

# Community-based Rehabilitation Africa Network (CAN)

*Shaya Asindua*

## SUMMARY

*This chapter outlines the development of the CBR Africa Network (CAN). It describes its mission, aims, objectives and related activities over the past three years.*

## BACKGROUND

The first African Regional Conference on CBR was held at the Uganda National Institute of Special Education (UNISE), Kampala in 2001. This conference was the final output of a linkage between UNISE and the Centre for International Child Health, (CICH) University College of London, which was designed to facilitate and support the development of CBR training in Uganda. The theme of the Conference was “CBR, A Participatory Strategy in Africa.” Participants from 14 countries attended the workshop, which was supported by the Norwegian Development Agency (NAD) and the CP Charitable Trust, UK.

This highly successful conference enabled the participants to extensively discuss CBR, ranging from its history and underlying concepts, to its practical application in the various countries and communities. This helped to generate a more mutual and holistic understanding of CBR and its