

With greater economic integration, rogue domestic behaviour, disruptive of economic life, would become increasingly painful politically. The Arusha process took an important step in this direction and should be built on.

*Then build politically*

Regional economic links should be complemented by strengthening political ones, also at the regional level. This would help to lower tensions among countries suspicious of each others' intentions (Zaire/Uganda for example); more importantly, they would encourage habits of cooperation and help familiarize at least elites with problems and solutions in neighbouring states. Extreme actions could be more readily restrained by an awareness that, indeed, the "neighbours are watching".

*Dilute the arithmetic*

For Rwanda and Burundi, the ethnic arithmetic leaves little room for manoeuvre around the problem of Tutsi minority status. With more regional integration, however, the minority would be effectively less isolated because the boundaries of Burundi and Rwanda effectively would be that much less important. The Tutsis could become one group among many in a larger east/central Africa. Less confined to less isolated states, the Hutus would also have less reason to fear their Tutsi neighbours and, hopefully, would become less hostile to them.

*Practical international support*

A wide array of regional initiatives could be supported by the international community. To develop the reflex of cooperation, ties should be fostered primarily at the functional rather than the formal state-to-state level: some could link private sectors, others NGOs, still others parastatals or boards and agencies.

Examples would include:

- cooperation on the Great Lakes fishery;
- linking the Rwanda/Burundi power grids to Uganda's excess generating capacity;
- developing common coffee and tea marketing arrangements and common agricultural research;
- enhancing transport links so that, for example, all countries which benefit from a road link pay for its construction and upkeep;
- developing parliamentary and youth exchanges;
- promoting exchanges among militaries and police forces with the objective of professionalizing them.