



“The Involvement of the Private Security Sector in African Conflicts”

*Expert and Round Table Meeting organized by the Institute for Security Studies
(Pretoria, South Africa)*

June 11-12, 2009

(BY INVITATION ONLY)

The Institute for Security Studies (ISS) is hosting an Expert and Round Table meeting on **“The Involvement of the Private Security Sector in African Conflicts”** on 11-12 June 2009 at the ISS’ Seminar Room in Pretoria, South Africa. This closed meeting is convened under the auspices of the Security Sector Governance (SSG) Programme through the ISS project titled *The Involvement of the Private Security Sector in African Conflicts, Peacekeeping, and Humanitarian Assistance Operations*.

The ISS project is funded by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and seeks to critically investigate the role of the private security sector in African conflicts, peacekeeping missions and humanitarian assistance operations in order to inform the development and application of appropriate norms and standards, including the revision of the 1977 OAU Convention for the Elimination of Mercenarism in Africa.

The Expert and Roundtable meeting shall bring together experts from the academia, non-governmental organization and intergovernmental as well as security practitioners with the aim of achieving the following: -

- Enhancing an improved understanding of the role of private security sector in African conflicts;
- Contributing towards an appropriate regulatory regime for private military sector engagement in Africa including the elimination of mercenary activity, impacting on the revision of the 1977 OAU Convention for the Elimination of Mercenarism in Africa; and
- Contributing towards the development of an appropriate legislative and regulatory framework for the regulation of private security companies in Africa including the development of normative standards by PMSC users in African conflicts.

Towards the end of the meeting there shall have designated group discussions in which participants shall come up with recommendations on how best to address the involvement of private military/security companies in African conflicts.

For more information please contact Mr Sabelo Gumedze, The Security Sector Governance Programme, Institute for Security Studies Tel: + 27 12 346 9500; Email: sgumedze@issafrica.org

