

emphasis on defence contacts and exchanges and the publication of defence policy "white papers".<sup>42</sup>

***Organization of African Unity (OAU):***<sup>43</sup>

On 30 June 1993, the OAU established a "Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution, which committed it to cooperating closely with the United Nations in relation to peacemaking and peacekeeping."<sup>44</sup> This mechanism, with substantial external funding, has been active in preventive (and quiet) diplomacy in a variety of contexts including *inter alia*, the Comoros, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, Angola, Liberia, Somalia, Sudan. The OAU has deployed military observer missions in Burundi and elsewhere. Its peacekeeping capacity, however, is limited by serious financial and logistical constraints.

The United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia (UNOMIL) is unique among peacekeeping missions in that unarmed UN observers deployed in parallel with a regional peacekeeping force, ECOMOG, the latter being dispatched under the authority of the sub-regional group, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).<sup>45</sup>

The development of the OAU conflict prevention mechanism in turn facilitated the creation of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) in 1992. Intended to be a vehicle for regional development and integration, SADC too has energetically engaged in preventive diplomacy and its Organ on Politics, Defence and Security, inaugurated in June 1966, is focussing on the development of a "regional peacekeeping capacity within national armies".<sup>46</sup>

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<sup>42</sup> The only measures which go beyond transparency to impose tangible restraints are to be found in the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone Treaty, signed by all ten members of ASEAN. However, its protocols are yet to be signed by any of the five declared nuclear powers, with the US leading opposition to the treaty's coverage of continental shelves and exclusive economic zones.

<sup>43</sup> For a detailed discussion of the work of the OAU in conflict prevention, management and resolution, see for example, the chapter by Professor emeritus, Douglas G. Anglin, "Conflict in Sub-Saharan Africa", in *Conflicts Around the World: 1995-1996, Rapport annuel sur les conflits internationaux, Etudes Stratégiques et Militaires* (Institut Québécois des Hautes Etudes Internationales, Université Laval, Québec) at pp. 113-155.

<sup>44</sup> OAU, *Resolving Conflict in Africa*, Addis-Ababa: OAU Information Services Publication Series (II), 1993.

<sup>45</sup> ECOWAS is the Economic Community of West African States. ECOMOG is the ECOWAS Military Observer Group.

<sup>46</sup> See Anglin, *op. cit.*, p.146.