

Securing Lasting Peace through Appropriate Dispute Resolution: A Reflection

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Securing Lasting Peace through Appropriate Dispute Resolution: A Reflection

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Abstract

Securing lasting peace is a global ideal. The United Nations notes that peace and development are indivisible. Peace is at the heart of the United Nation's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development which recognizes that there can be no Sustainable Development without peace and no peace without Sustainable Development. As a result, Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16 aims to achieve peaceful and inclusive societies for Sustainable Development, foster access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. This paper critically reflects on the need to secure lasting peace through Appropriate Dispute Resolution. The paper posits that Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) processes are appropriate in fostering lasting peace for development. The paper critically examines the concept of ADR and asserts that these processes are 'Appropriate' and not 'Alternative' in securing lasting peace. It explores some of the setbacks towards achieving peace and suggests ways through which ADR processes can be effectively utilized to secure lasting peace for Sustainable Development.

1.0 Introduction

Peace is a fundamental human ideal. It has been noted that the absence of violent conflict and the presence of respect and understanding between people and communities are the two characteristics that define peace¹. In addition negotiation, compromise, and cooperation among individual and groups with different interests and viewpoints are frequently necessary to bring about peace². The concept of peace is therefore associated with the ideals of harmony, tranquility, cooperation, alliance, well-being, and

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¹ Mustafa. G et al., 'Peace: A Conceptual Understanding' Available at https://www.researchgate.net/publication/370062968_Peace_A_Conceptual_Understanding (Accessed on 24/08/2024)

² Ibid

agreement³. At its core, peace encompasses far more than just the absence of violence or conflict⁴. It is a state of harmony in which individuals and communities coexist in respect and understanding⁵. Peace therefore envisages not only the absence of war but also the presence of positive elements, such as justice, harmony, equality, and compassion⁶.

According to the United Nations, peace and development are indivisible⁷. It notes that peace cannot be sustainable without development, and lasting peace is essential for the preservation of development gains all over the world⁸. Securing lasting peace is therefore vital in fostering Sustainable Development throughout the world. Achieving peace on a global scale is a complex endeavor that requires understanding, cooperation, and concerted efforts from individuals, communities, governments, and organizations all over the world⁹.

The *United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*¹⁰ recognizes the need to secure lasting peace for development. According to the Agenda, there can be no Sustainable Development without peace and no peace without Sustainable Development¹¹. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development seeks to foster peaceful, just and inclusive societies which are free from fear and violence¹². SDG 16 aims to achieve peaceful and inclusive

³ Muigua. K., 'Achieving Sustainable Development, Peace and Environmental Security.' Glenwood Publishers Limited, 2021

⁴ Gray Group International., 'Understanding Peace: A Comprehensive Guide to Achieving Global Harmony' Available at <https://www.graygroupintl.com/blog/peace> (Accessed on 24/08/2024)

⁵ Ibid

⁶ Ibid

⁷ United Nations., 'Sustainability, Peace, Security 'best guarantee against instability' Guterres to Security Council' Available at <https://www.un.org/africarenewal/news/sustainability-peace-security-%E2%80%98best-guarantee-against-instability%E2%80%99-guterres-security-council> (Accessed on 24/08/2024)

⁸ Ibid

⁹ Gray Group International., 'Understanding Peace: A Comprehensive Guide to Achieving Global Harmony' Op Cit

¹⁰ United Nations General Assembly., 'Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.' 21 October 2015, A/RES/70/1., Available at <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/21252030%20Agenda%20for%20Sustainable%20Development%20web.pdf> (Accessed on 24/08/2024)

¹¹ Ibid

¹² Ibid

societies for Sustainable Development, foster access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels which are all prerequisites for securing lasting peace¹³. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development therefore recognizes not only that peace and security are prerequisites for achieving Sustainable Development, but also that Sustainable Development provides the pathway to peaceful societies¹⁴.

This paper critically reflects on the need to secure lasting peace through Appropriate Dispute Resolution. The paper posits that ADR processes are appropriate in fostering lasting peace for development. The paper critically examines the concept of ADR and asserts that these processes are 'Appropriate' and not 'Alternative' in securing lasting peace. It explores some of the setbacks towards achieving peace and suggests ways through which ADR processes can be effectively utilized to secure lasting peace for Sustainable Development.

