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LETTER FROM THE FOUNDING EDITOR

Reporting on events is the realm of journalism. Contextualising and explaining developments is the expertise of the analysts of Africa Conflict Monthly Monitor (ACMM). The task of understanding complex events involving conflict and conflict resolution in the tumultuous sites of Africa can be a challenging one. However, the seasoned team of ACMM analysts has done a commendable job. Their analyses are both illuminating and fascinating to read.

The time period under review for this report (late February to early April 2013) has seen an evolution of conflict events that might have proved ephemeral at the start of 2013, but which have grown more complex as the year has progressed. All these matters of aggression, politics, civil unrest and criminal activity will require future scrutiny. In a sense, each of this report’s articles is like a chapter in an ongoing saga. Our analysts, however, offer suggestions as to how developments might turn. These are helpful insights to anyone with an interest in Africa, particularly if those interests are affected by security concerns.

Our research, therefore, is a much more complex matter than scanning the headlines of the time period reviewed. Our analysts use their backgrounds in the fields of foreign affairs and diplomacy, academia and African business to inform their analyses, giving them a depth that ACMM readers have come to expect.

We end our report with profiles of a few of the key contributors to the report. However, an array of analysts and a cadre of editors, production personnel and interns all contribute to the realisation of this report and the AMM series in general.

The creation of informed analysis that is a pleasurable and rewarding experience for our readers is the aim of all of us. We welcome reader feedback on our efforts.

Ufundzekahle! ("Read well!")

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Africa Conflict Monthly Monitor (ACMM)