Centre for Mediation in Africa

Activity Report No. 4: March 2013 – November 2013

Research and Publications

During the reporting period CMA staff and associates published the following:


The CMA commissioned three new papers for *Mediation Arguments*:

- Cori Wielenga and Nickson Bondo, ‘Mediated power-sharing agreements, reconciliation and transitional justice: the cases of Liberia, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo’.


- Chris Saunders, ‘On the absence of significant third party international mediation: the South African case’.

**Teaching**

During the reporting period Prof Nathan taught the following post-graduate course: Managing Intelligence Reform, Masters in Security Sector Management, Cranfield University and Ethiopian Ministry of Defence, Addis Ababa.

**Seminars and Conferences**

In March Prof Nathan presented a paper on the disbanding of the SADC Tribunal at the seminar on ‘The SADC Tribunal: Removing the Scales of Justice’, Department of Political Sciences and South African Foreign Policy Initiative, University of Pretoria. The seminar was used to launch Prof Nathan’s book, *Community of Insecurity: SADC’s Struggle for Peace and Security in Southern Africa* (Ashgate, 2012).

In March the CMA hosted a seminar on ‘Reflections on the Mali Crisis: What Is To Be Done?’. The event was chaired by Ambassador Mdu Lembede, Chief Director in the Department of International Relations and Co-operation, and the speakers included Prof Nathan and Dr David Zounmenou from the Institute for Security Studies.

In May the CMA hosted a seminar on ‘Crisis and Peacemaking in the Central African Republic’. The keynote speaker was Mr Joao Honwana, Director of the Africa II Division in the UN Department of Political Affairs.

In May Prof Nathan was a speaker at the conference on ‘The Mali Crisis: What Next?’, ViveMali, University of Pretoria.

In June Prof Nathan presented his paper on the Madagascar mediation, cited above, at the European Conference on African Studies, Lisbon.
In September Dr Odendaal presented a paper at a US Institute for Peace conference on Colombia, Washington DC.

In October Prof Nathan was a panellist at the Fourth African Union High-Level Retreat on the Promotion of Peace, Security and Stability in Africa, Abidjan.

**Training**

In May Dr Odendaal and Dr Nyathi presented a five-day training programme on mediation and preventive diplomacy to representatives of the East African Community.

Prof Nathan was appointed as the lead designer and trainer of the UN High Level Mediation Course. The first two pilot courses were held in New York in May and in Istanbul in October.

In May Prof Nathan conducted mediation coaching for European Union Special Representatives and senior officials from the European External Action Service, Brussels.

In June Dr Nyathi was the lead consultant on developing a negotiation and mediation training course for the National Peace Council of Ghana.

In July Dr Odendaal was a resource person at the UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) workshop to enhance the conflict prevention and peacemaking capacity of indigenous peoples’ representatives, Geneva.

In November Dr Odendaal was a resource person at the UNITAR training workshop on conflict prevention and peacemaking in Africa, Addis Ababa.

In November the CMA designed and led the first high-level mediation course hosted by the South African Department of International Relations and Co-operation. The trainers were Dr Nyathi, Dr Odendaal and Prof Nathan.

**Facilitation and Support**

Dr Nyathi continued to serve as the Senior Reconciliation and Dialogue Advisor for the Organ on National Healing, Reconciliation and Integration in Zimbabwe. His support contributed to the inclusion of the National Peace and Reconciliation Commission in the new Zimbabwean constitution.

In April and May Dr Nyathi was a consultant to UNDP on conflict analysis and programme formulation in Sierra Leone.

In June Dr Nyathi was a consultant to UNDP on conflict analysis and conflict-sensitive development programming in Pakistan.

In August Dr Odendaal facilitated a retreat of the Inter-Religious Council of Uganda.

In August Dr Nyathi was commissioned by UNDP to serve as the Team Leader for the development of a ‘peace architecture’ in Malawi.

In September Dr Nyathi facilitated UNDP consultations in Johannesburg and Maseru on strengthening capacity to establish infrastructures for peace at the regional level.
Other Activities

In May the Centre’s Advisory Board held its second meeting (minutes available on request).

Prof Nathan participated in the second meeting of the UN Academic Advisory Council on Mediation, April, New York.

In November the Government of Norway awarded the CMA a grant of R5 million. The grant will be used mainly for research and dissemination, and will enable the Centre to appoint a Senior Researcher.