2.0 Defining Appropriate Dispute Resolution

ADR has been defined as a spectrum of less costly and more expeditious alternatives to litigation, where a neutral party assists the disputing parties in reaching resolution¹⁵. However, in some ADR processes such as negotiation, parties meet to identify and discuss the issues at hand so as to arrive at a mutually acceptable solution without the help of a third party¹⁶. ADR has also been defined as a set of processes that are applied to manage disputes without resort to adversarial litigation¹⁷. It covers various processes including negotiation, mediation, arbitration, conciliation, adjudication, expert determination, early neutral evaluation, and Traditional Dispute Resolution Mechanisms

¹³ Ibid

¹⁴ Ibid

¹⁵ JAMS ADR., 'What is ADR? Defining the Alternative Dispute Resolution Spectrum' Available at <https://www.jamsadr.com/adr-spectrum/> (Accessed on 24/08/2024)

¹⁶ Muigua. K., 'Alternative Dispute Resolution and Access to Justice in Kenya.' Glenwood Publishers Limited, 2015

¹⁷ Ibid

(TDRMs) among others¹⁸. It has been noted that ADR techniques may be linked to but function outside formal court litigation processes¹⁹.

It has been argued that the use of the term 'Alternative' to describe ADR mechanisms is misleading since it may be understood to imply that these mechanisms are second-best to litigation which is not the case²⁰. In many contexts, ADR techniques are considered as 'Appropriate' and not 'Alternative' in conflict management²¹. For example, conflict management amongst African societies has since time immemorial taken the form of informal negotiation, mediation, reconciliation and arbitration²². These processes fitted comfortably within traditional concepts of African justice, particularly its core values of reconciliation and restorative justice²³. They were therefore considered 'Appropriate' and not 'Alternative' and were the first point of call in conflict management among African societies²⁴.

ADR processes contain certain attributes which makes them 'Appropriate' in conflict management. These features include informality, flexibility, privacy, confidentiality, party autonomy and the ability to foster expeditious and cost- effective management of disputes²⁵. ADR processes also allow for more creative and collaborative solutions than that of traditional litigation²⁶. In addition, some ADR techniques such as negotiation and mediation have the ability to preserve and even enhance the relationship of parties to a conflict and are therefore suitable and 'Appropriate' in managing conflicts²⁷.

¹⁸ Ibid

¹⁹ Uwazie. E., 'Alternative Dispute Resolution in Africa: Preventing Conflict and Enhancing Stability.' *Africa Security Brief*, No. 16 of 2011

²⁰ P. Fenn, "Introduction to Civil and Commercial Mediation", in Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, *Workbook on Mediation*, (CIArb, London, 2002), pp. 50-52

²¹ Ibid

²² Kariuki. F., 'Conflict Resolution by Elders in Africa: Successes, Challenges and Opportunities.' Available at <http://kmco.co.ke/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Conflict-Resolution-by-Elders-successeschallengesand-opportunities-1.pdf> (Accessed on 24/08/2024)

²³ Uwazie. E., 'Alternative Dispute Resolution in Africa: Preventing Conflict and Enhancing Stability.'

²⁴ Muigua. K., 'Alternative Dispute Resolution and Access to Justice in Kenya.' Op Cit

²⁵ Ibid

²⁶ JAMS ADR., 'What is ADR? Defining the Alternative Dispute Resolution Spectrum' Op Cit

²⁷ Muigua. K., 'Alternative Dispute Resolution and Access to Justice in Kenya.' Op Cit

Due to their appropriateness, ADR processes are being embraced for effective management of conflicts globally. The *Charter of the United Nations*²⁸ sets out the legal framework for utilizing ADR processes at the global stage. The Charter provides that parties to a dispute shall first of all seek a solution by *negotiation, enquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration*, judicial settlement, resort to regional agencies or arrangements, or *other peaceful means* of their own choice (Emphasis added)²⁹.

ADR processes are therefore 'Appropriate' and not 'Alternative' in conflict management. It is imperative to embrace Appropriate Dispute Resolution in order to secure lasting peace for development.

3.0 Securing Lasting Peace through Appropriate Dispute Resolution: Opportunities and Challenges

ADR techniques play a fundamental role in enhancing sustainable peace and strengthening peace building efforts³⁰. These processes are not only vital in addressing internal conflicts but also doing so in ways that enhance sustainable peace rather than dividing people further as would be the case with adversarial court processes³¹. It has been noted that in order to effectively address conflicts and secure lasting peace, it is essential to delve into the root causes that give rise to them³². In addition, it has been observed that conflicts are not isolated incidents but are often deeply rooted in underlying factors and dynamics³³. Therefore, by understanding such root causes, it is possible to develop sustainable solutions that address the fundamental issues at play³⁴.

