This small publication is highly recommended as an introduction to and overview of the evaluation process for anyone working in a development agency.

Reviewed by Brigid Willmore, Journal of Social Development in Africa, Harare.

References
Feuerstein Marie-Theres (1986) **Partners in Evaluation**, TALC/Macmillan, London.

Conflict Management and Problem Solving: Interpersonal to International Applications, Dennis J D Sandole and Ingrid Sandole-Staroste (eds), Frances Pinter, London, 1987 (321pp, price not given).

This book certainly lives up to its name — there are a great variety of examples of conflict situations, and consideration of their solutions from almost every conceivable sector. In all there are 40 individual contributions, including situations of divorce, family mediation, community relations, dispute reduction in prison settings, environmental mediation, labour-management disputes, terrorism and hostage negotiation, East-West relations and the prevention of nuclear war. These contributions and statements vary considerably, both in depth of analysis and content, but are linked by their common concern for dispute resolution and the solution of social problems. As such this volume genuinely may be seen — as stated in the Introduction — as an 'outcome of multiple convergences' (p 1).

Specifically the book is the culmination of a series of lectures given at the Center for Conflict Resolution at George Mason University in the United States. The contributors not only include staff from this University, but also prominent academics and practitioners in this field.

As we read the book we become aware that the field of conflict management is a growing scientific discipline in its own right (or perhaps an 'interdiscipline'), with its own body of literature, theories and methodologies in the process of formulation. This book should contribute in large measure to a further definition of this subject matter. Of additional use is an extensive list of books, monographs and articles on this topic at the end of the book, which is certainly worth consultation.

Substantial sections of the book are devoted to the elaboration of a theoretical framework for conflict resolution, and to a significant extent this is achieved. Of particular interest to me were the discussions on the 'Prisoner's Dilemma Game' (introduced by Morton Deutsch) and the 'Joint Outcome Space' of Roger Richman. These outline the competitive 'Win/Lose' (zero sum) option as opposed to the co-operative 'Win/Win' (positive sum) option, the former is normally selected in protagonist

situations. The cooperative option, also termed 'integrative negotiation', emphasises the need for the parties to a dispute to try and establish some relationship and trust with each other. This can only come about through the process of direct exchanges between the parties, even though they may go through stages of 'adversarial contact' with each other. However the commitment to joint outcomes, as opposed to unilateral outcomes, means that each party should be able to achieve some positive result for themselves, without necessarily destroying or undermining the other side. Dean Pruitt in his chapter outlines a typology of integrative agreements which can assist in achieving collaborative bargaining. One example here is the 'bridging' proposal, where the 'interests underlying the interests' of each party are examined to a depth that allows development of a bridge between the parties concerned.

It is obvious that parties to a dispute may not be able to settle the conflict on their own, Hence there may be need for outside or third party intervention. James Laue identifies five of these conflict intervention roles — viz activist, advocate, mediator, researcher and enforcer, each of which can be seen as one stage removed from the actual conflict itself.

Surely the most valuable 'spin-offs' from any theory of conflict resolution are the applied possibilities. We keep encountering these through the book, although it is again clear that more use needs to be made of the elaborated theory and researchers need to consider the practical applications more seriously. However in many cases this may not be for want of trying on the part of the researchers involved. A good example illustrated here was the combined effort of 'a group of scholars and practitioners of international dispute settlement' (p 286) to offer its services to the parties to the Malvinas-Falkland Island dispute (ie Britain and Argentina), in an attempt to prevent the situation deteriorating into armed conflict. Unfortunately, and as history bears witness, the offer was not considered seriously and the two nations fought a brief limited war over the issue.

Considerable insight is shown into the dynamics of the super-power rivalry between the United States and the Soviet Union, in particular how mutual distrust creates a spiral of 'force-counter-force' that may lead inevitably to a nuclear exchange. Sensible alternatives to this escalation are presented to us, and the point is emphasised by several writers that the Soviet Union has little, if any, desire to enter a major war, following their disastrous experience during the Second World War. However, in spite of the obvious good sense of these options, one contributor (Ralph White) gives us a pessimistic prediction of an evens chance of a major nuclear war between now and the year 2000. Apart from any other argument advanced, the fact that such an event is a distinct possibility for mankind should underline the urgency for research into the area of conflict resolution.

The multiplicity of chapters is to some extent daunting to the reader, yet

some degree of coherence is retained by the fact that authors often refer to points made in previous chapters,and by the well-ordered layout of the book.

The Third World does not feature as an area of interest in this book — despite the fact that the majority of the world's major conflicts are fought in this arena! This probably has to do with the backgrounds of the contributors, who are predominantly American, with many having held senior positions in governmental agencies in the United States. However it is also likely that some of the authors would contend that Third World conflicts are primarily symptomatic of global super-power conflicts in any case. Yet the book still has much to offer us in this part of the world as it provides a great deal of insight into the processes and mechanics of conflict generation and ways to seek its resolution. It is a useful and practical contribution to the serious task of seeking solutions and alternatives to the often violent conflicts that continue to plague our world.

Reviewed by Nigel Hall, School of Social Work, Harare.

Social Welfare in Africa, John Dixon (ed), Croom Helm, London, 1987 (358pp, £27,50 hbk).

I approached the review of this publication, advertised as a comparative social welfare volume focusing on Africa, with some anticipation and interest. There is no doubt about the need for more published and accessible information about social security and personal social service systems in Africa. In addition the need for more comparative analyses from which models can be derived and built and used for future planning is more than clear.

Social Welfare in Africa is the third volume of a six volume series, edited by John Dixon, which looks at comparative social welfare in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America, under socialism and in developed market economies. In this volume on Africa, for each of the ten country studies presented, the overall format for each chapter is the same and includes the welfare system environment, the welfare system an overview, the aged, children and youths, the handicapped, needy families, the sick and injured, the unemployed, an assessment of the welfare system, and references and further reading. Each country is presented as a separate chapter and the only point of active comparison undertaken is this common framework of presentation of information — and even this framework is only the very general framework in which specific approaches to information are then taken by each chapter author.

As noted earlier, ten countries are presented using the framework indicated, all of these countries are from sub-Saharan Africa, only one is a Francophone country and none are Lusophone. In the absence of any