

THE REALITIES OF BORDER MANAGEMENT IN THE AFRICAN CONTEXT



INTRODUCTION



ARETA
HOLDINGS

As stated by Boileau Strassoldo, an expert on European borders: “Spatial boundaries have ambiguous features: they divide and unite, bind the interior and link it with the exterior, these are barriers and junctions, walls and doors, organs of defence and attack and so on.

Frontier areas/borderlands can be managed so as to maximize any of these functions.

They can be militarized, as bulwarks against neighbors, or be made into areas of peaceful interchange”.



BACKGROUND

Westphalian System of Nation States

Since the 17th century, sovereignty resides in nation states that protect and regulate territorial borders and create national identity.

Peace of Westphalia - 1648

How did we get here?

Westphalian System of Nation States

Borders encompass the flows of goods and people toward the jurisdictional line where national regulatory authorities assert authority and power most aggressively.

African Context

- Colonial borders created 133 years ago when European powers met at the infamous Berlin Conference.
- Divide Africa into the borders that still exist today.

GLOBAL AND AFRICAN CONTEXT



New Border Paradigm: Global Lines & Flows define Modern Borders



World cargo shipping lanes



Source: adapted from Kaluza, P., et al., The complex network of global cargo ship movements, Carl von Ossietzky Universität, Germany; dataset refers to 2007.



A BOOMING SHIPPING NETWORK

Common Security issues world wide in border control:

- Criminal Acts
- Technical violations
- Transnational organised crime
- Threats to the integrity of border management.
- Terrorist threats

DEFINITION OF A BORDER IN BROAD TERMS

Sovereign Nation States (whether land, sea or air)



SLIGHT HISTORY BEHIND BORDERS IN GENERAL TERMS AND GLOBAL TERMS

HISTORY BEHIND AFRICAN BORDERS



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PAST POLICIES GOVERNING BORDER ENVIRONMENT

AU ESTABLISHMENT AND CREATION OF BORDER POLICIES

INTENDED AU MEMBER
STATES BORDER
COOPERATION AND 2020
AGREEMENT

RESPECTIVE COOPERATIVE
FORUMS IN THE AFRICAN
CONTEXT, IE. SACU, SARPCO,
ETC

PROTOCOLS ESTABLISHED IN
ORDER TO CREATE A
COOPERATIVE ENVIRONMENT
IN AN AFRICAN CONTEXT IE.
REC'S, SADC PROTOCOLS,
CFTA ETC



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POLICIES VS REALITY OF MIGRATION...

Influences:

- ❑ Forces attributing and contributing to migration in an African context mostly because of none border issues
- ❑ General border management land, sea and air
- ❑ Physical borderline and POE “policing”
- ❑ Technologies currently employed and those with the potential of being employed – deployment

POLICIES VS REALITY OF MIGRATION...

Are there currently any best practices in Africa what would be the ideal
Inter agency cooperation?

POLICIES VS REALITY OF MIGRATION...

Rethinking of the movement of people and goods

Healthy mix of technologies, government agencies and civil society (welcome training, possibly private revenue collection, refugee specialists, etc)

Possible best practices on the African continent if at all (consider migration realities, balance of economics, tourism, access to education, shared resource planning)

AUBP - UNITING AND INTEGRATING AFRICA THROUGH PEACEFUL, OPEN AND PROSPEROUS BORDERS

Justification for the Establishment of the AUBP:

- ❑ To address the problems posed by the lack of delimitation and demarcation, which gives rise to 'undefined zones', within which the application of national sovereignty poses problems, and constitutes a real obstacle to the deepening of the integration process;
- ❑ To address cross-border criminal activities through pragmatic border management;
- ❑ To consolidate the gains made in the regional integration process, as demonstrated by the existence of the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and of numerous large-scale cooperation initiatives; and
- ❑ To facilitate the development of cross-border integration dynamics, which are sustained by local stakeholder

BORDER CONTROL VS BORDER MANAGEMENT



OPTIMISATION OF
TECHNOLOGIES IS
CLEARLY AN OPTION



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DETER VS DETECT AND
FACILITATION OF PEOPLE,
GOODS AND SERVICES IN A
REGIONAL AND
CONTINENTAL CONTEXT
PROMOTING ECONOMIC
GROWTH



CONCLUSION

ARE THERE ANY BEST
PRACTICES CONTINENTAL
AND GLOBAL