²⁸ United Nations, Charter of the United Nations, 24 October 1945, 1 UNTS XVI

²⁹ Ibid, article 33 (1)

³⁰ Muigua. K., 'Towards Effective Peacebuilding and Conflict Management in Kenya.' Available at <https://kmco.co.ke/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Towards-Peacebuilding-and-Conflict-Managementin-Kenya.docx-Kariuiki-Muigua-MAY-2021x.pdf> (Accessed on 25/08/2024)

³¹ Ibid

³² Saaida. M., 'Peace Studies: Conflict Resolution and Mediation Strategies' Available at https://www.researchgate.net/publication/372289839_Peace_Studies_Conflict_Resolution_and_Mediation_Strategies (Accessed on 25/08/2024)

³³ Ibid

³⁴ Ibid

For example, it has been argued that securing lasting peace in Africa requires root causes of conflicts to be addressed beyond traditional responses³⁵. For many decades, a significant number of countries in the continent have been characterized by internal conflicts, intra and inter-state wars, and political instability threatening peace, security, and stability³⁶. As a result of these conflicts, it has become more challenging to secure lasting peace in Africa, with protracted and recurring conflict more difficult to prevent or resolve, often because their underlying causes are not well understood or addressed³⁷.

Therefore, addressing the internal and external root causes of conflicts in Africa beyond the traditional response, which only tackled their symptoms, would create the capacities that help African countries overcome the peace and security challenges they face, which have deep historical roots³⁸. ADR processes are ideal in meeting these objectives and securing lasting peace.

Mediation addresses the root causes of conflict resulting in mutually satisfying and long-lasting outcomes therefore creating a suitable environment for peace by eliminating the likelihood of conflicts reemerging in future³⁹. It also has the potential to preserve and at times even enhance the relationship of parties to a conflict making it an ideal process in promoting lasting peace⁴⁰. In addition, it has been noted that mediation can lead to more sustainable and long-lasting resolutions compared to imposed solutions⁴¹. By involving all parties in the decision-making process, mediation helps create a sense of ownership

³⁵ United Nations., 'Root Causes of Conflicts in Africa Must Be Addressed beyond Traditional Response, Special Adviser Tells Security Council Debate on Silencing Guns.' Available at <https://press.un.org/en/2023/sc15249.doc.htm> (Accessed on 25/08/2024)

³⁶ Olaosebikan. A., 'Conflicts in Africa: Meaning, Causes, Impact and Solution.' *African Research Review*., Volume 4, No. 4 (2010)

³⁷ United Nations., 'Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa.' Available at https://www.un.org/osaa/sites/www.un.org.osaa/files/docs/2109875_osaa_sg_report_web_new.pdf (Accessed on 25/08/2024)

³⁸ United Nations., 'Root Causes of Conflicts in Africa Must Be Addressed beyond Traditional Response, Special Adviser Tells Security Council Debate on Silencing Guns.' Op Cit

³⁹ Muigua. K., 'Resolving Conflicts through Mediation in Kenya.' Glenwood Publishers Limited, 2nd Edition, 2017

⁴⁰ Ibid

⁴¹ Saaida. M., 'Peace Studies: Conflict Resolution and Mediation Strategies' Op Cit

and commitment to the agreed-upon outcomes⁴². Mediation is therefore a suitable process in securing lasting peace by providing a structured and neutral platform for dialogue and negotiation⁴³. By enabling constructive communication among parties, mediation helps parties to better understand each other's perspectives, find common ground, and work towards mutually acceptable solutions⁴⁴.

Mediation has often been utilized by the United Nations in peacebuilding efforts⁴⁵. The United Nations has played a crucial role in helping to mediate inter- and intra-State conflicts at all stages: before they escalate into armed conflict, after the outbreak of violence, and during implementation of peace agreements⁴⁶. In addition, the Secretary-General of the United Nations and his representatives carry out good offices and mediation efforts at the request of parties to disputes, on the Secretary General's initiative, or in response to a request from the Security Council or the General Assembly of the United Nations⁴⁷. Through the use of mediation among other Appropriate Dispute Resolution processes, the United Nations continues to play a prominent role in peacemaking, working increasingly in partnership with regional organizations in order to bring ongoing conflicts to an end, and to prevent new crises from emerging or escalating in order to secure lasting peace throughout the world⁴⁸. The Charter of the United Nations identifies mediation as an important means for the peaceful settlement of disputes and conflicts, and it has proven to be an effective instrument to address both inter-State and intra-State conflict⁴⁹. For example, the African Union led mediation was instrumental in restoring peace and stability following the post-election violence in

