REQUIREMENT.**

(a) **REQUIREMENT.**—The President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report describing the efforts and progress made in carrying out the provisions of this Act.

(b) **DATE OF SUBMISSION.**—The first report submitted under subsection (a) shall be submitted no later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and shall be submitted annually thereafter.

President.  
22 USC 2151  
note.

**SEC. 10. CONSULTATION REQUIREMENT.**

The President shall consult with the appropriate congressional committees prior to providing assistance under sections 3 through 7.

22 USC 2151  
note.

**SEC. 11. APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.**

For purposes of this Act, the term “appropriate congressional committees” means the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and

the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

Approved October 19, 1994.

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LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S. 2475:

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 140 (1994):

Oct. 4, considered and passed Senate.  
Oct. 5, considered and passed House.