

GRANT TO THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN STUDIES
IN SUPPORT OF A SYMPOSIUM ON CONFLICT MEDIATION IN AFRICA

FINAL REPORT

SUBMITTED TO THE POLICY DIVISION OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE

CAAS applied to the Department of Foreign Affairs, requesting support for particular sessions to be sponsored during the 1986 Annual Meeting of the Canadian Association of African Studies, namely a working session on the subject of preventive diplomacy, and other sessions concerned with the resolution of political conflict in Africa. As described in the award agreement, the project was to be focused on "discussion of experiences of the failure of conventional conflict resolution and diplomacy and the form contemporary preventive diplomacy and conflict resolution might take."

The theme of political crisis and mediation was in fact a very major preoccupation of the entire conference, and the Department of Foreign Affairs has been used to support two major sessions, a "Panel on Preventive Diplomacy" and a public Roundtable on "The Role of Mediation in Africa". In my view, these sessions represented high points of the conference. Moreover, at least thirteen other sessions were concerned with the same complex of issues or on crises in particular regions or countries in Africa, as well as to examine the conference program enclosed here for more details on these sessions. Many other sessions, and many other regular sessions, were presented in simultaneous translation.

Report on a Symposium on Conflict Mediation in Africa

In this report, we present the following:

- A description of the conference theme, "Crisis and Mediation"
- A list of all sessions relevant to conflict resolution and mediation;
- The titles of the two major sessions supported by DFAIT;
- A brief summary of the proceedings of these two sessions;
- A description of the Canadian Association of African Studies;
- A copy of the conference program.

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