#### **Central Africa: Turning a Tide**

# Clear mandate

To implement such a scheme would not necessarily require any new Security Council resolution. If international military force were thought necessary, it could be arranged bilaterally with Zaire as were the relief operations in Goma (Zaire might well be supportive of their closure given local opposition to the camps and an appreciation that the burden of the camps would fall on Zaire once relief ended). If a new Security Council resolution is required, it should be simpler to agree upon than one based on the current Secretary-General's recommendation because the operation would be brief, the cost minor, and the objective clear.

### Accurate information

Prior to implementing such a scheme, there would have to be adequate dissemination in the camps of information on the evacuation process. Radio would provide the best means for this.

### Encourage moderates

This simpler, quicker approach to assisting those who wish to return to Rwanda may also allow the early emergence of a moderate Hutu leadership not tied to the RPF government, as Hutus are permitted to return in numbers to Rwanda. Until such a "legitimate" Hutu leadership appears, serious reconciliation talks are impossible.

#### Disarm returnees

Of course, there is a strong possibility that many of those who would return would do so with the intention of causing trouble. However, most should have been relieved of at least their heavier weapons before re-entering Rwanda. Moreover, given the scale of participation in atrocities and the depth of animosity towards the Tutsis, it is unrealistic to expect that any scheme would be able to prevent all troublemakers from returning.

## A phased approach

It could be argued that the camps in Tanzania or Burundi should be closed first since the problems there are relatively less severe and the closure operation could enjoy a greater chance of success. However, should such operations in those camps fail, this would make dealing with the Zaire camps that much more daunting. The Zaire camps are the core of the short-term problem: it is to these

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