⁴² Ibid

⁴³ Ibid

⁴⁴ Ibid

⁴⁵ United Nations., 'Prevention and Mediation' Available at <https://dppa.un.org/en/prevention-and-mediation> (Accessed on 25/08/2024)

⁴⁶ Ibid

⁴⁷ Ibid

⁴⁸ Ibid

⁴⁹ United Nations., 'Guidance for Effective Mediation' Available at https://peacemaker.un.org/sites/peacemaker.un.org/files/GuidanceEffectiveMediation_UNDPA2012%28english%29_0.pdf (Accessed on 25/08/2024)

Kenya in 2007-2008⁵⁰. The successful mediation efforts led by the former Secretary-General of the United Nations, Kofi Annan, led to the signing of the National Accord and the formation of the Grand Coalition Government in Kenya⁵¹.

Negotiation is also an ideal process in securing lasting peace. Negotiation is an informal process that involves parties to a conflict meeting to identify and discuss the issues at hand so as to arrive at a mutually acceptable solution without the help of a third party⁵². It is one of the most fundamental methods of managing conflicts which offers parties maximum control over the process and outcome⁵³. It has been argued that conflict management in most contexts is anchored on the ability of people to negotiate⁵⁴. The success of peacebuilding efforts not only depends on the effective negotiation of peace agreements, but essentially also on how negotiations fare during the practical implementation of peacebuilding policies on the ground⁵⁵. Peacebuilding is therefore a constant negotiation process⁵⁶. Negotiations do not stop after the conclusion of a peace agreement; peacebuilding goals and practice continue to be negotiated at every step of policymaking⁵⁷. Negotiations have been identified as central part of the daily business of United Nations peacebuilding operations⁵⁸. It is therefore necessary to embrace negotiation in order to secure lasting peace.

⁵⁰ Kofi Annan Foundation., 'Back from the Brink: the 2008 mediation process and reforms in Kenya' Available at <https://www.kofiannanfoundation.org/publication/back-from-the-brink-the-2008-mediation-process-and-reforms-in-kenya/> (Accessed on 25/08/2024)

⁵¹ Ibid

⁵² Muigua. K., 'Alternative Dispute Resolution and Access to Justice in Kenya.' Op Cit

⁵³ Ibid

⁵⁴ Ibid

⁵⁵ German Institute of Development and Sustainability., 'Negotiating the Implementation of Peacebuilding: A Challenge for the Transition to Peace and Democracy' Available at https://www.idos-research.de/uploads/media/BP_10.2017.pdf (Accessed on 25/08/2024)

⁵⁶ Ibid

⁵⁷ Ibid

⁵⁸ Ibid

Arbitration has also made a difference and contributed to peaceful resolution of conflicts⁵⁹. It has been noted that arbitration has largely succeeded in peacefully resolving international disputes⁶⁰. For instance, in violent conflicts involving land boundary disputes, political and military tensions may run so high that the parties to the dispute are unable to resolve their differences themselves⁶¹. In such cases, even when parties have concluded a cease-fire agreement to halt hostilities, the delimitation of a boundary can prove to be too sensitive and too technical to be settled through bilateral dispute settlement techniques, such as negotiation or mediation⁶². Therefore, international arbitration is often the most suitable process wherein an arbitrator makes a final and binding decision on the issues in dispute⁶³. However, it has been cautioned that arbitration may not be suitable in ending political disputes⁶⁴. For example, the *Abyei arbitration*⁶⁵, which concerned Sudan's highly political and emotive situation of the delimitation of the country's oil-rich Abyei region only proved successful for a short period of time with the dispute escalating later especially after the independence of South Sudan⁶⁶. In political disputes, it is therefore necessary to embrace other Appropriate Dispute Resolution mechanisms such as mediation and diplomacy⁶⁷. Further, it has been noted that successful peace process depends on the consent of the parties and therefore is imperative to ensure that consent is obtained in order to secure lasting peace through arbitration⁶⁸.

⁵⁹ Franke. U., Magnusson. A., Dahlquist. J., 'Arbitrating for Peace: How Arbitration Made A Difference' *Kluwer Law International.*, 2016

⁶⁰ Ibid

⁶¹ Duijzentkunst. B., & Dawkins. S., 'Arbitrary Peace? Consent Management in International Arbitration' *European Journal of International Law.*, Volume 26, Issue 1, (2015)

⁶² Ibid

⁶³ Ibid

⁶⁴ Ibid

⁶⁵ Permanent Court of Arbitration., 'The Government of Sudan / The Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army (Abyei Arbitration)' Available at <https://pca-cpa.org/en/cases/92/> (Accessed on 25/08/2024)

⁶⁶ Ibid

⁶⁷ Miles. W., & Mallett. D., 'The Abyei Arbitration and the Use of Arbitration to Resolve Inter-state and Intra-state Conflicts' *Journal of International Dispute Settlement.*, Volume 1, Issue , (2010)

⁶⁸ Duijzentkunst. B., & Dawkins. S., 'Arbitrary Peace? Consent Management in International Arbitration' Op Cit

ADR techniques are also suitable in securing lasting peace by fostering the participation and inclusion of all stakeholders in peace building efforts⁶⁹. It has been noted that embracing the participation of a broad range of parties including civil society and women's groups in peace initiatives can mitigate the risks of conflict and instability and increase the effectiveness of peacebuilding initiatives⁷⁰. Further, it has been argued that the recognition of gender is crucial in conflict resolution processes and peace building⁷¹. Gender-sensitive approaches towards conflict management acknowledge that men, women, and marginalized groups experience conflicts differently and have distinct needs, experiences, and contributions to make in peacebuilding efforts⁷². Therefore, by considering gender dynamics, these approaches strive to ensure equality and social justice in conflict resolution and peace initiatives⁷³. According to the United Nations, the inclusion, particularly gender-equality, is foundational to building sustainable peace⁷⁴. It further points out that gender inclusivity and ensuring the full and active participation of women and young people in conflict resolution processes is necessary for achieving durable peace⁷⁵. ADR processes such as negotiation and mediation are ideal in enhancing participation and inclusivity in conflict management and are therefore key in securing lasting peace⁷⁶.

⁶⁹ Fuentes-Julio. C., & Ibrahim. R., 'A Human Rights Approach to Conflict Resolution' Available at <https://www.ethicsandinternationalaffairs.org/journal/a-human-rights-approach-to-conflict-resolution> (Accessed on 25/08/2024)

⁷⁰Ibid

⁷¹ Saaida. M., 'Peace Studies: Conflict Resolution and Mediation Strategies' Op Cit

⁷² Ibid

⁷³ Ibid

⁷⁴ United Nations., 'Addressing Root Causes of Conflict Vital for Sustaining Peace as COVID-19 Reverses Peacebuilding Gains, Facilitates Intolerance, Speakers Warn Security Council' Available at <https://press.un.org/en/2021/sc14659.doc.htm> (Accessed on 25/08/2024)

⁷⁵ Ibid

⁷⁶ Muigua. K., 'Building Peace in Africa through Alternative Dispute Resolution' Available at <https://kmco.co.ke/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Building-Peace-in-Africa-through-Alternative-Dispute-Resolution-.pdf> (Accessed on 25/08/2024)

It is therefore possible to secure lasting peace through Appropriate Dispute Resolution. ADR is a practical tool to foster peacebuilding and conflict resolution at the interpersonal, community, national, regional, and global levels⁷⁷. However, these processes are often underutilized in peacebuilding efforts⁷⁸. It is therefore vital to secure lasting peace through Appropriate Dispute Resolution for prosperity.

4.0 Conclusion

Securing lasting peace is a global ideal. The United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognizes not only that peace and security are prerequisites for achieving Sustainable Development, but also that Sustainable Development provides the pathway to peaceful societies⁷⁹. Peace entails more than the absence of violence and conflicts⁸⁰. This notion of negative peace is an incomplete picture and leads to many misconceptions of how peace can be attained⁸¹. As a result, it is imperative to embrace new approaches to peacebuilding and development; ones that extend beyond security and create the conditions necessary to restructure our societies so that they have the capacity to adapt and modify to our constantly changing environments⁸². Peace therefore envisages the presence of positive elements, such as justice, harmony, equality, and compassion⁸³.

Securing lasting peace is key for development and human well-being. It has been noted that countries that enjoy peace and stability are among the best performers in terms of the Human Development Index (HDI), a summary measure of human development that takes into account: a long and healthy life, being knowledgeable and having a decent

⁷⁷ Uwazie. E., 'Alternative Dispute Resolution in Africa: Preventing Conflict and Enhancing Stability.' Op Cit

⁷⁸ Ibid

⁷⁹ United Nations General Assembly., 'Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.' 21 October 2015, A/RES/70/1. Op Cit

⁸⁰ Vision of Humanity., 'Here's Why we Need a New Definition of Peace' Available at <https://www.visionofhumanity.org/why-we-need-a-new-definition-of-peace/#:~:text=Without%20peace%2C%20it%20will%20not,to%20changes%20in%20their%20environments> (Accessed on 25/08/2024)

⁸¹ Ibid

⁸² Ibid

⁸³ Gray Group International., 'Understanding Peace: A Comprehensive Guide to Achieving Global Harmony' Op Cit

standard of living⁸⁴. Without peace and stability, it is impossible to achieve progress at any level⁸⁵. Wars and conflicts disrupt economies, displace communities, and exacerbate poverty and inequalities⁸⁶. Therefore, in order to make progress towards peace and achieve development, meaningful actions must be taken at every level of society, to build a world not only free of conflicts and wars but also a world where justice, equality, and human rights are upheld⁸⁷.

ADR techniques are ideal in securing lasting peace. Processes such as mediation and negotiation are suitable in securing lasting peace by addressing the root causes of conflicts, enhancing collaboration, and ensuring participation and inclusivity in conflict management⁸⁸. In some contexts, arbitration is ideal in peacefully resolving international disputes⁸⁹. ADR techniques have been identified as valuable for stabilization and statebuilding efforts towards securing lasting peace⁹⁰. These processes are being increasingly embraced in peacebuilding efforts at both the global level through initiatives by the United Nations and on a regional level through the African Union Mediation and Dialogue Initiative⁹¹. It is therefore necessary to embrace these techniques in order to secure lasting peace through Appropriate Dispute Resolution.

ADR processes should be embraced as 'Appropriate' and not 'Alternative' since they are key in securing lasting peace by allowing parties to come up with collaborative

⁸⁴ United Nations Development Programme., 'Sustainable Peace for Sustainable Development - A Global Challenge that Calls for Collective Action' Available at <https://www.undp.org/rwanda/blog/sustainable-peace-sustainable-development-global-challenge-calls-collective-action> (Accessed on 25/08/2024)

⁸⁵ Ibid

⁸⁶ Ibid

⁸⁷ Ibid

⁸⁸ United Nations., 'Root Causes of Conflicts in Africa Must Be Addressed beyond Traditional Response, Special Adviser Tells Security Council Debate on Silencing Guns.' Op Cit

⁸⁹ Duijzentkunst. B., & Dawkins. S., 'Arbitrary Peace? Consent Management in International Arbitration' Op Cit

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⁹¹ African Union., 'Mediation and Dialogue' Available at <https://au.int/en/directorates/mediation-and-dialogue> (Accessed on 25/08/2024)

approaches, addressing the root causes of conflicts for durable peace, and ensuring the participation of all stakeholders including women, youth, and Indigenous Peoples in conflict management⁹². It is also pertinent for states to bolster their legal, policy, institutional, and human capacity in ADR in order to bolster the role of these processes in peacebuilding⁹³.

Securing lasting peace through Appropriate Dispute Resolution is therefore necessary and feasible. It is imperative to pursue this agenda all over the world for development and posterity.

⁹² Saaida. M., 'Peace Studies: Conflict Resolution and Mediation Strategies' Op Cit

⁹³ Muigua. K., 'Building Peace in Africa through Alternative Dispute Resolution' Op Cit

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- German Institute of Development and Sustainability., 'Negotiating the Implementation of Peacebuilding: A Challenge for the Transition to Peace and Democracy' Available at https://www.idos-research.de/uploads/media/BP_10.2017.pdf
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Mustafa. G et al., 'Peace: A Conceptual Understanding' Available at https://www.researchgate.net/publication/370062968_Peace_A_Conceptual_Understanding

Olaosebikan. A., 'Conflicts in Africa: Meaning, Causes, Impact and Solution.' *African Research Review.*, Volume 4, No. 4 (2010)

P. Fenn, "Introduction to Civil and Commercial Mediation", in Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, *Workbook on Mediation*, (CIArb, London, 2002), pp. 50-52

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